

A MODERN MARTHA

BY MATE MATLAND.

CHAPTER V.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin talked over the contents of Martha Potter's letter and decided that Mr. Austin must go to Olney by all means as soon as he could settle matters at home.

The next morning after the letter came Maria talked a great deal about moving, John didn't say anything whenever she broached the subject; but seemed to be busily engaged in considering the matter, and finally he said that he thought that Beth and he would go out to see Mr. and Mrs. Dale. "She will enjoy a ride in her little wagon," said Mr. Austin, to which plan Mrs. Austin readily assented; but Beth insisted that she could easily walk. Nevertheless her papa took the wagon into which Beth carefully stowed poor, old Malinda who was so unfortunate as to be armless and legless but was very fortunate in being in good repute with tiny mother, who assured her with many loving pats and fond embraces that she was such a good baby that she should go visiting, while naughty Jane, who was perfect in form and feature, must remain at home. At last Beth's preparations were completed and they started on their way. She was very happy as she ran along by the side of her father singing and dancing, often taking long excursions in advance of her father who finally told her that she must either remain by his side or get into the wagon and ride with Malinda. Her small feet soon became so tired that she was only too glad to avail herself of the opportunity to ride even though she were a "drate big girl."

They soon arrived at Mrs. Dale's. Mr. Austin and Beth found Mrs. Dale busily making preparations for dinner in which Beth assisted while her papa and Mr. Dale discussed many things incident to Mr. Austin's trip to Olney.

Then Mr. Dale told John that he had read of some more shoe factories and woolen mills that had shut down. "They tell us it's overproduction, but I fail to understand how that can be," said John, "when there are multitudes of men, women and children who haven't shoes to wear and hardly clothes enough to make them comfortable, while there is neither flour nor meal in the chest, and many little children crying for food. I don't think that looks like overproduction."

"Yes it does," said Mr. Dale, "it looks decidedly as though there were an overproduction of Shylocks and corporate powers."

Dinner was ready at last, though at this you might wonder if you had seen Mrs. Dale stop her preparations for dinner so many times to listen to Beth's bright talk, to answer her eager questions and to watch the merry, busy little body as she passed quickly from one object of interest to another. As they took their places at the table Mrs. Dale, womanlike, began to make apologies saying:

"I never thought I should offer such biscuits as these to company. Although I have given up making cream biscuits for a time, yet I should have made some for the little lady if I had known in time that she were coming. We are trying so hard to get along this winter," continued she, "without placing a mortgage on the farm, I am so glad that we didn't lose that too, in the failure. Mr. Dale thinks that we are so old, if we once put a mortgage on the place we should never be able to remove it, and I don't know but he is right."

They can live through the winter by careful managing, as the sale of the butter and eggs is enough for our expenses; if we are content to live frugally. Our crops were not very good this year, I don't think that they were properly planned. Caleb has always been so trustworthy that we never paid any attention to the planting. "Father always helps me a great deal with the small garden and the butter-making but the larger crops he trusts to Caleb. He hasn't taken any interest in anything since the bank failure. It seems that he had his heart set upon the Gordon farm and had very nearly enough saved with which to buy it when he lost it all in the bank."

"He does the strangest things," said Mr. Dale, you know that pond back of the barn, I went out there yesterday and as cold as it was he had an opening cut in the ice and was taking a bath, and in spite of all I could do he would finish his bath."

"He kills those old mud-hens," said Mrs. Dale, "and brings them to me to cook for him. I offered him a chicken, but what did he do but go and get a kettle and cook the mud-hen himself, I really think his mind has been affected by the loss."

"Poor fellow," said John, "I suppose he had longed for and planned about the farm until he had only that one object in life. Haven't he any friends who could put him temporarily in an asylum or persuade him to consult a physician?"

"No, said Mr. Dale, "he has no friends, and I suppose I must have something done for him soon; yet I am at a loss to know how to proceed."

