

ecutors and administrators firmly by these presents.

Dated this eleventh day of June, A. D. 1868.

The conditions of the foregoing obligation are such that if the above bounden obligors shall procure and give to the Midland Pacific Railway Company, in a reasonable time, the right of way for said railway company from the levee, on the Missouri river in Nebraska City, through the said Nebraska City to the west side of Wilson creek along the South Table creek and Fox creek route, and procure and give to said railroad company three contiguous blocks of lots on the line of said railroad company, east of Sixth street in Nebraska City, the same to be selected by said railway company, and also shall pay to said railway company, or secure the payment by Nebraska City to said company, the sum of one thousand dollars for the damage which the said company may sustain by reason of the rescission of contracts on said company's present line of road and for the survey of the South Table creek route, and also shall have Twenty-five thousand dollars of the Otoe county railroad bonds cashed for said company, as follows: Twenty-five per cent of said cashed bonds to be paid the first day of July next; twenty-five per cent to be paid on the first day of August next; twenty-five per cent to be paid on the first day of September next, and twenty-five per cent to be paid on the first day of October next, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise it shall be and remain in full force and effect.

And this further condition is made, to wit: That whenever the said twenty-five thousand dollars of Otoe county railroad bonds shall have been sold and paid to the company, then ten thousand dollars of this obligation shall be released and discharged.

Witness our hands the day and year last above written.

[NAMES.]

[NAMES.]

[This bond is signed by one hundred and seventy-five of the principal business men of Nebraska City.]

The above bond has not been complied with, except that part which refers to damages, right of way, and depot grounds. The city council of Nebraska City passed an ordinance calling a special election to authorize the city to borrow twenty-five thousand dollars to purchase the right of way and depot grounds and give the same to the Midland Pacific Railway Company, to release the citizens from that part of their bond which was to procure and give to the railway company the right of way and depot grounds. The vote of the city was nearly unanimous to make the appropriation. The city council, to carry out the will of the people, appointed Geo. T. Lincoln, Esq., and required him to give bonds to procure the

right of way and depot grounds and deliver the deeds of the same to the Midland Pacific Railway Company.

The railway company feel great satisfaction in being able to report progress, notwithstanding the many difficulties they have had to contend with. We are extremely anxious to push forward the road to an early completion, and believing the people of Nebraska City and Otoe county were also anxious to have the road finished as soon as possible, we, in order to comply with the general desire on the part of all parties interested, had made arrangements by which we could complete the road and run the cars twenty-five miles from the levee on the first day of May, 1869. With this contemplated finishing of twenty-five miles of road, we asked the county commissioners to deliver to us the balance of Otoe county bonds, voted by the people to aid in building a railroad through the county. It was necessary to have the bonds and negotiate them for cash before they could be used as aid in building the road, and the county commissioners delivered the railway company the balance of said bonds, taking from the company the following bond:

Bond of Midland Pacific Railway.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That the Midland Pacific Railway Company, of the State of Nebraska, is hereby held and firmly bound unto the County of Otoe, in the State of Nebraska, in the penal sum of two hundred thousand dollars, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made to the said county of Otoe, the said Midland Pacific Railway Company binds itself, its successors and succession, firmly by these presents, sealed with its seal, and dated this seventeenth day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and signed by its President and attested by its Secretary: Whereas, the Board of County commissioners of said county of Otoe did, on the seventeenth day of August, A. D. 1868, by order bearing date on that day, authorize and direct the issuing of the bonds of Otoe county to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, payable to the Midland Pacific Railway Company, or bearer, twenty years from the date thereof, with interest coupons attached for the payment of interest semi-annually, at the rate of ten per cent per annum, to be paid over and delivered to the said Midland Pacific Railway Company as voluntary aid in the construction of a railway from the Missouri river, at Nebraska City, westward through Otoe county, in the general direction of the town of Lincoln, in the county of Lancaster, in the State of Nebraska, upon the express condition that the said company shall faithfully expend the proceeds received on the sale of such bonds in the location, survey, right of way, grading, construction and equipping such railroad. Now the con-

dition of the above obligation is such that, if the Midland Pacific Railway Company shall well and faithfully expend all net proceeds by said company received for the said one hundred thousand dollars of Otoe county bonds, so issued and delivered to said Midland Pacific Railway Company, in the location, survey, right of way, grading, constructing and equipping of the aforesaid railroad, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue.

Attest:

F. A. WHITE,

R. M. ROLFE, President M. P. R. Co.
Secretary M. P. R. Co.

[SEAL.]

I hereby certify the above to be a true and faithful copy of the bond given by the Midland Pacific Railway Company, on the seventeenth day of August, A. D. 1868, and recorded on pages 343 and 344 of records of proceedings of County Commissioners of Otoe county, Nebraska.

Witness my hand and official seal this sixth day of November, A. D. 1868.

G. R. MCCALLUM,
County Clerk.

The arrangements for completing twenty-five miles of said road on the first day of May next depended upon the citizens fulfilling their bond to cash \$25,000 of Otoe county bonds, and the cashing of the balance by the Missouri Bond and Stock Board of St. Louis, at ninety cents on the dollar, according to an agreement made with them. The failure of this latter arrangement, which would have enabled us to complete the road to the Brick Post Office, is chargeable to a letter written to St. Louis by a prominent citizen of Nebraska City, whose open hostility to the road at home did but little injury, but whose letter, among strangers, declaring that the people repudiated the bonds and would refuse to pay them, did much, as is shown by the following letter:

OFFICE OF THE MISSOURI BOND AND STOCK BOARD OF ST. LOUIS,
St. Louis, Oct. 29, 1868.

J. B. BENNETT, Esq.:

Having learned that there will be objections raised to the payment of the Otoe county railroad bonds, we cannot allow the sale through this Board; and unless this question is settled, you might as well send my receipt and get them.

Very respectfully,

E. M. SAMUELS, Treasurer.

(CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.)

"The tobacco-growers, the beet-sugar men, the California fruit-growers, and others are rushing in protests against the proposed free trade with Puerto Rico," notes the Rural New Yorker. "What were they doing two years ago, before the island was mentioned as being a part of this country? They were then doubtless cheering for the war, and its glorious outcome."