A MONEY-MAKING POSTMASTER.

His Method of Raising the Wind Through Official Dishonesty-United States Court-After a Mandamus-Brevities.

[FROM THE BEE'S LINCOLN BUREAU.] The trands perpetrated by Isaac N. Hibbs, while postmaster at Lewiston (Idaho) in May last, are to be made the groundwork for a number of important suits against national banks in various parts of the country. A letter from Postmaster General Vilas to the attorney general requesting this action has been received by United States Attorney Lambertson, with an endorsement by Mr. Garland. In this letter Mr. Vilas says that shortly before May 3, 1885, Hibbs, then postmaster at Lewiston, took 403 money order blanks and issued them in favor of banks in Michigan, Dakota, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, Colorado and Iowa, his usual practice being to send six orders of \$100 each to each bank. Hibbs would then request the banks to collect the orders and forward the proceeds to J. G. Wilson, at Pierce City (Idaho), "Wilson," who was an imaginary person, being the alleged purchaser of nearly every order. As all registered letters for Pierce City have to pass through Lewiston Hibbs had an easy job in getting his plunder. When the fraud was discover-ed some of the banks had \$7,300 on hand to Wilson's credit. Postmaster Vilas instructed them to hold the money until further advised, and later requested that it be turned over to the postmasters in the towns where the banks were situated. This most of the banks refused to do unless secured by indemnity bonds, the claim being made that "Wilson" might be an innocent party, and rightfully entitled to the money. Mr. Vilas refused to give this indemnity as congress has made no provision for it, and no officer of the government is authorized to sign such a bond. The banks in question, he says action as the grant of a fightitious says, acting as the agent of a fictitious payee, have collected and come into possession of money order funds, by means of forged and fraudulent money orders, and suits must be brought against them at once under section 4,057, revised statutes. The banks that will be thus proceeded against, and the amounts claimed from them, are

given below: Second National bank, East Saginaw Merchants' National bank, Deadwood (Dak.), \$1,200.

Mason's bank, Plankinton (Dak.), \$600. Merchants bank, Winona (Minn.), \$600. Freeport National bank, Freeport (Ill.), Commercial bank, Port Huron (Mich.)

State Bank of Nebraska, Crete, \$600. German American bank, St. Cloud (Minn.), \$600. David City bank, David City (Neb.),

Stockgrowers National bank, Pueblo (Col.), \$100.

Creston National bank, Creston (Iowa),

In the United States court the cases of William H. Widaman and S. Storrs Cot-ton vs the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railway, are being tried as one cause. Both actions are brought to recover damages, the amount asked being \$5,000 in each case. The facts, as presented by the counsel in their preliminary remarks, are about as follows: On nary remarks, are about as follows: On the 9th of May, 1883, the morning after a heavy storm, a train of cars on the Min-neapolis & Omaha road, crashed through-a bridge on the Norfolk division near Wayne. The engineer, Samuel T. Reed, was instantly killed, and the head brake-man, Joseph G. Pheasant, died two days after. Reed left four children, ranging from 2 to 12 years of age, and Pheasant atter. Reed left four children, ranging from 2 to 12 years of age, and Pheasant left a wife and six children, the youngest 5 and the oldest 21 years. William Widaman was appointed administrator for Pheasant, and S. Storrs Cotton for Reed. The plaintiffs will endeavor to show on the trial that the bridge was faultily constructed; that it was seldom if ever inspected, and that on the morning of the week in particular morning of the wreck in particular, although there had been an unusually heavy storm the night previous, the train in question was allowed to proceed from Wayne, where it had been held all night, Wayne, where it had been held all night, without an examination of any part of the road being made. The defendant will claim that the accident was due almost entirely to an act of God, against which no railway in the world could defend itself, and that the men killed were guilty of contributory negligence, as the bridge or culvert was situated on a straight piece of track over a mile long, and there piece of track over a mile long, and there was nothing to prevent the engineer from seeing that the structure had been wrecked by the flood before he ran on to it. A large number of witnesses are to be examined, and it is probable the case

