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HALLADAY WIND-MILLS, CHURCH AND SCHOOL BELLS A. L. BRANG, 205 Farnham St., Omaha PILLSBURY'S BEST! Buy the PATENT PROCESS MINNESOTA FLOUR. always gives satisfaction, because it makes superior article of Bread, and is the Cheapest Flour in the market. Every sack warranted to run alike or money refunded. W. M. YATES,

THE MISSISSIPPI.

The Father of Waters and the Cause of the Overflow.

Sickness is What Ails Him-The Future a Conundrum-What Can the People Do?

A Californian who navigated the Mississippi forty years ago writes to the Los Angeles Times concerning the present flood: The newspapers are full of distressing news of the overflow of the Mississippi river. No one who has not seen this great river with his Sunday clothes on has but little idea of the suffering and hardships brought upon the people lying along its banks in consequence of these terrific floods, such as they are having down there now. These poor suffering souls are entitled to the sympathy of every man, woman and child in the country, and now is the time for Uncle Sam to show that he is as benevolent as he is powerful. In no other way can everybody lend a helping hand than through government.

For the last thirty or forty years there has been more or less suffering on the lower Mississippi. Of course this suffering is intensified a hundred fold in seasons of unusual floods, such as occurred in 1852, 1846, 1847, and 1882. In 1832 the Ohio river rose to the height of 65 feet. Probably not more than 4 feet difference in the height of the water in those years. It may be interesting to the readers of The Times to know something of the cause of the trouble down there, and what it is that ails the old father of waters that he behaves himself so badly in ordinary years. Sickness is what ails him. Not the kind that is troubling the Sacramento river; but sickness, nevertheless, brought down by the turbulent current of the great river. It is pretty evident that the Mississippi, at one period in the history of this country, poured its waters into the Gulf of Mexico at the mouth of the Ohio. All the interval of time between the mouth of the Ohio to the present mouth of the Mississippi is composed of these sicknesses. There is an immense amount of this debris taken down by the current at all seasons of the year, whether the rain be high or low. The Mississippi from the mouth of the Missouri is always muddy. It is a curious fact that the old father of waters flows all the way from Cairo to the Balize on a ridge considerably higher than the bottoms a little way from his banks. Before the dikes or levees were made along the banks of the river the overflows were not very deep along its banks, and for some distance out into the bottoms, for there is a large extent of land on the western side. No high land can be seen on the western side of the river from Cairo to the gulf, except in one place, in going up or down the river on a vessel. The whole extent of country, a thousand miles long, and from five to fifty miles wide, was overflowed, more or less, every time the river brimmed over. As long as the rain was permitted to overflow these bottom lands, the bed of the river was never materially changed, so far as raising it was concerned. The current overflowing its banks took along an immense amount of debris, and as soon as the water was well over the banks, it became almost standing water, giving the debris an opportunity to settle into fearful mud banks, as many a poor fellow has found to his sorrow. The intervals on the east side are numerous, but not so extensive as on the others, for the river makes its way to the bluff or high land in many places. These intervals are rich and wonderfully productive, and it was natural enough that the owners of these rich lands should devise means to keep the overflow of the river off these lands. A system of dikes or levees was devised and gone into, and just here is where the troubles commenced. They did make dikes, high and strong enough to keep the river within its banks for a time, except in such terrible cases as mentioned. But just as soon as the river was confined within its banks, the bed of the river began to rise, for the debris had to settle somewhere, and so the dikes had to be raised, and now at an ordinary spring freshet there flows by those large cotton and sugar plantations on the lower Mississippi an immense body of water twelve to fifteen feet higher than the main land. Standing on the boiler deck of the steamer as we passed up and down the river, it looked as if the deck of the steamer was about even with the tops of the houses along shore. When such a body of water cuts a gap through one of these dikes two or three hundred feet long, is it any wonder that the adjacent plantations are soon deluged? Forty years ago I went up and down the river frequently and noticed what was going on and I turned prophet, as it was, on my own private account and said to myself, these fellows may, for a time, keep this great river between these dikes, but by and by the river bed will get full of mud and sand, and then the old father will break through these temporary banks and ruin the plantations. The planters down there might have put off the day of their calamity a few years, had they, at the start, allowed the river at least five miles in width in which to flow by, but instead of that they did not allow one-third that distance in places. The bed of the river is now so high that it requires about the profits of the plantations to keep the dikes high enough to keep off the water for a time, except in such cases as mentioned. The planters are now having. Another device and it will take all the time to raise and pay for keeping up the dikes. Some of those large cotton and sugar planters have been squealing for several years. They say it is the duty of Uncle Sam to come to the rescue, and keep up the dikes for them. That is about on a par with our sickness gentlemen up above Sacramento, applying to the state to take off the sickness that they may continue to make money by washing down the mountains into the Sacramento river, raising its bed until no dike can be made that will keep this water off the farms and cities along its banks. May be Uncle Sam will do it-may be he won't.

PACIFIC RAILROAD FINANCES.

An Official Statement of Earnings, Operating Expenses and Government Expenses.

