

Another transcontinental railway scheme is announced. This is the extension of the Illinois Central to the Pacific coast. The route outlined for the new enterprise is to run from Sioux Falls, S. D., to Butte City, Montana, thence crossing the Bitter Root mountains and passing down the Clearwater river to Lewiston, Idaho, down the north bank of the Snake to the Columbia, which it will bridge and continue westward through the Cispas pass of the Cascades to Centralia, on the Northern Pacific. It is said that this route will be 150 miles shorter than any now existing between the coast and Chicago, though it seems doubtful that the exact length of the line can be stated with so many of the details yet to mature. This project, however, is for the future. The Great Northern, or Manitoba, will be the next line to the Pacific. It has already made arrangements for competition business as far west as Spokane Falls.

Congress has been asked by the North River Bridge Company for the privilege of constructing a bridge across the Hudson river for the purpose of giving railroads access to New York. If granted, a bridge will be built that will have no less than six railroad tracks, and will extend from shore to shore, a distance of 2,850 feet, in a single span. This will be the longest span ever built or planned, being 1,200 feet longer than those of the proposed bridge across the English channel. It will also be higher from the water—150 feet—which is fifteen feet higher than the Brooklyn bridge. Seven years will be required to complete it. The completion of this structure will increase the amount of "unearned increment" coming to a great many people.

One of the greatest engineering feats of the age was begun on the twentieth of January, being nothing less than the construction of a huge bridge across the English channel to France. The structure will be twenty-four and one-half miles long, the main spans being 1,640 feet and the lesser ones 830 feet. From the bottom of the foundation at lowest point, where the water is 180 feet deep, to the top of the tower, will be a distance of 600 feet. A clear headway at high water of 130 feet will admit of the passage of all vessels. Each pier will have a lighthouse tower. It is estimated that it will take twelve years to complete the structure. England will gain more renown from works like this than from bullying Portugal.

It is announced that a colony from France will locate in Yakima county, Washington, in the spring and engage in viticulture on a large scale, and that the Northern Pacific company is arranging for boring artesian wells to supply the colony with water for irrigating purposes.

IN MEMORY OF HENRY WOODFEN GRADY.

I.

Amid the wrecks of private fortunes and
The fall of commonwealths, he saw arise
A stricken people, and, with mournful eyes,
Behold the smoke of war bedim their land,
And in its folds the fragments of a band
Ere bound, as by grim Fate, to exercise
Their judgments in the wrong and sacrifice
Against the measures Providence had planned.

Unconquered still, he saw the Southern folk,
Though awed and vanquished by the deadly jar
Of war's deep thunder belching forth, "ye must!"
In love this Master sought to lift the yoke
Of ignorance from the South-land, and to star
Its night with those same stars trailed in its dust!

II.

Unto the North he, as a brother, came,
And in his heart the great warm South he brought,
And as he stood and oped his mouth he wrought
The miracle of setting hearts aflame,
That leaped to crown him orator of fame,
Since in his own emboldened hand he'd caught
The golden chain of love, by many sought,
To bind our Union something more than name.

But hark! The while his eloquence did charm
The Nation's ear, the lightnings flashed along
The wires the weeping news, "He is no more!"
Brave seer! Thou didst both North and South disarm!
Leap lightnings, from your wires, the clouds among,
And flash his eulogy the heavens o'er!

Seattle, January 14, 1890.

LEE FAIRCHILD.

Representative Carter has introduced a bill in the house appropriating \$50,000 for the purpose of a special examination of the public lands in Montana, Idaho and Washington for the purpose of determining just which sections shall be classed as mineral lands. This is a very important question, especially in Montana, where the railroad grant covers thousands of acres claimed to be mineral lands and where the titles to many valuable mines are in dispute. This action of Mr. Carter is the outgrowth of the mineral land convention recently held in Helena.

Edward Foster is the name of a Walla Walla man who insisted on letting his wife die with faith cure, until his neighbors stopped the proceedings by having him arrested for insanity. A man is hardly open to the charge of insanity for trying faith cure on some one else. It is when he has so far lost his grasp upon his mental faculties as to try it upon himself that reason may be said to have abdicated her throne.

Foraker must feel like going out into a five-acre lot, so as to give him one acre of room, and administering pedal castigation to himself.