

MINNEAPOLIS' BIG CONTRACT.

Bit Off More Than It Can Chew When It Secured the Convention.

ONLY A BIG VILLAGE.

With St. Paul and the Suburbs It Can't Handle 30,000 People.

METHODS OF THE CAMPMEETING

To Be Adopted, and Visitors Will Be Quarantined in Advance.

Newspaper Men Will Face Well Brought Up's Policy to Jolly Them Up—A Lot of Folks Will Have to Go Hungry—State Delegations Will Be Squeezed Into Small Spaces—Telegraph Facilities Inadequate—Street Car Service Not In It—The Convention Hall Is Not Right, Though—A City of Striking Contrasts—The Bubbling Bathrooms and Open Hospitality of the West Apparent Everywhere—Every Citizen Is a Committeeman.

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 13.—This is called the "Flour City." It might be more appropriately termed just now the City of Great Expectations.

Thirty thousand wooden cottages, each exclusive in its square of lawn; two clumps of ponderous hills on the rugged banks of a picturesque and deeply bedded river; half a dozen mammoth office buildings of stonier substance skirking with metropolitan dignity; one great hotel of horrible facade—this is the first impression of Minneapolis, roughly sketched. The rest is common-place. All in all, we have here a striking picture of amalgamated American life. It is doubtful whether such a remarkable assemblage of physical incongruities can be found in any other part of the world.

Sitting in the parlors of the West hotel—a marbled space in which two full-rigged tallish coaches might turn at once without inconvenience—you may easily imagine yourself in the heart of a wealthy metropolis of a couple of million inhabitants. Take a turn round the block, and as far as the street and steel look down upon the squares miles of humbly jagged wood. The stone palaces of these millionaires dot the municipal horizon here and there like big, rich, lip-smiles blushing through russet foliage.

On the next gentlemen of evident culture and of appearance suitable to the atmosphere of the New York Stock Exchange. You see hundreds of rough lumbermen, street car drivers, pulp and loungers of every degree in big overcoats of wild animal skins, and under their thick caps and slouched hats are the prevailing stolid faces of the hardy Scandinavians.

Another convention is to be held here in the early summer. How the National Republican Convention came to be captured by Minneapolis a great many disgusted people will wish to say. Perhaps a few powerful Eastern corporations who have large investments in these half-empty office buildings and who own large unimproved tracts of suburban lands and hold mortgages on a considerable share of the improved property as well as on the Republican party, could best enlighten them.

A Truth That Was Not Admitted. It is one of the political phenomena of the times, this subordination of a grand political organization to the selfish financial purposes of a clique of corporate interests, but phenomenal only in the innocent submission of the great body of that party to the will of raising the wind. If the controlling wing of the Republican National Committee had said: "Here, gentlemen, these people have always put up liberally for campaign purposes—they will do so again. Now, they have large business interests in a big, overbuilt, mushroom city in the Northwest and want us to help them boom the town. They want their money back. Let us vote for Minneapolis." If the committee had said that it would have told the truth, but this truth would have caused hard feelings. For there are other cities and other business interests in which many good Republicans have investments and which they

would like to have boomed. They, too want their money back. So we must not expect to have such a frank admission. Minneapolis is a beautiful city in June. It has many lovely homes. Its people are fertile of faith, positive, energetic and enterprising, and stand together heart and soul for local interests. They will unquestionably throw open their doors, public and private to the accommodation and entertainment of their convention visitors, and receive them with a kind of hospitality unknown in the older and more substantial cities of the Atlantic seaboard.

Campmeeting Methods to Be Adopted. The local enthusiasm exceeds even that of hustling, self-important, garrulous Chicago. It is the home pride and hospitality of the Westerns, revealed by a Methodist Conference. Here is the greatest amount of gush here of this town. They talk of meeting 75,000 to 100,000 visitors at the train and grasping them by the hand individually, taking the strangers into their quiet homes. This is what is whispered in the ears of the managers. They have a gigantic scheme by which they are to intercept people on the trains with private invitations of this kind.

