The Daily Astorian.

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Editor C. IRELAND SEPT. 15, 187 SATURDAY.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

From a very interesting article written by Rev. G. H. Atkinson for publication, upon the subject of the Northern Pacific Railroad, we condense as follows:

WHAT THE ROAD ASKS OF CONGRESS.

As the time of its franchise expires soon by limitation, it earnestly asks an extension of time to complete the through line.

THE ROAD NOT RESPONSED.E FOR THE DELAY.

The railroad was not responsible for the failure of Messrs. J. Cook & Co., its financial agent. It has not been responsible for the panic and the business failures that have swept over the United States and Europe like a huricane during the last four years. It is not responsible for the unsettled condition of politics or of the currency. It has done nothing to complicate the labor question, or lay unjust burdens on poor working men. It has earnestly desired the opportunity to go forward and employ thousands of the unemployed in completing its line from the Missouri to the Columbia and few short railroads were opened to the Pacific.

IF GRANTED THE GOVERNMENT AND PEO-PLE WILL BE GAINERS

It asks no additional subsidy. It is content with the lands granted, most of which have yet no value, but to which its construction will give value. It expects to give the same value to an equal amount of contiguous government land, which has now no appreciable value in any market of the world.

IT IS AN INVESTMENT TO CREATE VALUES WHERE NONE EXISTS NOW.

The road expects to earn its subsidy as it goes along, mile by mile and section by section. This is true of every railroad through an unsettled country. It thus does not claim or ask the subsidy as a gift, but only as an opportunity to confer an equal and even

issued to perfect the scheme. The object of the directors is ostensibly to build the road and not to speculate in the lands. For this object the subsidy tlements and steady business along the whole line. This plan to put their lands in the common market, with the even sections held by the government, will no doubt satisfy all the demands of settlers and win a just commendation from all the people. It is to be hoped that it will meet the approbation of the entire board and be placed on their records and in the provisions of the bill for the extension of time. BRANCH ROAD TO PUGET SOUND.

Some objection has been made to their retention of the subsidy for the branch road from the Snake river through the Yakima valley to Puget Sound. It is evident that such a branch is needed. The surveys show easy grades. The main valley and its affluents are rich in resources, and if allowed time, there is little doubt but that the Northern Pacific Railroad company will ultimately build this road. But if not, let some other company do it.

INTERCOMMUNICATION ESSENTIAL. Rev. Dr. Field, a recent observer in Greece, where he is still, remarks that the interior of that country is less advanced than the capital. The great want is that of internal communication. 'Greece is a country made by nature for commerce and agriculture, and if a connect the inland valleys with the sea, so that the farmers and peasants could send their produce to market, the exports of the country might be doubled. A line of one hundred miles would connect them with the railroad system of Europe. Such a road would give them new life."

Dr. Field here reveals the secret also of their historic provincialism. It is intercommunication which makes a people one in interest and thought. The lack of the former defeats the latter. By quick and free intercommunication we become one people. Without it we are only a company of Cor. Squ provinces feebly bound together, apt to be jealous and without enterprise. Every argument urges the completion

Princely Income.

Snake rivers.

Squemocqha street, next door to the neatly done, at low prices.



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greater value upon the government, for the trust thus long put in its keeping.

THE ROAD HAS BEEN A SUFFERER. It shared its measure of loss and suffering and delay on account of the great failure, and the greater financial disasters that ensued, and the general disturbance of public affairs. All those things were unforseen and beyond its control. They have caused the road an unavoidable loss of money and of time. The money can be earned again by the completed road for its creditors, if congress will merely grant an extension of time to do it. This privilege will not cost the government a dollar. As a business principle it is not withheld but promptly given by man to man in all the circles of commercial enterprise. To refuse it is like the old law of putting a poor debtor in jail in order to compel him to pay his debts. It is a demand for "the money or the pound of flesh." When understood men will not do this unkindness. We must hope and believe that congress, urged by the voice of the people, will grant the Northern Pacific railroad an extension of time to complete its road under its charter.

ITS PLAN OF COMPLETION. A plan has been proposed and earnestly advocated by several of its directors to hasten this completion by bia near the mou the Snake river, working eastware a rapidly as possi-Montana. In apany sell their proposed that th lands at the gov get the minimu " acre, give titles good sale to new be which may be object in view.

of this direct means of intercourse and this bond of connection with the great body of our nation.

VIEWS OF THE DIRECTORS, In a conversation with Capt. J. C. Ainsworth, one of the directors of the Northern Pacific Railroad, he says distinctly that it is the judgment and the purpose of some of the directors of the Northern Pacific railroad, with whom he fully agrees in the plan, to urge the sale of their lands in the government land offices at the minimum price fixed of \$2 50 per acre, and to use the proceeds with other funds at once to connect the Columbia and Missouri rivers by railroad and thence to extend the road westward on the south side of the Columbia to Portland on the Wallamet, and thence to Puget Sound.

Salt Lake Trade

In a brief obituary notice of Brigham Young, published in a Philadelphia paper, we clip the following sentence: "With more than his share of the vices, he had also many of the attributes of greatness, and besides this, Brigham and his Salt Lake friends purchased the most of their supplies in Philadelphia." The language is rather ambiguous, and the reader is in doubt whether the fact of his Philadelphia purchases ought to be considered as one of his "attributes of greatcommencing next year on the Missouri ness," or as belonging to one of working westwar I, and on the Colum- his many vices. Apart from the above reference, we have no data as to Philadelphia's portion of the Salt Lake trade. But we do know says the ble until the sections meet in Bulletin, that San Francisco aims to to do this it is control a part of the trade of Salt Lake. and has long enjoyed a good business in that direction. Whether the death nt hand offices, of Young will be the means of decreasof \$2 50 per ing or increasing our commerce with chasers, use the that city, time alone will tell. We proceeds with the state of the earnings ought to be able to undersell eastern cities with many kinds of goods at Salt of the road to interine east and Lake, and it is likely that renewed west, and also gredit and a efforts will now be made with that

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