will last several days. Messrs. Field and Webster, of counsel Messrs. Field and Webster, of counsel for the city of Lincoln, have made application to the supreme court for a writ of mandamus to compel the secretary of state and auditor to register \$25,000 in refunding bonds. The refusal of these officials, as noted in the BEE Tucsday, is based upon an opinion by Judge Maxwell, in the state ex rel Wiant vs. Babcock, to the effect that the statutes limit the entire bonded indebtedness that can be assumed by a numicipal corporation be assumed by a municipal corporation to 10 per cent of the assessed valuation; the further claim being made that the bonded indebtedness of the city is already in excess of that limit. Messrs. Field and Webster in their application for the writ allege that the \$25,000 is not a new debt, allege that the \$25,000 is not a new debt, but is merely to refund an old one, and save the taxpayers 2½ per cent interest, the new bonds bearing 5½ and the old ones 8 per cent; second, that the statute indebtedness applies only to bonded indebtedness incurred for works of public improvement; third, that of the entire debt now owing by the city, some \$247,500, there is only one item of \$25,000—bonds voted to the Lincoln & Northwestern railway—for a work of public improvement; fourth, that the opinion by Judge Maxwell refers to the indebtedness of counties only.

ness of counties only.

In the application there is a showing of the city's bonded indebtedness, as

 
 Atchison & Nebraska
 \$ 9,500

 Lincoln & Northwestern
 25,000

 Fire protection
 20,000

 Floating debt
 30,000

 Refunding debt
 58,000

 Water works, etc
 110,000

The state officials claim that all this comes within the 10 per cent limit. If so, the city is in a bad position. Most of this debt was incurred previous to 1880, when the assessed valuation was about \$1,250,000, and the limit of liability consequently \$125,000. This being sustained, all the bonds noted in excess of that limit are invalid. Among them are the \$110,000 in water bonds, the most valuable investin water bonds, the most valuable investment the city has. Should they be thrown out, the credit of Lincoln would be seriously impaired. In addition, the owners of the bonds have a right in equity by which they could trace every dollar invested, seize the property bought with their money, and sell it. But this will not occur, as the refunding bonds are plainly good, and the courts will so hold. The Missouri Pacific people are virtually

interested in having a mandamus granted, in order to settle the question of the validity of the \$50,000 voted to them, and to that end have engaged Hon. J. M. Woolworth to assist Messrs. Webster and

Walter Scott of Lancaster county is in the district court asking for a divorce from his wife, Avalina, on the ground of desertion. Gus Saunders was found guilty of contempt by Judge Parker yesterday and sentenced to jail until he returns the gambling tools replevined from the po-

United States District Attorney Lambertson has been ordered to commence a prosecution of the Lakota Ranch company for cutting timber on government land. The Lakota ranch is situated in the extreme northwestern corner of Nebraska, adjoining Dakota, and large tracts of pine timber in that section have been devastated, it is alleged, by the manager and his agents.

"THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW." A Lively Theatrical Performance in Denver in the Early Days.

At Denver in the winter of 1863 the principal theatre was run under the management of John Langrish. At that time some 6,000 union soldiers were stationed there. The soldiers took great interest in the theatre and were its principal or at least its most entusiastic patrons. Every night the house was crowded—particularly the gallery—with soldiers.

To please the boys in blue Mr. Langrish no pue see the boys in one Mr. Langrish put on the "Siege of Lucknow." Both men and officers took great interest in the piece. They were determined that it should be produced in fine style. The soldiers made a lot of bombs to be used in the fort scene, the officers allowed two cannon to be brought to the theater for use in the fort, and about fifty men armed with muskets volunteered to act as the attacking army of natives. For two or three days previous to the night when the piece was to be presented there were more soldiers at work on the stage and about the theater than helpers of any other kind. They bossed all the warlike preparations.

preparations.

