

## Wheatland's Sand Well.

Wheatland, N. D., May 18.—The famous Butke well, that has been tearing up the ground near here so that it has become famous, has been running just a year and is as strong as ever. All attempts to stop it have been futile, though some experienced well men have attempted it. A plug was placed in the end of the pipe through which the flow came; the plug was blown out and the water broke through and came out all around until now there is a hole six feet in diameter. Now the mouth of the well is twelve feet above the level where the hole was started, from which there is a gradual slope to the plain, causing a circular space of about seventy-five acres running down from the well over which the prairie is all sand covered.

When the well was dug, a nice flow was struck at about 200 feet, but the Butkes continued to dig, and at 260 feet the sand gushed out. Now a continual stream of water about four feet wide and six inches deep flows over one side, while in every five to fifteen seconds streams of sand rush to the top and blow over. There is a ravine about half a mile south, but the water won't run in a trough, so it cannot be drained. The flow, which extended east last fall, has changed to the west since the snow left and has covered the turnpike for about 200 yards. The Butke brothers, August; Peter and Ferdinand, had to move, and now have a fine residence in a tree claim a half mile south of the well. The land near the well is ruined.