

press has been much slower and less satisfac... it should have been.

Still later, the Tract Board yielded the point as to place of printing, and proposed to put the whole matter into the hands of the Sabbath School Board.

Table with 2 columns: This year. Last year. Rows include: Organized since last report, Reporting hitherto, Reporting this year, etc.

will be seen that there have been substantial in all the Associations. In the Eastern 52...

tent work under Brethren J. T. Davis and M. S. Warden.

West Hallock—Growing interest in prayer and conference meetings, and other religious work.

Delegates in Attendance. SOUTH-EASTERN ASSOCIATION. Lost Creek—M. H. Davis.

NORTH-WESTERN ASSOCIATION. Milton Junction—N. Warden, Mrs. E. Brown, Maggie L. Burdick, G. D. Burdick, A. W. Maxson.

TRACT SOCIETY. The American Sabbath Tract Society met for its Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting with the Seventh-day Baptist Church of Farina, Ill., Sept. 25, 1881.

Condensed News. THE Public Debt Statement shows a decrease of \$17,483,641 66 during the month of September, leaving the debt, less cash in the Treasury, \$1,798,855,925 77.

periodicals, tracts, treatises, and books as shall best conduce to the objects of its organization; and the employment of copiers and lecturers.

On motion, the report was taken up by items. The first resolution was adopted after remarks by D. E. Maxson, Stephen Burdick, E. P. Larkin, M. B. Kelly, S. R. Wheeler, O. U. Whitford, G. H. Babcock, L. C. Rogers, and A. B. Prentice.

The adoption of the Majority Report was moved by I. J. Ordway. After remarks by I. J. Ordway and Stephen Burdick, D. E. Maxson moved that the Minority Report be substituted for the Majority Report.

Condensed News. THE Public Debt Statement shows a decrease of \$17,483,641 66 during the month of September, leaving the debt, less cash in the Treasury, \$1,798,855,925 77.

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An Imperial Ukase has been published in Russia sanctioning the construction of the canal which will establish the connecting link between the rivers flowing into the White Sea and the Baltic and the tributaries of the Volga.

While Mormon missionaries were holding a meeting in Brooks Mills, Ga., recently, the citizens gathered with guns, fired on the "elders" and drove them out of town.

The secret anti-Nihilist league of Russian nobles has proved a failure. Large contributions of money have been wasted and no noteworthy Nihilist has been detected.

Special Notices. ELDER A. CAMPBELL wishes to say to his correspondents that he has returned to his home, Adams Centre, Jefferson Co., N. Y.

MARRIED. In Alfred Centre, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1881, by Rev. D. E. Maxson, Mr. JOSEPH EDWARDS, of Alfred, and Mrs. JENNIE C. WILLIAMS, of Elmira.

DIED. In Brookfield, N. Y., Sept. 28, 1881, at the residence of the bride's father, Jared Crandall, by Rev. J. B. Clarke, Mr. EDWIN D. COMSTOCK and Miss NETTIE C. CRANDALL, both of Brookfield.

fourteen by Eld. Nathan Warden, and received into the Second Seventh-day Baptist Church of Alfred. Removed to Farina, and became one of the constituent members of the Church organized there in 1866.

WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKET. Review of the New York markets for butter, cheese, etc., for the week ending Oct. 1st, reported for the RECORDER, by David W. Lewis & Co., Produce Commission Merchants, No. 85 and 87 Broad Street, New York.

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THE RED RIVER VALLEY.

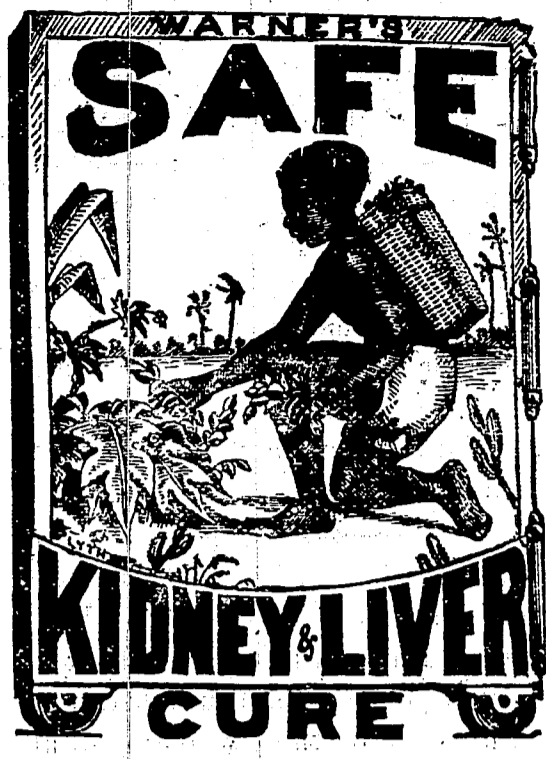
Dismiss from your mind all the associations that are called up by this word. Understand that in the West a valley is not necessarily a hollow between hills or mountains. That is a narrow Eastern conception. As we looked out from the car window for the first time upon this famous valley, we saw a broad level plain covered with short grass, and flooded by the rising sun with red and golden light. Doubtless there were hills somewhere in the world, but they were invisible. Far away on the left a dim blue line of timber marked the course of the Red River, and another line far in front of us indicated the approach of a tributary stream. This was all that broke the lake-like expanse. We realized at once what we had heard before, that it was, in fact, a lake without any water in it.

