

CHARGE, CHESTER, CHARGE!

Senator Van Wyck at the Saline County Fair.

A Caustic Review of Monopoly Rule and Corporation Press.

Kendall's Land Grabbing Syndicate Excoriated.

CRETE, September 18, 1884. At the Saline county fair, held at Crete this afternoon, Senator Van Wyck delivered an address which concludes as follows:

Besides theoretical and practical agriculture, there are other matters of equal importance challenging your consideration, questions above the routine of daily life, important for your own interests as well as the prosperity of the nation. The arrogance and exactions of corporate power need to be checked. For twenty years the public domain has been spoliated by reckless and improvident legislation, by unwarranted demands and base concessions of the land department, too often sustained by infamous if not corruptly obtained opinions of attorneys general, and what is far more revolting to the American citizen, too often sustained by the courts in defiance of express statute. Until now, the only effort to rescue or withhold from the hands of the spoiler about 100,000,000 acres of land, held much of it in defiance of law twenty years from settlement and not earned by the terms of the grant, yet boldly defying the power of congress to retain what has not been earned, and threatening, if congress dare act, the courts will be invoked to aid the robbers and, from past conduct, will probably sustain them.

We boast of our freedom and the power of the ballot box. You know that 99 of every 100 of our people demand these lands should be restored to the public domain. Such a demand, even in England or Germany, would be at once recognized and respected, but in free America it will probably be spurned and despised. Here the people are long suffering and much forgiving.

Those whom you elect to high positions not only betray their trust, ignore your wishes, but have the audacity to ask re-election at your hands. What happens in the nation has a counterpart in the state. To illustrate, the adjoining states of Iowa, Missouri and Kansas have by legislation fixed the rate of passenger traffic on railroads at three cents per mile. In this state the people have almost unanimously demanded the regulation of passenger and freight traffic. How have they been answered? With all your boasted power it cannot be done. Railroad capers and attorneys and editors somehow can use the people for their own destruction. Stop for a moment and ask yourself how such things can be and why the people are willing to place themselves in the hands of such treacherers. "Can such things be, and overcome us like a summer's cloud, without our special wonder?"

The railroad managers have been compelled to recognize the universality of the people, but not to your benefit. You remember a few years ago you and I were denounced as demagogues because we demanded that corporations should be controlled by legislation. They then asserted railroads could not be more controlled than farmers, that as well fix the price of corn and hogs by legislation, that railroads were private property, accordingly they claimed the management of railroads was so intricate and obtuse, common mortals should not attempt to invade the sacred domain, only the financial priesthood, those men who could change water into millions of government bonds, or gold, with a government fiat upon it, surpassing the miracle of 1890 years ago when water was turned into wine.

Now the corporation attorneys and editors and common manipulators say corporations should be controlled, and there can be no rest until they are, but the matter of control should be left to their tender management. They think now the legislature will not have the necessary time but by all means a commission.

From the growing temper of the people they fear it will be difficult to purchase a legislature but, a commission in their darling project, that they can own, as they have in the past land department and attorney general at Washington and in the states.

A commission by all means. Then, if appointed by the governor, how easy would it be to get a legislature. The B. & M. would recommend one, the Union Pacific another, and the third to be appointed by the governor of course would be neutral.

Tell me will you, how would the rights of the people be protected? Or if the commission shall be elected by the people, take the mode of selecting as would be indicated by the last republican convention.

A gallant captain heading the force of one rail road, an eloquent and shrewd lawyer, and politician heading the other. A factious and wild editor of a rail road organ, president of the convention, a captious snarling editor of another paper whose life has always been prolonged by the patronage of a great rail road, was made chairman of resolutions and actually prepared one. "That for the conservation of our party, that for the conservation of the peace (who proposes war?) and prosperity of the state a statute regulating our rail roads &c."

The day after the said editor had exhausted himself in the effort he had remaining vitality sufficient to endorse his own effort by writing in his paper that the platform including this resolution was vigorous and original. Undoubtedly!

For saying which you and I have been denounced by the said editor as demagogues and blatherers. Then a convention thus manipulated, would nominate railroad commissioners and under the spy and whip of party dictation, you would be left the only alternative of, shall I free men, to ratify at the ballot box the decree of cor-

partisan however blinded, believes it.

The board knew other parties desired these lands, for applications had previously been made in person and by letter to the land commissioner's office seeking to lease them.

Another confession of guilt is the plea that the law is defective and needs amending, if that be so, the greater the need for vigilance, for a sprinkling of honesty, and business capacity. Suppose that the law had been silent as to details and merely directed lands to be leased without any guards or protections, would that justify the criminal conduct of the board? But it is not true that the law is defective. It requires all lands to be offered for sale before leasing. Before sale it must be advertised in newspapers, and before being advertised must be carefully appraised, then a book prepared by commissioner, containing a complete list of the lands, with the appraisement, and deposited in office of county treasurer. All this before advertised for sale, then offered for sale, then offered for lease.

The law is plain and sufficient. No legislation framed in human language is a barrier against men willingly and deliberately to violate it.

The Lincoln Journal satisfied its readers that the board was criminal when it admitted that the opinion of the attorney general was wrong when he held that the land could be leased before being offered for sale.

