

Western Texas and the main border along the Pacific, is a country of comparatively little value to the agriculturist, and perhaps it will astonish the reader if we draw his attention to the fact, that this line, which passes southward from Lake Winnipeg to the Gulf of Mexico, will divide the whole surface of the United States into two nearly equal parts. This statement, when fully appreciated, will serve to dissipate some of the dreams which have been considered realities as to the destiny of the Western part of the North American continent. Truth, however transcends even the laudable feelings of pride and country, and in order properly to direct the policy of this great Confederacy, (the United States), it is necessary to be well acquainted with the theatre in which its future history is to be enacted."

Again, there is something almost appalling in the picture of the region bordering the Northern Pacific Railroad in Dakota territory, the Northern boundary of which is the fertile belt of our North-West. It is presented in a letter to the *New York Tribune* by Major-General Hazen, U. S. A., from which we select extracts, which should not fail to carry conviction to the most obtuse intellect. This officer has been stationed at a military post at the mouth of the Yellowstone river, about two degrees south of our boundary line in longitude 103, and having been there for some years, he is in a far better position to judge of the facts than the most expert and observant of transient visitors could possibly be; he gives for the first time a glimpse of the barrenness and desolation of the route which the *Northern Pacific Railway* was to develop in that region which is inexpressibly shocking, and should act as a serious warning to emigrants and capitalists in Europe investing in United States Railway lands. He says:

For two years I have been an observer of the efforts upon the part of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to make the world believe this section to be a valuable agricultural one, and, with many others, I have kept silent although knowing the falsity of their representations while they have pretty fully carried their point in establishing a popular belief favourable to their wishes.

When reading such statements of its fertility as appear in the article entitled "Poetry and Philosophy of Indian Summer," in that most estimable periodical *Harper's Monthly*, of December, 1872—in which are repeated most of the shameless falsehoods so lavishly published in the last two years, as advertisements in the interests of that company, and perhaps written by the same pen—a feeling of shame and indignation arises that any of our countrymen, especially when so highly favoured with the popular goodwill and benefits, should deliberately indulge in such wicked deceptions.

The theoretical isothermals of Captain Maury and Biddet, which have given rise to so much speculation, and are used so extravagantly by those who have a use for them, although true along the Pacific coast, are not found to have been true by actual experience and observations, in this middle region.

The past season, as seen by the meteorological report, has been exceptionally rainy and favourable for agriculture here, and the post has with great care, and by utilizing all the available season, made an extensive garden with the following results. The garden is situated immediately on the river bank, about two feet above high water. Potatoes, native corn, cabbage, early sown turnips, early peas, early beans, beets, carrots, parsnips, salsify, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes, and asparagus