A few words will explain the character and probable formation of the Red River Valley. It is about three hundred miles long and fifty miles wide—a flat prairie, extending northward from Lake Traverse, in Minnesota, until it passes by a gentle slope beneath the water of Lake Winnipeg. About thirty miles north of the southern and higher extremity of the valley, the Red River comes meandering in from the east. It is a sluggish stream, flowing in a ditch in the middle of the prairie, and is altogether inadequate in size and force to have made the valley which bears its name. When we seek an explanation of this vast alluvial plain, we must find a much larger body of water to account for its formation, and this is done by the theory which connects it with the great Mississippi system. There are many indications that the whole drainage of this region was at one time southward. The valley of the Mississippi, with its true line of continuation along the Minnesota, must have formerly contained a vastly larger body of water than now flows through it. This valley, beginning at Big Stone Lake, is separated only by a slight barrier from Lake Traverse. Now imagine that a few thousand years ago the level of the continent was a little different from what it is now, a few hundred feet higher at the north, and lower at the south, then this barrier would be overcome, and all the waters of the Winnipeg Basin would flow southward through the Red River and Minnesota Valley into the Mississippi. The present northward outlet through the Nelson River would be stopped. There would be a mighty stream draining the whole central region of the continent into the Gulf of Mexico. Now imagine, again, that the continent is gradually depressed at the north, and elevated at the south—a change which we know from observation is still continuing along the sea-coast; the result of such an oscillation will be to diminish the slope and velocity of the great southward river. It will have less and less power to cut its way through obstacles. It will be dammed by the granite ledges near Big Stone Lake. It will spread out into a vast lake larger than Superior and Michigan put together. The waters of this lake will be shallow and muddy, and the deposit of alluvium very rapid. As the northward depression continues, the outlet toward the south will become more and more feeble. It will degenerate into a mere dribble. And at last the great body of water will cut a new channel northward into Hudson Bay. The Nelson River, with its rocky channel and numerous rapids, bears all the marks of an outlet thus recently formed.

This is but a rough and hasty outline of the theory which has been advanced by General G. K. Warren, of the United States Engineer Corps, and supported by him in a series of admirable reports. It may seem dry, but it offers an explanation of two very important facts—the immense fertility of this ancient lake bed, which is now called the Red River Valley, and the impossibility of a route from Manitoba, through the Nelson River and Hudson Bay, to England. These facts have a direct bearing on the commercial welfare of the United States, for they put the transportation of the products of the rich Northwest into the hands of our railways and steamboats.

More than two-thirds of the Red River Valley lies in Minnesota and Dakota; the remaining third is in the British province of Manitoba. Two railroads have been opened into the valley within the past six years—the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba, which now runs parallel with the river to St. Vincent, on the British border, where it connects with the Pembina branch of the Canadian Pacific to Winnipeg, and the Northern Pacific, which crosses the valley at right angles, and opens up the wonderfully fertile land lying on the west side of the river, in Dakota. Into this territory a great flood of immigration is now pouring. The rapid influx began in 1877. In the last quarter of that year the government land-offices disposed of more than 400,000 acres in Minnesota, and during the same period the railways sold over 500,000 acres. In all, over a million acres were taken up by settlers in those three months, mostly in the Red River Valley. Since 1873 the Northern Pacific Railway has sold 800,000 acres of Red River lands. In the land districts traversed by this road the government has assigned 1,323,416 acres in the year ending June 30, 1878, and 1,964,644 acres in the year ending June 30, 1879. Together with the lands sold by the railway during the same time, this makes the astounding total of 4,500,000 acres disposed of in two years. Embracing the same territory, present statistics show the following: Present population, 69,600; increase in past year, 19,900. Area in wheat, 1879, 281,430 acres; increase, 96,000. Area in other crops, 79,470; increase, 20,660. Total area in cultivation, 360,900; increase, 116,630. New breaking, 1879, 133,600.—Harper's.

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