Can Accommodate the Regulars. This will cover the delegates, alternates, newspaper men and important persons from the various States of the Union. This 5,000 practically represents only the convention proper—the strictly business part of the gathering. The rest of the hotels must be jammed, and the large office buildings must be emptied of their regular tenants. Three or four of these great edifices are but little more than half-occupied anyhow, the town being greatly overbuilt.

As far as they go they will offer first-class quarters for those who are to occupy them. They have been through every one of them personally, and think it is not an exaggeration to say that there are some 400 first-class, long-officers here awaiting the growth of the city. With the exception of the Masonic Temple, the offices that will be temporarily vacated by patriotic occupants and these already empty places perhaps an equal number are available. In addition to these the entire surplus hotel accommodations of about 600 more and you will have the rather extravagant estimate of 1,200 beds for guests. The preference of the visitor for New England, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois or other surroundings will be duly considered in the matter of campmeeting, Methodists or otherwise.

Outside of Minneapolis the majority of the visiting public and delegations and clubs must be accommodated in the West hotel, they figure it out. The great hotel at Lake Minnesota, a Northwest watering place will be opened and will furnish beyond doubt first-class accommodations for two or three thousand people. This is ten miles away, and there is a double track road and the trip is about half an hour. The facility for getting to and from the West hotel, and the railway management, the Lafayette Hotel, a Minneapolis, is a large one and can probably accommodate comfortably about 3,000 guests for the most part of the convention.

Summing up we have the full capacity of Minneapolis 15,000 people, St. Paul 10,000 and Minneapolis 3,000—a total of 30,000 people. The surplus of accommodations is as follows: "From east to west the northern half here is illuminated by an immense half circle flaming upward nearly to the wall of the sky. A light procession at times delicate pink and would brighten suddenly. The circle was shot with rays of almost white light, all pointed outward from the circle, and the light was very varied throughout the day, but after the aurora rapidly grew colder."

Reports from Philadelphia and Cleveland say the lights here were as brilliant as the most pronounced seen the fall of 1882, when almost nightly for three weeks the operators found it nearly impossible to control their signaling.

The disturbance bothered the telegraph operators, as it invariably does. While the luminous appearance was in progress, wires of electricity struck the wires and upset the equilibrium of the batteries which charged them for telegraphic service. The waves directed by the light were carried along the lines, closing circuits here and there and making the Morse signaling almost indistinguishable by the most experienced operators.

As some of the press seats will be considerably in the rear of the Chairman, and many more to the right and left of the hall, there will doubtless be some pretty active kicking on this score.

When Mr. Dwight Lawrence, of New York, came here and wanted 80 of the best rooms at the West he was astonished to be refused. The proprietor, who was patriotically surrendered to the committee, adjusted the claims of New York by giving that delegation about half of the seats at the West hotel, and the other half to the delegation.

The Press Club has held two meetings during my visit. If the program laid down by the club to the public is adhered to, and adding that it is likely to please those representatives of the great journals who come here to hunt for intelligent work. The committee has set aside the new building of the New York Life Insurance company for the sole occupancy, and use of the Press Club. It has used 140 vacant office rooms finished in the highest metropolitan style. Many of these are large here. Handwritten reporters might work to advantage. All are provided with stationary wash stands and electric lights, have dark stained polished hard wood

IN GOLDEN CLOVES. The Northern Sky Was Painted Last Night by an Aurora Borealis.

HALF THE CONTINENT Lit Up by the Shimmering Arcs of Rapidly Changing Colors.

TELEGRAPH WIRES MADE USELESS Scientists Attribute the Phenomena to the Spot on the Sun.

FIRMEN TURNED OUT IN MANY CITIES Shortly after 7 o'clock last night Pittsburgh people discovered an aurora borealis, and a half hour later the city was in upstairs windows and on northern porches, looking at the strange phenomenon.

The American-Postal Telegraph Company will be able to handle about half, at a liberal estimate, as much matter as sent by the Western Union, where every message of this nature should be relayed at Chicago. There will be 25 messengers at the Exposition building, and it is claimed, sufficient for operators to use the Phillips code, but send such matter. More or less of this matter, the Superintendent admits, must be relayed at Chicago. "When we get all this into Chicago," he says, "we will be all right."

On Mt. Washington and at other points where the aurora borealis had been better observed, and attracted many from their down town homes. The lurid red lights never ceased their upward flight, only trembling in the air to indicate that they were not sky rockets within a stone's throw of the observer.