Then they talked about John's proposed trip again and wondered whether the work which Martha Potter mentioned would last long, and talked about who would most need the work by the time it was provided. Then when dinner was over Mrs. Dale washed the dishes and John Austin reluctantly broached the subject that he had in mind all the time.

"Mr. Dale," said he, "do you think that I had better take a 'stay' and prevent Benham from taking possession of the house as long as I can? I think I am growing sicker," continued John without waiting for Mr. Dale to reply, "as I rejoice more in the thought that by thus proceeding I may lose him his customer than I do that I can save paying out rent for several months, though any one can see that there is great need of economy on our part. If I were going to be at home I certainly should remain in the house as long as I could; but Benham is so mean that he will find some way to annoy Maria. There are no indignities which he would not pay liberally to see executed if any of his plans were thwarted. Besides he has so much money at his command that he will not lack for agents to carry out his foul plans. He can't compel Maria to move, can he, before the time of the 'stay' expires?"

"No," said Mr. Dale, "and if you are worried about leaving her we can call twice each week when we make our trips into town with the butter and eggs. This plan seemed to please John as he assented with a very grateful:

"Thank you, and would you be so kind?" "We will see that they are safe," said Mrs. Dale, who had just come into the room in time to hear the last two or three sentences of her husband's and John Austin's conversation. "I don't think that Cyrus Benham will ever get a claim upon this place and they can come out here if Mrs. Austin is annoyed in any way."

"Oh," said John, "I am sure that Maria wouldn't consent to that. If she has to rent a room or two somewhere and is compelled to move before I get home, I should be so glad if you would only look after them a little. Cousin Martha will never allow us to come to actual want, but I don't want to think that we are going to be reduced to alms." And then their conversation turned to other subjects. As John looked out of the window towards the west he noticed how late it was getting and said that he must hasten home. Farmer Dale arose in his slow, methodical manner and laying a hand upon either of John's shoulders looked straight into his eyes and said:

"I hope that through all your discouragements or success you will remember that only for a few short years do we have this world as an abiding place. And do not, I pray, neglect in your struggle to better your own condition and that of others to place implicit faith in God and to constantly seek His help."

"There must be some reason for all this trouble. Perhaps it is because some of us will not allow ourselves to think that there is need of reform either in our laws or in the mode of administering them, and would go on voting from year to year as our fathers voted, and refuse to see that what seemed to be needed then is now no longer needed, until a force outside of ourselves compels us to see that a change must come soon or we will be forced to become what was so deprecably termed poor white trash, or the most ignoble of slaves. Now be honest, would you," continued Mr. Dale, "have given these matters so much thought, if you hadn't felt that you had been legally robbed?" John admitted that he would not.

"I during a strike instead of tearing up railroads and destroying property," said Mr. Dale, "and giving all the worst criminals a chance to ally themselves with the laborers, all the workingmen would only devote the time to prayer; and then when the time came if they would only vote together, there would, I believe, be better results attained. If the workingmen could only all be made into Christian members of society, and work in common, with a common object in view, yes, I see many obstacles in the way, such as, the workingman and his family must live during a 'strike' or a 'shut down,' but these could be overcome if they would only work together, vote together, and pray together."

Mr. Dale's words gave John a new subject for thought. He carefully tucked Beth in her little wagon and went forth into the gray twilight with a warmer, more relenting spirit than he had experienced for a long time; and as he walked quickly along through the deepening gloom he seemed to repeat these words: "We unto the world because of offense: for it must needs be that offenses come: but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh," and he thinks that he doesn't want to mar his happiness in the bright and happy world beyond for the poor satisfaction of having done the ruling elements of society an injury, and there is a firm determination, on his part, no matter what hardships may come, whatever discouragements may confront him, to let Christ be his guide and example henceforth."