The great night came, and the soldiers had the house. Not only were they in the gallery, but they also filled the seats and the lower floor. Mrs. Langrish took the part of "Jessie Brown." When the attack was made on the fort the firing was terrific. Then bombs began to fall into the fort. These were balls of yarn containing grappowder. In order to produce taining gunpowder. In order to produce a good effect, the reckless soldiers who made these imitation bomb shells had placed in each nearly half a pound of powder. They made a report as loud as the largest China bombs.

The bombs made it mighty hot for poor "Jessie Brown." In less than half a minute her dress was no fire in two or three places and overwhoody expected to

three places, and everybody expected to see her beat a retreat. But those with her in the fort smothered her burning

The supposition was, among the people of the theatre, that the cannon were not loaded. The priming of the pieces was to be flashed, and a drum was to be struck to imitate the report. But some sol has dier slipped into one of the cannon cart video containing dress and she stood her ground. one of the cannon cart ridge containing about two pounds of powder. When those in the fort began to reply to the fire of the attacking party this cannon was touched off and it blew a hole through the side of the theater nearly eight feet square. This excited the soldiers in front, and those in the gallery began firing their revolvers up into the ceiling, while those below turned loose into the floor. In a few seconds the whole place was so full of powder smake that one was so full of powder smoke that one could hardly breathe or see. The lights presented the appearance of street lamps seen through a dense fog. The excuse that the soldiers afterwards made for riddling the floor and ceiling, was that all was so much like a real battle that they forgot where they were and so began firing before they realized what they were about. That night all "the boys in blue" felt that they got the full worth of their money. The last time I saw John Langrish on the Comstock I asked him if he remembered the "Siege of Lucknow" at Denver in early days.
"Said he: 'I shall never forget it, nor

When Baby was sick, we gave her Oasteria,

When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,

will Mrs. Langrish!""

When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria, When she had Children, she gave them Castoria,

Notice.

Bids will be received by the undersigned for ten days for part or all of the Baker farm, adjoining the water works Baker farm, adjoining the water works on the north, and Lowe's addition on the west, consisting of 124 acres. Bids for anything under ten acres will not be considered. I reserve the right to reject any and all bids. Bids must state the terms desired if bid is accepted.

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Dr. Hamilton Warren, Eclectic Physician and Surgeon, 703 N. 16th street, near Webster. Day and night calls promptly attended to.

Fur robes and winter caps. Reduced prices. Frederick, 13th and Farnam.

Only Eight Days Left. Boots and Shoes must be closed out before February 20th. 20 per cent discount. Now is the time to secure genuine bar-gains. T. N. Bray, 1512 Douglas.

I have the agency at Omaha for the sale of large blocks of lands in Keith and Cheyenne counties, Nebraska, and in Wyoming. Also of lots in Schuyler, Kimball, Paxton, Big Springs, Sidney, Potter, Denver Junction (Colorado) Alder (Hall Co) and other points.

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remedy. Would you believe that it is sold on
its merits and that each druggist is authorized to refund. Your money by the proprietor ized to refund your money by the proprietor of this wonderful remedy if it fails to cure you. Schroter & Conrad, druggists, No. 211 S. 15th street have secured the agency for it. Price 50c and \$1. Trial size free.

The First Keen Twinge. As the season advances, the pains and aches by which rheumatism makes itself aches by which rheumatism makes itself known, are experienced after every exposure. It is not claimed that Hood's Sarsaparilla is a specific for rheumatism—we doubt if there is, or can be, such a remedy. But the thousands benefited by Hood's Sarsaparilla, warrant us in urgg of hers who suffer from rheumatism take it before the first keen twinge.

Angostur a Bitters is known as the great regulator of the digestive organs all over the world. Have it in your house. Ask your grocer or druggist for the genuine article, manufactured by Dr. J. G. B. Siegert & Song.

THE OVERLAND TRAIL.

Horace Greeley's Visit to the Wild West in Early Days.

