

SOUTHERN IDAHO RAILROAD PROSPECTS.

In another column we publish a reply to certain questions about the Portland, Salt Lake and South Pass Railroad, which were answered by H. I. Chapman the Superintendent of the road. If the prospects are as Mr. Chapman gives them, our neighbors south will soon enjoy railroad facilities which will connect them with the outside world and make their situation such as to give to them a high degree of prosperity. Of the ability of the company to accomplish the two extremes of the road, one from Corinne to Snake river, and the other from Umatilla on the Columbia to the Grand Ronde valley, before September 1877, there may be a question, though we are not prepared to dispute it, and indeed we hope they possess all that Mr. Chapman claims for them.

There can be but little doubt that the local traffic of the western portion from the Grande Ronde west, so soon as it is constructed, will be quite large. The eastern portion will have all the carrying trade which passes over the Union Pacific and Central Pacific for the Boise valley and the Boise basin, and that is no inconsiderable amount, though we think not sufficient to support the road. But that is a matter for the projectors of the road to consider and entertain. To the people of the Boise country the effects of the building and putting in operation of the road, will be nearly the same whether or not the road is a paying investment to the owners.

There is no doubt of the fact that most of the proposed route of the entire road is such as can be built at comparatively small expense of grading. The country immediately bordering upon the line of the road, from where it touches Snake river on the east to the Grande Ronde valley cannot be regarded as a good agricultural country and will never be densely populated. Nearly all the land that is susceptible of cultivation requires irrigation to make it productive, and this irrigation cannot be secured except at great cost. There are some small valleys back from the line of road that are good.

But the mining interests of several places which will become tributary to the road are very promising and important, and farther developments are quite sure to augment their importance, and we have every reason to believe that these mining districts will contribute largely to the local support of this road. Hence we see no hindrance to the ultimate success of the road. To make this success more certain and sure when the entire line of the road is completed, the through traffic from the Central Pacific to Portland and the Puget Sound country will add largely. It is evident that all of Southern Idaho, Eastern Oregon and Washington will derive great advantage from the early construction of this road.

But we notice a thrust made against the Northern Pacific road by Mr. Chapman, which we think the facts will not warrant. He says "it has been demonstrated that it is impracticable, if not impossible, to operate a railroad through

Northern Dakota on the proposed line of the Northern Pacific Railroad for more than six months in each year."

He assigns no causes for this impracticability, and so far as we are aware no causes exist that he could have assigned, save the fact that the company which undertook to build it, were wanting in ready money to progress the work. The reports of Roberts and other engineers who made the survey of the road, all disprove the allegation of impracticability. On the other hand they claim for the road great advantages over the route of the Union Pacific as a winter route and one that can be operated every month in the year without any more interruption than has the route from Chicago to New York.

It has been demonstrated by several years operation that the Union and Central Pacific roads have been profitable investments for the owners. The contemplated road from Corinne to Portland when built may detract some from the Central Road but it will increase the business of the Union Pacific. The Northern Pacific route is mostly through a country which will furnish adequate local support, much more so than either the Union or Central Pacific and can be built with less average cost per mile, and nowhere passes an elevation as high as the Union Pacific by 2,700 feet, and has many other natural advantages, and the present company say they will build the road. Time will develop the facts.

THE DISPUTED STATES.—It is now claimed and made to appear quite evident that both South Carolina and Florida have given a majority for Hayes. But in Louisiana there is still great uncertainty. Judge Stanley Matthews, a prominent Republican of Cincinnati, Ohio, who has been to New Orleans studying the situation concludes that the majority of the votes cast in Louisiana are for Tilden, but thinks that many of these are fraudulent, more of them than the majority for Tilden, whether the situation is such that these votes claimed to be fraudulent can be proven to be so is another question. The prospect now looks favorable to the success of Tilden.

THE COMMISSION.—The *Oregonian* of the 23d ult. is in error when it states that "the people of Eastern Oregon and Washington Territory have every reason to hope that the action of the board will be final; that the difficulty has been adjusted on a satisfactory basis—either that the Indian's claim to the Wallowa Valley has been extinguished by purchase on the part of the government, or that they have been given free and undisputed possession of the *illite*." No adjustment was made with Joseph and he refused to make any.

THE CAMP CREEK MINES.—A correspondent of the *Oregonian* over the signature of Ochocoian in a gentle manner raises a query and doubt about the richness claimed for the quartz mines in Wasco County. He thinks the rock formation there precludes the belief of good quartz there.

