

west mound there is another embankment about the same height running in a southerly direction to the head of the ravine, forming a third side. The north bank of the ravine is very steep and it defends the south side, so that a wall is unnecessary. The walls on three sides were probably palisaded and there is an opening, or a gateway, on the north and another on the west side. It is very evident that the mounds were built first as monuments. At a later period the works were built and the mounds were utilized to form a part of the enclosure, thus saving a large amount of labor.

There are twelve mounds in addition to the walls forming the enclosure, and the earth in all of them was carried from a distance, there being no evidence in the vicinity to show where the dirt was obtained. Many have noticed circles composed of half buried boulders that abound on the summits of many of the buttes and eminences in the Jim River valley. These extend over a vast area of the northwest, from Manitoba to the northern Iowa line, and from St. Paul to Great Falls, Montana.

They are particularly abundant along the Missouri, Big Sioux and Jim River valleys, and are nearly always found near a lake or water course. The present Indian tribes of the Dakotas know nothing of their origin. Gabrielle Renville, the old chief of the Sissetons, says no tradition of the Dakotas accounts for them, and the Dakotas never bothered with stone work. They either buried their dead like the whites or placed the bodies on scaffolds or in trees. Neither do the Mandaus know anything about them.

These rings of boulders show great antiquity, and the comparatively rainless region is peculiarly adapted for preserving them. Hundreds of years must elapse before the large boulders are covered by the ordinary process of nature, yet in many of the circles of high gravelly points, boulders are just visible on the surface, while excavation shows that many are buried out of sight entirely. These remains are not always in the form of circles. There are boulder pavements around the circle where the stones have been placed so thickly together as to touch each other. Some of the circles have openings, others not. Explanation of their origin as being used to hold down tepees, is a superficial and not a correct one. The rings will average about 16 feet in diameter, although there are many only two or three feet across. Some of them are as large as forty feet across, others are divided by rows of boulders into four parts. There are squares, parallelograms and triangles. One large circle discovered near this place has a thickly set stone pavement two feet wide bordering a circle, with another circle of large boulders around the outside of the pavement. In addition to these circles there are stone heaps and mounds, undoubtedly used as burial places.

Between Jamestown and Lamoure Professor Lewis estimates that there are 500 of these stone heaps. What

was the use or object of the circles and squares is yet a matter of mystery. They are certainly not the work of the Dakota Indians, or of their immediate ancestors. Prof. Lewis is of the opinion that they have been left by a race succeeding the original mound builders, whose works are so common in this locality.

Evidences of the moundbuilders are found in every truncated cone. Near Montpelier there have been discovered copper hatchets and chisels. Earth works and embankments show an advanced knowledge in architecture, while the precision with which the walls are constructed show great intelligence and care. These fortifications are composed of different kinds of earth, carried to the spot, showing the construction in the different periods by different tribes. If the builders had been in a hurry a trench would have been dug.

Buried mounds have been confined with forts—in some cases there are intrusive graves on top of the older mounds and embankments, showing the work of the late tribes. The excavations around mounds are not prolific in specimens and bones, but where a truncated mound is found, anywhere across its top, within a depth of three or four feet, abundant specimens may be had. Most of these mounds are filled with bones, showing that an immense number of people lived on these prairies.

#### REJOICINGS TONIGHT.

The Workingmen's Party hold a grand gathering tonight at the Theatre. It should be well attended. The people who compose it are genuine workers who gain their living by honest industry, and have banded together for mutual protection against political wireworkers, hungry adventurers and greedy office-seekers.

With their social or religious opinions we have nothing to do. It is only in their political character that we consider them. They organized in haste and made up a ticket in a hurry, but they showed wisdom in their action and union in their movement, and they have done exceedingly well. If they have not done all they intended, they have at least administered a rebuke to the professional "strikers and spoilsmen" that has had a good effect. They have room and a right to rejoice over what they have accomplished and to plan for future and greater results. They have learned something of the character of the creatures who pull the strings in the "Liberal" interest, and will enlighten their fellow workmen as to what ought to be done in the interest of justice and honest government. There can be no security for

the masses of the people while fraud and chicanery are permitted to triumph at the polls. The working folks can, if they will, exert a most powerful influence in favor of the right. Let the truth be made plain and the way to rectify the wrongs existing will soon be apparent. Organization and perseverance are needed, and we hope these will be kept in view.

The speakers tonight have a wide field for their oratory and should have a large audience to listen to their exposures of fraud and plaudits of the supporters of honest government. We wish the meeting and the party success.

#### FURTHER PREVENTION NEEDED.

AN ORDINANCE recently passed by the City Council prohibits, under pain of the infliction of a penalty, any person within the corporation limits from kindling fires for the consumption of rubbish during any other hours than between six a.m. and twelve noon.

This is so far so good, as evening and night are times when sparks unobserved are liable to be blown about and to set contiguous materials and buildings afire.

There are two points, however, that are of equal or even still greater importance that should not have been overlooked. One is, that no such fires should be kindled within a prescribed distance, presumed to be safe, from any building or inflammable materials. This is especially necessary in summer weather, when everything in the shape of wood is as dry as tinder, so to speak. In that condition a single spark would be sufficient to originate a fire that would consume a whole block.

The other point of importance is that it should be made unlawful, under any circumstances, for young children to kindle and maintain rubbish or other such fires within the corporate limits, as they are not supposed to have sufficient judgment to realize the existence of danger. We have seen neighborhoods kept in a condition of dread in consequence of small children being allowed by their parents to light fires close to premises that might easily have been set aflame and communicated to other buildings. This is especially applicable to the northeastern part of the city, where there are no facilities for extinguishing fires, owing to the water streams from the hydrants being mere dribbles.