A number of local astronomers were seen last night, but none of them were saying anything about the aurora borealis. It appeared that it was as beautiful as ever and might last a night or a week of nights. The recent sun spot has reawakened the belief that there is some connection of sun spots and the Aurora Borealis. The theory has never been generally believed, but has always had many supporters.

The magnificent spectacle was scientifically observed by the astronomer here in Ann Arbor. Astronomical Director Hussey, of that institution, wires the result as follows: "The brilliant red aurora borealis was observed at Cincinnati, 25 miles north of the city of Hamilton, 25 miles west of here."

The Associated Press correspondent at Liverpool writes that the aurora borealis was observed at Liverpool, and that it was as bright as any seen at that city since the late fall of 1882.

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SARAH HILL WISANE. The Heroine of the Sharon Divorce Case Communes With Spirits

IN A DEMENTED MANNER. Exceedingly Romantic Roundup of a Most Celebrated Case.

HARD LUCK OF ALL CONCERNED. The Judge, Lawyers and Clients Meet With Dire Misfortunes.

THERE'S NAUGHT BUT TROUBLE FOR THEM (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 13.—Sarah Althea Terry, who gained such notoriety by her divorce suit against ex-Senator Sharon and her subsequent marriage with Judge Terry, has become insane over spiritualism. She has been very eccentric ever since Terry was shot dead by Officer Neagle at Lathrop eating station, the moment after she slipped Justice Field's face.

The fact that the Court held Neagle blameless drove her nearly insane, and this feeling was aggravated by trouble which she had with her attorney in Fresno. She claimed this attorney made love to her, and she produced several amatory letters he had written. This enraged him, and when she called at his office to get her law papers he brutally ejected her. To the disgrace of Fresno courts, they held his action was justifiable.

Mrs. Terry, about three months ago, came to this city and bought some articles at Fry's goods store. She claimed a few days later when she returned to the hotel where she was staying she found her trunk had been robbed in the lodging house where she hired a room, and she enumerated silks and satins worth \$7,000 that had disappeared.

Her case was thrown out of court, and she was not heard from again until Thursday, when she came here from Stockton. She was placed by a friend in the house of Editor Culbreth, of the City Argus, and a nurse was hired to care for her. She has been laboring under tremendous excitement. She has now been two days in her room, attended by Dr. Gilmore. The doctor says over her affairs and dabbling in spiritualism.

At night she becomes very violent and calls loudly for Judge Terry and for Porter Althea, whom she says she loves dearly. Her young father, who she says she loved, died in her early days, and who was arrested and fined by a Vigilance Committee for opposing them. Porter Althea was killed by a train. She has been divorced after much scandal. He is well known on the turf, and he is the owner of Geraldine and her fast horses. He befriended Mrs. Terry after she was shot.

The invention of Prof. E. L. Thomsen, the Electrician of Lynn. LYNN, MASS., Feb. 13.—[Special.]—Prof. E. L. Thomsen, the eminent Lynn electrician, claims to have discovered the knob of the Leyden jar, and he has succeeded in securing extremely high potential discharges in the form of a lightning machine as a practical invention, and does not want to do so.

THE READING DEAL IS LEGAL. Congress May Do Something, but the Inter-State Commerce Won't Interfere. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13.—[Special.]—Lawyers here say it will probably be difficult to read the necessary power to investigate the Reading deal, but there is a ground for the belief that the Inter-State Commerce Commission will interfere.

He Alleges His Fall as a Priest to the Deceased Cardinal Simoni. NEW HAVEN, Feb. 13.—[Special.]—Edward McGlynn, in an interview this afternoon, said: "When I was ordered to go to Rome some years ago, the Pope had been dead for some time, and I was ordered to make a written recitation of the political and economic doctrines which I had preached. In a word, my case had been prejudiced. The Pope had been dead for some time, and I was ordered to make a written recitation of the political and economic doctrines which I had preached. In a word, my case had been prejudiced."

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AN EPIDEMIC SCARE Caused by the Arrival of Typhus-Stricken Russian Immigrants.

PITTSBURG GETS EIGHT Of the Infected Passengers, According to New York's Advice.