As he came quietly into the house Maria noticed a more determined look in his face and an added dignity and manliness in his bearing that reminded her of the old happy days of their courtship when life was so bright and full of hope and joy, and yet he seemed different than she had ever seen him. Just what it was she couldn't quite determine. She is a wise woman, so she resolved to say nothing and to await developments; but she doesn't dream that the question about which she had worried and prayed for so long had been settled by her husband on his homeward walk.

She isn't left in doubt long, for as they sit down to the supper table Mr. Austin briefly but reverently asks God's blessing not only upon the food, but upon the life's work that is before them. To say that Maria was surprised would be stating the condition of her mind very mildly indeed. There is happiness and shame intermingled in the tearful face which she turns toward her husband afterwards; as she thinks how little she had been doing for Christ of late, and of how often she had allowed bitter and angry thoughts to dwell in her mind; and she thinks that she has been a very poor Christian; but hereafter her duty would be divided no longer, and that John and she would joyfully go forward together on life's journey. Beth looks on approvingly at this invocation, not quite understanding, yet thinks that the tears in mamma's eyes are all right this time, as she is smiling happily.

Beth is a very tired but happy child as she kneels to say her little prayers and afterwards asks God to please take care of "Auntie Dale," and then settles in her little bed for the night's rest, and thinks over and over again all the many delights of the day from the ride on old "Dobbin's" back to her own pretty new blue dress which "Auntie" gave her, and then she falls asleep and dreams the sweet and happy dreams of childhood.

John and Maria decided that he must waste no time in his preparations for his journey, and that it would be best for Maria to remain in the house so long as she could. Accordingly the next morning John took the lawful steps necessary to procure a "stay" while Maria made such changes in her husband's wardrobe as she could with her limited means, and prepared his lunch and packed the small trunk. But when John came home he told her that he was not going to spend all the money which cousin Martha had sent with which to buy a ticket.

"But it is possible," said he, "that I can get a ticket or money with which to buy a ticket some other way. Tom Ward told me that he thought that if I went down to the ticket office of the Camden and Chicago railway, I could get a ticket cheap. I suppose they have some carpenter work which they want done and that they would prefer to pay with a ticket than with money, but if I can't procure it with work I am going to walk. "I don't like to leave you without money," he said, "for fear that you will need it before I can earn some more, and as Cousin

Martha doesn't promise work immediately, I will lose no time. I can walk part way and earn my board as I go along, and learn for myself if the farmers and laboring men in other places are in the same condition that they are here; and then I can use a part of Martha's money so that I can take the latter part of my journey on the cars. However, I don't want to leave here until after election day.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Another View of the Situation

AUBURN, Neb., Dec. 3, 1894

Editor WEALTH MAKERS: Please allow me space in your valuable paper to express views somewhat different from those expressed by my esteemed friend, Professor Jones, in a recent issue.

Like Brother Jones I rejoice over the election of Judge Holcomb, and like him I have grave fears that the same power that counted out J. H. Powers will deprive Judge Holcomb of his rights "if money, intimidation and fraud can do it," and I also agree with him in the most of what he says relative to railroads, business men, corporations, demagogues, etc. I also say, "Seat Judge Holcomb in the place to which he was elected, and organize at once a campaign of education;" but not wholly on the four points named.

For twenty-eight years I have been an independent voter, always disclaiming allegiance to any party to that extent that I could not vote and act with regard to what I believed to be right, and for the past eleven years I have edited and conducted a paper on that line; and in these years I have reached the conclusion that that which is menacing our popular form of government or causing us to be dissatisfied with matters as they are is not the simple fact that some favor high tariff while others favor free trade; that some are for contraction, while others favor inflation; that some favor prohibition of the liquor traffic, while others favor free whisky, etc.; etc.; but because we in reality have not a popular form of government—have not a government by, for and of the people, but largely by, for and of the selfish few.