Greeley as a Novel Reader-How He Was Deprived of His Pastime-Bossing a Station.

"I am always interested in newspaper men and printers," said Judge Faust of the Utah delegation to the Range convention to a Denver Tribune-Republican reporter. "I was always a great admirer of old Horace Greeley, although I'm a democrat, and I always liked to read his

When he came overland, I entertained him at my house right at the extremity of the great American desert-my wife and I were both young then-and old Horace stopped at our house. I played a little joke on the old man at that time and I enjoy thinking about it.

"We lived in a little double log cabin and the beds were made of cottonwood poles with raw-hide stretched across and the chairs were stools with ox-bows for backs. That was the kind of upholstery which we had then.

HORACE GREELEY READING NOVELS. "That was long before the electric lights, of course, and we had no gas or even sperm candles. All that we had for lights were tallow dips which we

made ourselves.

"Well, I was a little selfish and I wanted to have a good, long talk with Mr. Greeley, and so I played the joke on him. Soon after he got to the house he opened his satchel and took out a novel, which he began to read. That's a fact I Lots of people have doubted we which he began to read. That's a fact!
Lots of people have doubted me when I
said that Horace Greeley read novels;
but it's true. He told me that he read a
great many. He read Bulwer and those
solid kind of authors, great, thick books,
you know, and he read one that time. I wanted him to sit up and talk to me and not read, so I gathered up all of the tallow dips in the house and hid them. Well, he read away at that novel until dark, and then he called for a candle, but there were none to be found any-where about the house. So he had to talk with me and I had an enjoyable time. He told me all about his early life, how he first went to New York; all that I'd read before, but it was pleasant to hear him talk about it, and he told me about Dana and all those old journalists, and I had a good time."
"Yes, sir," continued Judge Faust, "I
tell you those were rough days.

ON THE OVERLAND. "I had charge of a station, and they put a man there because they thought that he was suited for the position. I had charge of a station at one time when my assistants were toughs. Every one of them had killed their man, and some of them had killed a half-dozen. I tell you a man has got to let it be understood who was the boss with such a gang as that in charge. I had to show them, and I only had to do it once. I was only a boy then. I hadn't the least bit of a moustache, and these fellows were all older, and, as I said before, bad men. One night a stage came in there a little late, and all of the passengers were hungry. I called my cook and told him to get supper. He began, and did not work very lively, and I went to see what was the matter, as the people were hungry and waiting. He had a big knife in his hand, and was cutting up ham. I told him to hurry. He turned, with the knife in his hand, and said: 'D-n you, if you want this work done any quicker, do it yourself!'

"He was coming toward me with the knife and I seized an old whip stock standing in a corner. I looked at his head and I said to myself, I must kill him,' and then I aimed at his shoulder and I struck him a good smart blow, at the same time saying: 'You scoundrel drop that knife.' He dropped the knife and I dropped the whipstock and we clenched. He weighed about 180 and I 130 and he throw his arms around my 130 and he threw his arms around my body, and I thought for a moment that he would squeeze my breath out of me. Finally I managed to get one arm loose and I let out and struck him under the iaw and he went over into a corner. "Well, upon that every man in the outfit jumped out of bed. They were sleeping out of doors upon hay placed upon
wooden frames. Every man got out of
bed in a moment, and I knew that if I
didn't declare myself the boss then I'd better get out. I ran to my wagon, and I buckled on my revolvers, and took my shotgun and got out again I said: 'Now, get back to bed, every man of you! This is no fight of yours, and I'm prepared to take any one of you, in any

WHO IS BOSS?

style, one at a time!"
"Do you know that from that time I was the most popular man around that country and was their boss! There was no further trouble with them.
"Poor boys," concluded Judge Faust sadly, "many of them were afterward killed by the Indians."

