

# THE PINE KNOT.

LIGHTED FOR THE ILLUMINATION OF TAR HEELS, BOTH NATIVE AND ADOPTED.

VOL. I.

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1887.

NO. 34.

THE

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### THUNDER FROM THE NORTHWEST.

NEW ENGLAND CITY,  
Hettinger Co., Dak., May, 1887.

According to your celebrated colored preacher the "sun hit do move." So do I. If you have got your potatoes all hoed and are taking it easy on Bro. Pond's piazza with the glass at 80° and the balmy breeze southing through the long leafed pines, perhaps you will be interested in the following. You will probably ask why I did not come right back to North Carolina. Because for the time being I have struck something else; but not for one moment have I forgotten your hospitable welcome and I hope by and by when the snow next does fly to turn my attention and that of others to your sunny clime. I have sent you the prospectus of our New England Association for Dakota. Suffice it to say that we have bought 400,000 acres of the richest lands in Dakota—well supplied with good water and an abundance of good coal. Where one month ago roamed a solitary trapper now exists a city with 50 inhabitants, a store, school, church, bank, boarding house and all the necessary adjuncts of a well-regulated New England village.

How did we do it? you will ask. Well we bought the land at bottom prices, first selecting one of the best counties in the great northwest, then we put our money out in printer's ink, made satisfactory arrangements as to through accommodations on railroads, then we put in a type writer and a corps of clerks to answer a swelling correspondence, saw every one personally and told him or her just what we had and as a result we have more members join our colony than we can accommodate, and as you will see by the enclosed circular shall run our party out in installments—a car load every two weeks. The car load I have just landed here are intelligent, thrifty, well-to-do New England people and many of them proudly wear the dearly bought G. A. R. badge. One of these latter from Plymouth, N. H., had read my articles in the PINE KNOT and had thought of going to you.

You will ask about climate of course. Well, it is just bang up. We left ice and snow in Vermont, slush and mud in Canada and here we find green grass, blooming trees and waving wheat. Sha'n't we be homesick? Not much. We have taken an entire New England village up by the roots and those roots take kindly to the virgin soil of Dakota. Please change the address of my PINE KNOT to my new home,—New England City, via Dickinson, Dakota, and put your starboard ear to the ground for more thunder from the Northwest.

L. A. DODGE.

It will be seen from the above that our lively and versatile friend, L. A. Dodge, of Boston, is engaged in influencing immigration to North Carolina as he promised when he left here last fall. To some it might seem rather in-

direct to bring the immigrants by the way of Dakota, but, never mind, they'll get here all the same—those that have money enough left after the Dakota experiment is played out. Well, brother Dodge, you shall have a warm and hearty welcome when you come, you and your brave explorers for the Northwest Passage. In this pleasant land you will soon forget the horrors of your Dakota experience—blizzards, cyclones, and devouring locusts. Come anytime. We have watermelons at Christmas here, and green things are growing all the year through. You speak of the mild belt of Dakota. Does Miss Dakota wear her mild belt much of the time? It is our impression that this belt slipped off some time ago and will be found down near the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains.

Seriously though you have gone to work in the right manner to build up a town and if you had chosen a location in this section of country we should have hopes of you. Seriously also, we must quarrel with your choice of a name for your new town. Think of the poor little forlorn — Cities there are scattered over this country. So far as our observation goes it is almost always fatal to life and growth to have City tacked to the name of a town. Between your name and the cyclones we are afraid you will have a tough time of it.

We see by the Dickinson Press, a copy of which lively sheet you so kindly sent us, that you have already lost two of your company. Probably they are down here somewhere. If so, we'll take good care of them and see that they get plenty of green peas and strawberries from our gardens. Send along the rest any time when convenient. There is plenty of fertile land down here cheap; plenty of the purest water man ever tasted; coal, iron, gold, copper, mineral paint in abundance; rich marls and phosphates to be had for the digging; timber of every kind clothing our hills and valleys in rich profusion, not sprinkled along the rivers, as in Hettinger Co., Dakota.

Send us your thunder from the Northwest as often as possible and we'll send you back a little (enlightening) from the Southeast.

Master James Peterson, of Salem, occupies his leisure moments in a very profitable manner. Last year by various methods he exported to a gentleman, North, \$35 worth of butterflies of all sizes, varieties and colors.—Winston Republican.