And this state of affairs has been rendered possible because we (the intelligent voters and well wishers of society) have clung to our party, hugged our prejudices and have ridden our respective hobbies. Why is it that the selfish few control elections, legislation and our courts; elect corrupt men to office who secure the enactment of laws under which the million few can amass colossal fortunes, while the majority that extend that wholesale wrong-doers shall go free while the petty offender receives the full penalty of the law? Is it because of high "protection," contraction of the currency, private ownership of railroads, etc., non-resident owners of the soil and unequal taxation? or are not all these evils the outgrowth of a system of bribery that not only menaces our popular form of government by subverting the fundamental principles, but in violation of both state and national laws, the justice and constitutionality of which have never been called in question—a system that is not only bribery, but carries with it perjury and subornation of perjury? Why the exception clause in the greenbacks, the credit strengthening act, specie resumption, the demonetization of silver and other acts of our national congress? I do not believe there is a well informed man in Nebraska who will attempt to gainsay that each of these acts which were for the benefit of the selfish few and injurious to the masses, was brought about by the corrupt use of money and secret lobbying. Nor will it be disputed that the legislation on the money question within the past 16 months was secured by unjust means, a large per cent of which was "patronage pie."

Of our state affairs the same is certainly true. The creating of unnecessary judgeships, the making of places for political parties, leading convict labor and extending the time bills for the relief of A. and C. one-half of which went into the pockets of lobbyists and corrupt legislators, all tell of bribery, boodle and secret lobbying. And can all or any of these be overturned by "a scientific presentation of the money question," "a like presentation of the question of monopolies," "a like presentation of the necessity of co-operation as the settlement between employer and employe," or "a discussion of the land question and taxation of land values?"

The campaigns conducted by the People's Independent party have been campaigns of education; the last one especially so, and yet where are we at? Was not our cause just, and our candidates men with clean hands? Why were we defeated? It has been repeatedly stated, and I have never heard of any one pretending to deny it, that the Republicans expended \$200,000 during the campaign. The Independents distributed as much literature and conducted as vigorous a campaign from the rostrum, but expended less than one one-hundredth part of that amount. In what way was the balance of the Republican fund expended? I was a member of the executive board of the state committee for the year ending August last, and I know that the amount expended for the campaign of '93 was less than the amount assessed by the Republican committee against candidate Crouse; against Mr. Crouse from what was published when there was a partial falling out in the party over Majors' failure to pay his assessments.)

I have heard one of the wily politicians of this county boast of having spent \$700 in the work of securing his election to the house of representatives, and of its costing him \$300 to secure the delegation from one precinct to the Republican county convention. At our last election one Republican and one Independent were elected to the legislature, and when the votes were counted the successful Republican remarked of the unsuccessful one, that he might have been elected if he had gone down into his pocket as he did. The statement to my knowledge has never been doubted. The Republicans applauded the winner and while the Independents claimed to be in possession of facts that would, if pressed to the front, stand between the winner and his seat, yet no contest was undertaken for the reason, manifestly, that if successful would only seat the other Republican, and the said other Republican did not want the party brought to "disgrace" by a contest.

What would I recommend? Would I favor fighting the devil with fire and resorting to the same means to carry elections? Not by any means. I would recommend that we turn our attention, a little at least, toward "frowning down"

the practice. I would point the finger of scorn at the church member who will suat for apologies for such doings. I would condemn unsparringly the mouler of public opinion" who for friendship, for party, or for pay, will condone such excesses. I would (mildly of course) suggest that the good citizen who is pried to such wrong doings and condemns them not because of party, that he might be more patriotic and less partisan. I would resolve against and denounce the practice in every platform and declaration of principles, and I would seek by all legal and honorable means to bring to justice the bribe taker and the bribe giver; more especially the latter. I would urge legislation to the end that secret lobbying, tampering with juries, "single handed electioneering," be done away with, and that the bribe giver be apprehended and punished even though it were necessary that the bribe taker go Scot free because of having given evidence for the state; and as part of the penalty, I would urge that the hoodlers be disfranchised, for a time at least.