The admission of guilt is still stronger when the same journal extenuates by saying, the state can suffer no loss because the state can have the leases declared illegal in a court. "Most lame and important conclusion."

But why did a board of state officers issue illegal leases? It seems some of the conspirators have unloaded on possibly innocent parties, and now the state must be asked to supplement the crime of the board by indicting a lawsuit upon innocent purchasers.

If a villain forges the name of Mr. Kendall to a promissory note, the harmless transaction because if the note is a forgery it cannot be collected, therefore no wrong done.

We have quite enough of that in this state where innocent parties on the Denver & St. Joe, upon public lands have been compelled to suffer. It is not honest, the government, state and nation must be held responsible for the acts of its officers.

The action of the governor and state treasurer in voting against leasing is a condemnation of the board. The unanimous action of the board in August is a condemnation of its action in July. On August 4th, after the land exposure by the mandamus suit, they unanimously decided on motion of Governor Dawes, that "advertisement be given, that said lands be subject to lease after thirty days."

Why did not the board in July know that secret leasing of the school lands was a fraud? What becomes of the boasted opinion of the attorney general? August 25th on motion of Gov. Dawes it was ordered that the school lands in Keith county be re-appraised, "deeming the last appraisement too low, and that the lands be advertised for sale, and that the notice of leasing be withdrawn until after the sale."

It seems in August the board have no trouble in finding that the law requires honesty in the management of school lands. Did they not know as well in July as August that the lands were appraised too low?

The action of the board in August is a complete acknowledgement of the imbecility or criminality of the board in July. We look in vain for any vindication. Certainly the large array of figures showing the entire 3,000,000 has not been stolen is equal to the defense of a vigorous man who has claimed great consideration because, while confessing he stole the saw mill, had previously restrained himself from stealing the mill dam.

A few papers having succeeded so admirably in establishing the guilt of the board, the people are now impatiently awaiting the explanation why from \$150,000 to \$400,000 has during the last two years been deposited in a few banks in this state. In what banks deposited? Who interested in the said banks? Whether any interest was paid on the deposit, and to whom?

These may be hard conundrums, but the defenders of the board are evidently equal to the emergency.

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The party were met at the junction of Elm and Agricultural streets near the fair grounds by the marshals and a coroner, and escorted to the tent of the president. A large crowd of Blaine admirers were in waiting at the tent, and there was a very pleasant, informal social interview which lasted until time for speaking, when the party adjourned to the judge's stand.

Blaine then spoke as follows: Ladies and Gentlemen: I am sure that you will be glad to hear me speak in this city, and if there be any one spot within the limits of the United States which may challenge all others in prosperity, contentment and peace, it will be Worcester. Worcester is the state of Massachusetts. [Applause.] We are in the habit, in our minds, without looking closely at figures, to think that the most prosperous city in the world is Boston, but in fact it is Worcester. There is not in that crowded kingdom of Belgium, nor in that hive of industry, Holland, that secret leasing of the school lands we represent today, and when you come to compare the comfort, thrift, general prosperity of the entire people, there is not a city in the world that compares with Worcester. Worcester is the state of Massachusetts. [Applause.] We are in the habit, in our minds, without looking closely at figures, to think that the most prosperous city in the world is Boston, but in fact it is Worcester. There is not in that crowded kingdom of Belgium, nor in that hive of industry, Holland, that secret leasing of the school lands we represent today, and when you come to compare the comfort, thrift, general prosperity of the entire people, there is not a city in the world that compares with Worcester.

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STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wednesday's Business at the Stock Yards and on Chicago.

Cattle Active and Lower on Natives.

Hogs—Light Receipts, Demand, Higher Prices.

The Grain Markets Again Very Active.

Fierce Excitement in Corn, With Better Prices.

Oats Moderately Firm—Pork Almost Nominal and Lard Firm and Advancing.

CATTLE. Special Telegram to THE BEE. CHICAGO, September 18.—There were less than 150 cars of Texas and territorial steers among the fresh receipts, and about 230 cars of natives, making the heaviest run of the latter for any day this week. The market generally was fairly active but prices were again made lower on common medium natives, of which there was a large supply and last week are strong at 25 to 30 lower than last week. Best fully finished natives are steady but not quite as active as yesterday or last week. There is an active demand for steers and one or two of the speculating firms sold out yesterday. Over 1,000 head of yearlings and stockers have been sold within a day or two. Stock calves are also in good demand, shipments yesterday reaching over 1,000 head. Light range cattle, also Texas or western are making fair prices and in good demand. Receipts of western and Texas today were somewhat below the average of the past few days. Corn fed at 4 1/2 to 7 1/2; range cattle are selling at about the following: Texans 75 to 850 pounds 3 7/2 to 4 1/2; common 4 1/2 to 5 1/2; Wyoming, Montana and Nebraska 4 25 to 5 30; range calves, including cows and bulls 2 30 to 3 75; good to choice 1 20 to 1 250; pounds 10 to 150 common 1 1/2 to 1 50; 500 to 600 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 600 to 700 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 700 to 800 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 800 to 900 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 900 to 1,000 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 1,000 to 1,100 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 1,100 to 1,200 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 1,200 to 1,300 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 1,300 to 1,400 pounds 1 1/2 to 1 50; 1,400 to 1,500 pounds 1 1/2 to 1