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One 2 hole Cyclone Geared Sheller, complete with Power
One Mishawaka Combined Corn Sheller and Grinder
One Mishawaka Combined Corn Sheller

One No. 4 Chicago Grinding Mill
One No. 4 Foos Scientific Grinding Mill
One No. 4 Chicago Grinding Mill
One No. 5 Foos Scientific Grinding Mill
One No. 6 Foos Scientific Grinding Mill
One No. 6 Foos Scientific Grinding Mill
One "Clipper" Power Grinder One No. 3
One No. 4 Foos Scientific Grinding Mill.
One "Clipper" Power Grinder
One Buckeye Feed Mill.
One Combined Lister and Drill
One Trojan Mower.
One Flying Dutchman, Jr., Sulky Plow.
One Buford Wheel Automatic Self-lift Sulky Plow
Three Oliver Casaday Sulky Plows, cach \$50.
One Weir Self-lift Sulky Plow
One No. 2 14-inch Kerstone Disc Harrow with Seeder Attachments.
One Hoosier Force Feed Broadcast Seeder.
One 2-horse Evans Planter.
One Bradley's Combined Iron Beam Lister and Drill.
Two Johnson & Field No. 2 Warchouse Fanning Mills, each \$50.
Two Johnson & Field No. 2 Farm Fanning Mills, each \$10.
Two Johnson & Field No. 1 Farm Fanning Mills, each \$30.
Six S. Freeman'& Sons Fanning Mills, each \$30.
Six S. Freeman'& Sons Fanning Mills, each \$30.
One Bradley's Duplex Adjustable Arch Walking Cultivator with iron beam
One New Western Spring Cultivator.
One Weir Combined Corn Cultivator.
One Weir Tongueless Cultivator.
One 2-horse Champion Hay Rake
One D 10 16-incheut/Steel Beam Plow
Two sets Double Farm Harness, each \$30.
One Single Farm Harness.
One Underground Iron Force Pump
Two Frank Ward " "each \$12
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Six 7-foot Farm Favorite Pumps, each \$7.20
Two Grebe Hay Sweeps, each \$28.
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SILVERWARE, ETC. Thirty Silver Hunting Case Watches, each \$25.
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Thirty Farmer's Record and Account Books, each \$3.
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Two "Plush, each \$7.
Two Fine Large Albums, Plush, each \$15.
One "" One
One
One
One
Standard British Novels at \$1.50
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This is neither a new nor experimental scheme, but will be our sixth successery annual premium distribution, the first having taken place in the winter of 1879-1883. While it may seem incredible that we can afford to furnish a metropolitan weekly for two, dollars a year, give to every subscriber a premium worth at least one dollar, and to include among these premiums several hundred articles valued at from five dollars to one thousand dollars each, we are in condition to honestly carryon every promise or obt. gation which we assume and still derive fair returns from the paper. Nearly all the large premiums were secured in exchange for advertising. The most costly articles we have traded for so as to involve only a comparatively paper. Nearly all the large premiums were secured in exchange for advertising. The most costly articles we have traded for so as to involve only a comparatively small outlay in each. For instance, our lands were bought of the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company and they take out \$1,000 of the purchase price in advertising. The same is true of the Case threshing machine, for which we pay less than oneing Machine Company and they take out \$1,000 of the purchase price in advertising. The same is true of the Case threshing machine, for which we pay less than one-fourth of the retail price in cash and balance in advertising. Many other machines we have on the list are purchased without paying out any money. The minor premiums, such as books, albums, cutlery, plated spoons, etc., are bought in very large quantities at wholesale prices and with liberal discounts. The margin between what we pay out for premiums, postage and incidental expenses is large enough to leave us a fair subscription price for the paper. Our list contains the the names of thousands of subscribers who have patronized us for many years. They attest that we have kept faith with our patrons and enjoy their full confidence. We could not afford to do otherwise. The Bek is now in its fifteenth year, and its founder and editor during all these years is also the principal proprietor. He has a reputation at stake, and could not be a party to a disreputable or fraudulent scheme without being ruined, and destroying his paper which now occupies the front rank in western journalism.

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