I believe that until some reform on this line shall be brought about our scientific lectures, our pathetic appeals and logical reasoning will be of no avail; and when voters, legislators or jurors and judges this has been brought about—when are no longer influenced, if that time shall ever come, we shall have a government by, for and of the people, and whatever laws are for the benefit of the people will be enacted, and such as are for the benefit of the selfish few will be repealed, and you and I, Brother Jones, as good citizens, will abide the results, being willing that the majority shall rule; and then we may present our scientific arguments with hope for good results; but so long as the present state of affairs exists a Paul may plant and an Apollous water, but the boodler will get away with the baggage all the same.

Respectfully,  
J. H. DUNDAS.

Then Conquer We Must

Editor WEALTH MAKERS:

Now that the great political battle has been fought and we can resume the even tenor of our ways, I would like to express my opinion in regard to the so-called "Business Men's Association," a political association which established its headquarters at Omaha and flooded the state with circulars which were an insult to the honest yeomanry of Nebraska.

They say our character, reputation, credit and business relations as a state are determined by our acts as a body. By their own record they prove that they have no manly principles when they say, "to the voters of Nebraska: Four years ago prohibition threatened the prosperity of Nebraska—the business men of Omaha and the state without regard to party affiliation then united in a determined effort to ward off the danger and largely through their efforts prohibition was defeated." What a declaration of principles!

When the People's party makes a statement so devoid of principle as that contained in the above then will I sever my connection with it. When a set of men will organize a business men's association and claim that they have saved the state by upholding a system of government which encourages intemperance, the one thing which has done more to ruin the credit of the state than any other, and has caused many a good man to fill a premature grave, what is to be thought of them?

It is the old cry of thief, stop thief. If the credit of a state is to be maintained by an administration which has pillaged the state treasury it is time we had less of such credit and more honesty in the administration of the state affairs. Is it a set of politicians that live in the cities, who produce nothing, but live off the toil of others? or is it the farmers who produce the wealth and feed the world? How long would our business men continue in business if the farmers would organize and send out of the state for their supplies, which I would not advise, only as a last resort? But I believe if the farmer is to be discriminated against much more they will form an organization to protect their interest.

The great political landslide that this country has just witnessed proves the unsettled condition of the people. I fail to see any good reason why they should cast their lot with the Republican party. If we are to receive any relief it will have to come through a change in our financial system, and the Republicans in congress have voted as a unit with the administration Democrats on all questions relating to finance.

I see but one way, and that is, to never acknowledge defeat while we are working for the principles of the Independent party. Victory may come slow, but our cause is bound to succeed.

It is the duty of every reformer to support our papers. They have made a hard fight for our interest and let us show our appreciation by keeping our subscription paid up, and get as many new subscribers as we can. As a professor of Populist religion I can not do myself justice without expressing my appreciation of our representatives in the last congress and legislature. No men ever stood in the halls of congress and made a more manly struggle for the people than Bryan, Kern and McKeighan. What incentive is there beyond the satisfaction of knowing a man has done right, to be true to the people.

Corporations never turn a man down when he serves them, that is the reason they are in power. If our representatives are true to us and secure the bribe, they are defeated, should they offer their services again. But we should appreciate honesty. The trouble is, the body politic is too corrupt itself.

Let the good old verse be our motto:

"Then conquer we must  
For our cause it is just  
Let this be our motto  
And God be our trust."

L. G. STEWART.

Sawyer, Fillmore county.

SUBJECTED TO TORTURE

FRIGHTFUL TREATMENT OF COLONEL A. J. BLACKWELL.

VICTIM OF A CHEROKEE CONSPIRACY.

Arrested on a Charge of Treason for Selling Land to White People—Carried Bodily to the Needles and Nearly Killed—He is a White Man and an American Citizen—Crime

DAVID, I. T., Dec. 10.—Last week mention was made to the effect that Colonel A. J. Blackwell, who created a furor some years ago by claiming powers as a seer, prophet, etc., had been seized by the authorities of the Cherokee nation on the charge of treason, the crime according to the laws passed by the Cherokee congress being punishable by death. The specific charge against him was selling land in the Cherokee country to white people.