The secretary of the interior, in response to an inquiry from the house, gives a detailed statement of the financial condition of the Pacific roads. The totals are as follows: Central branch of the Union Pacific, from October, 1883, to December 31, 1883: Gross earnings, \$5,042,891; operating expenses, \$3,581,029 10; net earnings, \$1,461,861 90. The interest on first mortgage bonds, amounting to \$90,000 per annum, is not included in the operating expenses. Union Pacific, from November, 1883, to December 31, 1883: Gross earnings, \$1,879,369 66; operating expenses, \$78,213,915 47; net earnings, \$79,685,454 19. The annual interest on the first mortgage bonds of the Union Pacific amounts to \$1,633,741. Since the consolidation the annual interest on the first mortgage bonds amounts to \$2,480,640, and is not included in the operating expenses in this statement. This statement, however, includes the Kansas and Denver Pacific, which was consolidated with the Union Pacific January 20, 1880. The Kansas Pacific, from November, 1883, to December 31, 1883, 394 miles subdivided with bonds, gross earnings, \$25,567,995 18; operating expenses, \$14,536,720 14; net earnings, \$11,031,275 04. The interest on the first mortgage bonds, amounting to \$378,180 per annum, is not included in this statement of operating expenses. The earnings and expenses of this road, subsequent to December, 1879, are included in the statement of the Union Pacific. Central Pacific, November 6, 1883, to December 31, 1883: Gross earnings, \$184,381,090 63; operating expenses, \$119,873,378 88; net earnings, \$64,507,711 75. Interest on the first mortgage bonds, amounting to \$1,717,080 per annum, is not included in the operating expenses. Sioux City and Pacific, 117.42 miles, from September 30, 1883, to December 31, 1883: Gross earnings, \$4,471,927 52; operating expenses, \$3,470,933 85; net earnings, \$1,000,993 67. Interest on the first mortgage bonds, amounting to \$97,680 per annum, is not included in the operating expenses. The letter of transmission states that prior to July 1, 1878, no official returns were furnished the department, but the dates are believed to be reliable.

Bradford, Pa. Thos. Fitch, Bradford, Pa., writes: "I enclose money for Spring Blossom, as I said I would if it cured me. My dyspepsia has vanished, with all its symptoms. Many thanks; I shall never be without it in the house." Price 50 cents, trial bottles 10 cents. mch21-1w

AN HONEST MEDICINE FREE OF COST. Of all medicines advertised to cure any affection of the Throat, Chest or Lungs, we know of none we can recommend so highly as Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Tickling in the Throat, loss of voice, etc. This medicine does positively cure, and that where everything else has failed. No medicine can show one-half so many positive and permanent cures as have already been effected by this truly wonderful remedy. For Asthma and Bronchitis it is a perfect specific, curing the very worst cases in the shortest time possible. We say by all means give it a trial. Trial bottles free. Regular size \$1.00. For sale by J. H. O'NEILL & CO., Omaha.

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THE OCCIDENTAL J. I. PAYNTER, Proprietor Corner 10th and Howard Streets, OMAHA, NEB. Ratar Two Dollars Per Day. STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF PHILADELPHIA January, 1st, 1882. Cash Capital, \$400,000.00 Reserve for Fire Ins, 516,246.66 Reserve for Light, Heat, and Steam, 100,000.00 Claims 42,927.82 Net Surplus 61,232.90 \$1,620,307.38 SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT Real Estate, \$10,000.00 Mortgages 1st Lien, 250,339.50 Loans on Collaterals, 115,702.41 Stocks and Bonds, 445,150.35 U. S. Bonds, 650,100.00 Ground Rents, 19,920.01 Premiums in course of Collection, 10,368.67 Accrued Int. and Rents, 13,217.91 Cash on hand and in Banks, 85,408.63 \$1,620,307.37 THOS. R. MARSH, President. THOS. A. MORTON, Vice-President. A. C. L. CHAPMAN, Secretary. RICHARD MARSH, Asst. Secretary. STATE OF NEBRASKA, INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, LINCOLN, Feb. 1, 1882. AUDITOR'S OFFICE. It is hereby certified that the American Fire Insurance Co., of Philadelphia, Pa., in the State of Pennsylvania has complied with the Insurance law of this State, and is authorized to transact the business of fire insurance in this State for the current year. Witness my hand and seal of the Auditor of Public Accounts, this day and year above written. JOHN WALLICH, Auditor of Public Accounts. In Charge of Insurance Department.



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Sioux City & Pacific RAILROAD THE SIOUX CITY ROUTE. Runs a Solid Train through from Council Bluffs to St. Paul Without Change Time, Only 17 Hours - IT IS - 100 MILES THE SHORTEST ROUTE FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS TO ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS, DULUTH OR BISMARCK, and all points in Northern Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota. This line is equipped with the improved Westinghouse Automatic Air-brake and Miller's Platform Cooler and Buffer, and for SPEED, SAFETY AND COMFORT unsurpassed. Pullman Palace Sleeping Car runs through WITHOUT CHANGE between Kansas City and St. Paul, via Council Bluffs and Sioux City. Trains leave Union Pacific Transfer at Council Bluffs, at 12:25 p. m. daily on arrival of Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs train from the south. Arriving at Sioux City 11:30 p. m., and at the New Union Depot at St. Paul at 12:25 noon. TEN HOURS IN ADVANCE OF ANY OTHER ROUTE. Remember in taking the Sioux City Route you get a Through Train. The Shortest Line, the Quickest Time and a comfortable ride in the Through Cars between COUNCIL BLUFFS AND ST. PAUL. See that your Tickets read via the "Sioux City and Pacific Railroad". J. S. WATKINS, Superintendent. J. R. BUCHANAN, Gen'l Pass. Agent. P. E. ROBINSON, Asst. Gen'l Pass. Agent, Missouri Valley, Iowa. J. H. O'BRYAN, Southwestern Agent, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

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