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F. ROSEWATER, Editor.

Slum Prospects.

In presenting the board of trade bill to enable the Union Pacific to borrow money to construct branch lines in Nebraska and Kansas, Senator Van Wyck took occasion to say that he presented the bill not because he thought it the best solution of the problem, but because it seemed to be demanded by his constituents, and protected the interests of the government. The bill has been referred to the judiciary committee of the senate. It is only fair to say that the chances for its passage by the present congress are not brilliant. The Hoar funding bill has the preference in the senate, and, if reached, will draw out a lengthy debate upon the history and condition of the road. Congress is not favorable to any legislation which will seem to weaken the government lien on the property represented by the second mortgage bonds, and an amendment recently offered by the Union Pacific on the books of the treasury. The support which the Hoar extension bill is receiving is largely due to a mistaken idea that the measure is for the benefit of the government and will increase its security. As a matter of fact the bill legalizes all the thievery and robbery of the past in Union Pacific management and gives the thieves a quit-claim deed to their plunder. The board of trade bill on the other hand, while leaving all questions of the past to be settled as congress and the courts may decide, permits the company to use its credit in securing money to extend branches, under guarantees that the construction and capitalization shall be secured by the property acquired. The opponents of the road in congress are not likely, however, in our opinion, to waive their opposition to any measure which will permit an apparent increase of the indebtedness of the Union Pacific, even if such increase is needed to protect the interests of the main system. This is one of the many unfortunate results of the management of the Gould and Dillon regime which has destroyed the confidence of the country in Union Pacific financing and in the honesty of any plans professedly for the combined interest of the road and the people.

Postoffice Complaints.

If Senator Manderson and Representative Weaver would turn their respective attentions to the crying demand of Omaha for better postal facilities they would need no long felt want. The complaints of the inefficient service at the postoffice are general. They are met by the postmaster with the reply that insufficient force is the sole and only cause. If this is the case, every effort should be made to remedy the trouble by a demand on the part of the senator and representative specially interested, that the Omaha postoffice shall be placed on a par with other offices of its size and importance throughout the country. The business of the postoffice is growing with a rapidity which evidences the rapid growth of the city. It is a distributing point for a large section of the west and an office of deposit for great numbers of minor offices in the tributary territory. The growth of Nebraska is less than that of Omaha makes itself felt in a daily increasing tax upon the resources of the institution. Senator Manderson owes it to Mr. Contant well as to the people of Omaha to make a vigorous movement upon the postmaster general to demand relief for the patrons of the Omaha postoffice. With a proper force of clerks on hand there will be no further excuses for the harassing delays in the distribution, forwarding and delivery of mail from which the business men of Omaha are suffering. Under such changed circumstances a continuance of the trouble would call loudly for a change of postmasters. Another reform needed in the same line is the removal of the shabby and battered mail wagons which consumptive mules and spayed ponies drag wearily to and from the postoffice and the depot. This transfer service would disgrace a decaying New England village. The non-resident contractors who are mismanaging this portion of the mail service should be brought to view with a sharp pen.

What Then?

Suppose the home rule bill is defeated as the croakers now assume; what then? Is there any reason why the friends of Ireland should feel discouraged over the prospect? We think not. If Mr. Gladstone's measure passes the commons it will certainly be thrown out by the lords. An appeal to the country would be necessitated under these circumstances, just as an appeal will be certain to follow the rejection of the bill by the commons upon its second reading. Lord Hartington may talk of a coalition ministry and may even make the attempt to mix the oil of radicalism with the water of whiggery, but it cannot succeed. English politics have never been favorable to coalitions. They have always failed in the past; they will surely fail in the present.

Liberal England has pronounced itself for Gladstone and home rule with overwhelming energy during the Easter recess. It will vote its own way more emphatically at the next general election. The campaign which would follow a dissolution of parliament would be carried on chiefly, if not solely, on the one issue of an Irish parliament at Dublin and Gladstone's wishes in the drafting of the bill. England is now ready to admit that there is no middle ground between home rule and coercion and that coercion is a failure. The discussion among liberal members of parliament is not as to the necessity of home rule, but regarding the details of a practical application of the measure proposed. A general election may be needed to clear the stormy atmosphere, but the result in the end will see Ireland and Irishmen, together with all lovers of freedom, so earnestly desired.

Guarding the School Lands.

The board of public lands at Lincoln has adopted more stringent rules to govern the appraisal, leasing and sale of school lands in this state. This action comes none too soon. The exposure by the Bee of the manner in which by collusion with county officers the best agricultural lands in the state are being gobbed by non-residents sharks at the minimum price seems to have had its effect. The new rules are as follows:

The appraisal shall be made by a duly qualified person appointed by the board of public lands, and shall be made in the presence of the applicant, and a copy of the same shall be filed in the office of the county clerk, and a copy of the same shall be given to the applicant.

The bidder shall be required to deposit with the county clerk, at the time of the sale, the sum of ten percent of the purchase price, and the balance shall be paid in cash or by note and mortgage, at the option of the purchaser, within thirty days after the date of the sale.

The purchaser shall be required to execute and deliver to the county clerk, at the time of the sale, a deed in conformity with the provisions of the act of March 21st, 1872, relating to the sale of school lands.

The county clerk shall be required to file a copy of the deed in the office of the board of public lands, and to forward a copy of the same to the board of public lands.

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THE ANARCHIST.

Philadelphia Times.

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JOHN DAVIS ON HIS TRAIL.

Philadelphia Times.

There is a tight race between George W. Julian, of Indiana and George C. Gorham, of Nowhere to see who is the biggest ghost in contemporary politics. If the contest were to stop right now—the rate receipts would be divided evenly between the two competitors.

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