Blackwell is known all over the West. When the Cherokee strip was opened last year Blackwell founded the town of Blackwell in Kay county, started newspapers, stores, etc., and made a fortune. After the country was thoroughly settled he moved to the Cherokee nation and founded this town. He started a paper, store and realty agency and was general superintendent of the town.

A number of Cherokees did not like Blackwell and a conspiracy was hatched whereby he was to be seized and put to death. The charge was made that Blackwell, contrary to the laws of the nation, sold land to white persons. Two days later a squad of Indian police swooped down on Blackwell's home and dragging the prophet from the arms of his wife and children carried him in irons to the Cherokee dungeons at Claremore. There he was cut off from all communication with the outer world and put on bread and water.

On Monday Blackwell was taken from prison and after being stripped naked and his flowing whiskers and hair cut off, he was taken before chief Ohaha, who was holding a sub-council and asked to confess. Blackwell answered that he had no confession to make, that he was the victim of a villainous conspiracy and asked to be released, but instead he was carried bodily to the "Needles" and horribly tortured.

The "Needles" is a small inclosure near the prison where culprits who refuse to confess their crimes are taken and jabbed in the body by ten bucks who dance around him with the terrible "ki-yi" and jab as they dance. After being subjected to these indignities, Blackwell, bleeding from innumerable flesh punctures, was taken back to his dungeon where he still remains, ironed hand and foot, notwithstanding the fervent appeals of his wife and friends. No date has been fixed for the unfortunate man's trial and there is no telling what terrible punishments are in store for him.

What makes the case complicated is the fact that he is a white man and an American citizen. He has no Cherokee blood in his veins as some reports have it. The case is one which needs the immediate attention of the government, or can a citizen of the United States get protection when unjustly seized by an Indian nation?

KOLB'S FRIENDS WILL WAIT.

The Alabama Legislature Will Be Allowed to Run its Full Course.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 10.—A secret caucus of Kolb's friends here last night was attended by nearly all the populist leaders in the state. Some of Kolb's adherents wanted to precipitate matters and sent Kolb as governor, but this was strongly opposed. Finally the following compromise resolution was adopted and it may be taken as the sense of the Populists as to dual government.

"Resolved, That we act inside of the law until this present session of the legislature closes, and if a fair election law is passed, as well as a fair contest law, by which the last state election can be fairly contested, we will stand by the result of the contest, but if the legislature fail or refuse to pass the two acts above referred to, or shall pass any oppressive laws, then we shall call upon the chairman of our state executive committee to call a state convention to consider the situation and adopt some line of action by which we shall be given our rights."

Bandits Hidden in a Canyon.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Dec. 10.—Several police of the Cheyenne Indian police claim to have discovered the rendezvous of the Canadian, Texas, express robbers in D county, in the extreme western part of the territory, on the side of a canyon in the Glass mountains. A large posse of deputies and Texas rangers is being organized to make an attempt to capture them or drive them out.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 10.—Doniphan county citizens threaten to burn the gambling boat moored in the river opposite this city, on the Kansas side.

The owners of the boat were arrested a short time ago and heavily fined, but opened the boat for business again. The gamblers dare the citizens or officials of Doniphan county to burn the boat and a small war is expected.

Again in the Pen.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 10.—Captain Kelly of the Chicago police force arrived here yesterday, having in charge Samuel Carson, whom he turned over to the penitentiary officials. Carson escaped from the prison in December, 1879, and some weeks since surrendered to the police of Chicago and requested to be returned here. He is afflicted with consumption, and after leaving the receiving cell will go to the hospital for treatment.

TO OUR FRIENDS!