MUCH ALARM IN THE METROPOLIS. Interior Towns of the Empire State Already Affected, Too.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES ALERT Eight immigrants who came to America on an epidemic scare here somewhere in Pittsburg, at least that is the intelligence telegraphed from New York to this city last night. The vessel in question is the Messina and it reached New York harbor on January 30, and the disease is typhus.

The Messina had on board 77 immigrants, Italians and Russian Hebrews. The 400 Italians were taken aboard at Naples. The 267 Russian Hebrews had gathered at Odessa from all parts of Southern Russia. A few days ago the New York Board of Health found that an epidemic of typhus fever, known under a dozen names as one of the most terrible fevers that can visit the human body, and communicating itself by contagion as well as by infection, was raging among them. Fifty-seven of them, already down with typhus in its marked symptoms, have been taken of the hospital on North Brother Island, and the Board of Health is doing all in its power to stay the further spread of the disease, but it is feared that preventive measures are already late.

For several weeks now typhus fever, under the name of famine or hunger fever, has been spreading in Odessa and in the famine-stricken provinces from which the Hebrews have been fleeing to Odessa. Stories of sufferings and the deaths it has caused have been coming here over the cables. They Are Scattered Over the Country. The following dispatch was received from New York last evening: Of the passengers who came over in the typhus infected steamer Messina it is learned that 12 went to Chicago, 8 to Pittsburg, 7 to New Castle, Pa., 14 to Philadelphia, 3 to Cleveland, 29 to Watston, Pa., 3 to Sutton, W. Va., 2 to Bryan, Tex., 1 to New Orleans and 1 to St. Louis. The others went to points in the interior of New York and to New England.

At a later hour the following special telegram, showing that the disease was already commencing to spread, was received from New York: "The Messina, which is a four cases of typhus fever in this city. All are Italians and all were passengers on the steamer Messina. After they came here they located in the First ward, which is in the midst of an Italian colony. The discovery was made by the calling in of the alms-house physician this morning to attend sick people. He concluded the disease was the malignant fever, and the patients were at once removed to the pesthouse at the city and town almshouse, where they are in charge of the city health officers and the alms-house physician. A considerable scare has resulted in the neighborhood.

An Investigation in Pittsburg. Every effort was made to discover the whereabouts of the Messina passengers in Pittsburg. He concluded the disease was the malignant fever, and the patients were at once removed to the pesthouse at the city and town almshouse, where they are in charge of the city health officers and the alms-house physician. A considerable scare has resulted in the neighborhood.

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Only One Method of Procedure. "There is but one way to stamp out an infectious disease, that is to isolate and quarantine every one connected with it. There is no possible way for us to discover where these eight persons are. While they may not become affected, they might communicate the malarial to others and if the case is not reported promptly an epidemic may result. It is therefore imperative that every person who has had any serious case of typhus here lately should be isolated and every precaution will be taken to prevent the spread of the disease. I wish you would say that if any physician discovers a case of the same, to report the same to the Bureau of Health in order that every precaution may be taken.

The DISPATCH DIRECTORY. Contents of the Issue Classified for the Convenience of the Reader. The issue of the DISPATCH to-day consists of 30 pages, made up in two parts. The first part contains the live news of the day. The second part contains the special features which are found rarely by reference to this table.

LOOKING FOR A GAS LEAK. The Cause of the Hotel Royal Fire and Great Loss of Life. NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—[Special.]—Fire Marshal Mitchell submitted his report to the Police Commissioners to-day, on the Hotel Royal fire. It says: The conclusions are: That the fire originated in the elevator shaft, at a point above the first or second floor, probably in the vicinity of the boiler room, and that it was caused by the gas which had leaked out of the boiler and which was ignited by the light of the match which was used to light the gas.

Baptism Through Ten Inches of Ice. WILLIAMSON, N. J., Feb. 13.—[Special.]—C. H. B. Headley, a convert of Methodist Church, has been baptized in a pond in New York, came to this city a month ago, and started a series of revival meetings that have resulted in the conversion of hundreds. To-day, in spite of the cold weather, many were present at the baptism, and a number of them were baptized in the Quakerdam river at Plainfield.

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