MONEY UP.—A farmer friend visited Lewiston lately for the purpose of disposing of a lot of cheese. He found a ready sale for his cheese, but not a dollar in money could be realized. The explanation is that all the money in the town is bet on the Presidential election, and being in the hands of stakeholders there is a great stringency in the money market. Our friend left his cheese, and after the radicals complete the "counting out" of Tilden he expects to receive his returns.—*W. W. Statesman*.

It is some consolation to us that our neighbor of the *Statesman* has discovered the "explanation" of our lack of money, as it does not claim that the money has left us altogether, but is only locked up for a season. When the stakeholders disgorge it must make money plenty.

THE INDIAN COMMISSION.

Several of our cotemporaries entertain similar views with us in regard to the late Indian Commission to the Wallowa viz: That the whole thing was a farce. As expressed by the *Union* "the farce of a government representing 45,000,000 of people, making treaties of peace with every band of half a hundred Indian outlaws, is getting altogether too broad to be laughable." After the manner in which the commission was met by Joseph we wonder not that the men composing the commission eloped from the country as quickly as possible and maintained such reticence as described in the *Union* in regard to the result of their mission. Their coming was announced by the Eastern press, the San Francisco and Portland press with a great flourish of trumpets touching what they were to do. "The mountain has brought forth a mouse" would be too strong an expression of that which they have accomplished. We learn that Joseph refused to shake hands with Gen. Howard saying that he did not send for him and wanted nothing to do with him. Col. H. Clay Wood has written up his pamphlet of fifty pages giving the status of Joseph and his band in relation to the Whites, and now he has another good theme for a similar pamphlet descriptive of the status of Gen. Howard towards Joseph. We think the latter would be more interesting to readers in this upper country who comprehend the situation.

The effect of this visit and consideration given to Joseph by the commission has been to make him more haughty, insolent and defiant, and whereas before he might have doubted his own greatness and ability to maintain the Wallowa country, now it will require some very forcible demonstration on the part of the Government to induce him to submit to reservation regulations. It certainly is reasonable to apprehend more annoyance to the settlers from Joseph than would have been experienced had the commission remained in Washington, or stopped short of coming here, even if they had gone on a fishing excursion somewhere in California or Oregon, or had gone to inspect the Camp Creek mines of Eastern Oregon and reported their richness back to Washington. We learn nothing of their purpose to report favorably upon the question of consolidating Indian Agencies as was announced they would do. This purpose of their mission may yet develop itself. It is announced that a part of the commission consisting of Messrs. Barstow, Jerome and Stickney are detailed to inspect the Indian reservations in this portion of the country, and doubtless this visit is with a view to the contemplated consolidation of agencies. We have before expressed the general sentiment of the people of this section of the country as to the present impracticability of any such consolidation and assigned the reasons for this sentiment. Perhaps the commission may find a safe way to do this, that no man living in an Indian country would have ever conceived. We wait father developments.

Sheriff's Sale OF REAL ESTATE.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION ISSUED out of the Justice's Court in the Precinct of Lewiston, County of Nez Perce, Idaho Territory, in the suit of P. W. McCabe against Patrick Mackey, judgment was rendered in the said suit on the 23d day of October, A. D. 1876, in favor of said plaintiff and against said defendant for the sum of seventy-two and forty-two one hundredths dollars (\$72.42) gold coin, and twenty-eight and eighty-eight one hundredths dollars (\$28.88) costs of suit together with accruing costs, I have levied upon all the right, title, and interest of the said Patrick Mackey the said defendant in and to the following described real estate, situate, lying, and being in County of Nez Perce, Idaho Territory, viz:

The south half of the northeast quarter and lot two, and southeast quarter of northwest quarter of section eighteen, township forty-three north, range five west, Boise meridian, comprising one hundred and sixty-one and ninety-four one hundredths (161.94) acres, with house and improvements thereunto belonging. Notice is hereby given, that on SATURDAY, the 23d day of DECEMBER, A. D. 1876, at 12 o'clock noon, in front of the Court House in the city of Lewiston, County of Nez Perce, I will sell all the right, title, and interest of the said Patrick Mackey in and to the said above described property to the highest bidder, for cash in gold coin.

EZRA BAIRD,
Sheriff of Nez Perce Co.
Lewiston, I. T., Nov. 29th 1876.
7-3w.

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NOTICE!

ALL PARTIES KNOWING THEMSELVES to be indebted to the undersigned, are hereby notified that if payment is not made before the first day of December next, legal process will be commenced for the recovery of the same. "Three tips and out."
Oct. 30th 1876.
D. H. HOSWER.
3-6w