If you are in arrears on subscription to THE WEALTH MAKERS, you will receive a letter soon, telling you how much you owe, and earnestly requesting you to pay up and send in a dollar for your renewal for another year. The love you have for the principles of the Populist party may be measured by the response you make to this appeal. We do not wish to be compelled to discontinue the paper to a single subscriber, but shall have to do so if you don't pay for it.

If you are a Populist you ought not to wait till we ask you for money which you should have sent us a year ago.

We know it is hard to get, but in many cases the persons who are in most need of it are more prompt in renewing their subscription than others who can well afford to pay. It has been a wonder to us that many of our subscribers who are holding good positions, county offices in some instances, have paid no attention to our notices of expiration, while many others who could ill afford the money have paid a year in advance and given us kind and helpful words of appreciation. We have done the best we could, and have placed THE WEALTH MAKERS on a sound financial foundation; but to you who are owing us on back subscription, we must say that, in justice to ourselves, we can no longer send the paper to you. If you have not already, you soon will receive a statement of the amount you owe us, and if we do not hear from you immediately your name will be stricken from our list.

To those of our friends who have stood by us through sunshine and shadow we express our hearty thanks, and assure them that we shall spare no time and expense to give them the best paper possible.

WEALTH MAKERS PUB. CO.,

J. S. HYATT,

Business Manager.

The Burlington's New Short Line.

The Burlington Route is a notable exception to the general run of western railroads.

During a period when railroad building in this country has been almost at a standstill, it has been steadily pushing forward its northwest extension and now takes much pleasure in announcing its completion to Billings, Mont., 288 miles from Lincoln.

At Billings connection is made with the Northern Pacific Railroad and, under a traffic agreement with that company, business of all classes is exchanged there, or, more properly speaking, routed through that point to and from every station on or beyond the Northern Pacific and Burlington Systems.

This New Short Line—for that is exactly what it is—reduces the distance between Lincoln, Kansas City, St. Louis and the territory south and southeast of those cities, on the one hand, and Montana, Northern Idaho and Puget Sound points, on the other, all the way from 50 to 473 miles. It thus becomes an important factor in bringing the vast scope of country served by the Northern Pacific into closer relationship with the Missouri and Mississippi Valleys.

Just to illustrate things: The New Short Line saves

294 miles between Lincoln, Omaha and Helena,

224 miles between Lincoln, Omaha and Butte,

371 miles between Lincoln, Omaha and Spokane,

54 miles between Lincoln, Omaha and Tacoma,

49 miles between Lincoln, Omaha and Seattle.

The New Line has been constructed in a most substantial manner. Excellently ballasted, laid with the heaviest steel upon more than the usual number of ties, it equals the best and oldest portions of the Burlington System.

People whose opinion is worth having, pronounce it superior to any new track ever built in the western states.

The train-service will consist of Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars, Reclining Chair Cars (seats free), and Standard Burlington Route Day Coaches, Omaha and Lincoln to Billings daily.

As a Scenic Route the New Line takes high rank. The rich farms of eastern and central Nebraska; the more sparsely settled country that lies between Ravenna and the boundary line separating Nebraska and South Dakota; the canons, peaks and swelling meadow-lands of the Black Hills, the wonderful "Devil's Tower" the irrigated districts of northern Wyoming; Custer Battlefield; the picturesque windings of the Little Big Horn; the glorious valleys of the great Crow Indian Reservation—all these are seen from the car window.

Full information relative to the train service, rates or other features of the New Short Line will be gladly furnished upon application to J. Francis, G. P. A., Burlington Route, Omaha, Neb., or G. W. Bonnell, C. P. & T. A., Lincoln, Neb.

Texas Budget Shows a Deficiency.

AUSTIN, Texas, Dec. 10.—State Comptroller McColl has prepared his budget showing estimated expenses and probable receipts of the state government for the next two years. There will be a deficiency of nearly \$500,000, and it is very certain when the legislature meets next month the state taxes will have to be increased.