

Pacific Railroad Litigation.

The Central and Union Pacific railroad cases, lately decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, on appeals from the District court of California and the Court of claims, which were argued together, involved the constitutionality of the so-called Thurman act of May 7, 1878. The object of that act was to secure the interest of the United States in the Union and Central Pacific railroad companies, by providing that twenty-five per cent. of the annual net earnings of those roads, including the whole of the compensation due them for services rendered to the government, should be paid to the treasurer of the United States, to be by him applied, partly in payment of the accrued interest on the bonds issued by the government to the two railroad companies, and partly to the establishment of a sinking fund for the final payment of the bonded indebtedness of the companies. The decree in the first named case and the judgment on the second are affirmed by the Supreme Court, with costs. The decision was announced by the Chief Justice. No written opinion was rendered, but it will be filed in due time. Under the terms of the Thurman bill, the Central and Union Pacific railroad companies are required to comply with the spirit as well as the language of the laws under which the roads were constructed. The bill defines the term "net earnings" to mean all earnings remaining after the actual annual expenses of maintaining and operating the road and the interest on the first mortgage bonds are paid. The government is to retain all compensation due the companies for government transportation, one-half to be used to liquidate the interest paid by the United States on bonds issued by it, and the other half to be placed in a sinking fund. Each year the Central and Union Pacific companies must contribute to the sinking fund twenty-five per cent. of their net earnings. The secretary of the treasury has authority to remit a portion of this annual contribution when he is satisfied that the remaining seventy-five per cent. of the net earnings is not sufficient to enable the companies to pay the interest on their first mortgage bonds. But no dividends can be paid to stockholders when the companies are in default to the sinking fund or the interest on the first mortgage bonds. Mr. Justice Field dissented from the opinion of the court, and was joined therein by Messrs. Justice Bradley and Strong.

Greenbacks by the Million.

The bill introduced in congress by Mr. Delamater, of Indiana, for funding municipal indebtedness in United States paper money, authorizes the secretary of the treasury to extinguish all city indebtedness by the issue of greenbacks—which greenbacks are to be immediately used in payment of such debt. Also, providing for greenback currency to the extent of \$1,000,000,000; and for the relief of financial distress by granting aid to certain companies incorporated by state authorities for work of internal improvement. A variation of the \$1,000,000,000 bill. Also, providing for the payment of interest on the public debt and for funding said debt in the United States paper money. His bill provides: 1. That the secretary of the treasury be required to have prepared notes and obligations of the United States to the aggregate of \$1,000,000,000, to be known as "greenback currency," for general circulation in amounts and form as the bill provides, which notes or obligations shall constitute a legal-tender for all debts, and receivable for all United States government dues. These obligations shall be issued in notes of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$5,000, and \$10,000 each in such relative proportions as may be found necessary to meet the requirements of the business wants of the country. The secretary of the treasury is authorized to loan from such greenback currency to corporations, providing they file their bonds payable fifty years from the date thereof, and bearing no interest for five years from said date, but at the expiration of five years the bonds shall bear interest at 3 per cent. per annum legal-tender money, the interest to be paid semi-annually. 2. It specifies the corporations which shall have advantage of the loan; James River and Kanawha canal company,

\$60,000,000; Atlantic and Great Western canal company, \$50,000,000; Florida coast canal company, \$12,000,000; Fort St. Philip canal company, \$10,000,000; for a railroad to connect the waters of the Mississippi with the Pacific (blank amount); Rock Island and Hennepin canal company, \$13,000,000; Oswego canal company, \$25,000,000; Lexington and Big Sandy railroad company, \$5,000,000; and Niagara ship canal company, \$4,000,000.

Delamater is the very head and front of the greenback element in congress, and his bill is of course supposed to embody the correct financial theories of the party. The quickest way to thoroughly prick them and show their fallacy is to let them bring the bill squarely before congress for debate. This will be far better for the financial interests of the country, and for the welfare of the parties opposed to soft money, than to be continually suppressing such bills in the committee rooms. It is not probable that the bill will receive any consideration at the hands of congress, and yet we wish it might, just to have the subject matter thoroughly aired and let the people see, by fair discussion, what there is in such wild schemes as Delamater proposes.

Beer Drinkers Revolve.

The lager beer drinkers of New Orleans do not ask for lower prices, but they want more beer for their money. They lately held a public meeting, and the demand for enlarged beer glasses was made by many speakers. Mr. Einbercher said that the cost of all the components of lager beer had been brought down to such a low figure that drinkers, as American freemen, were determined to have the size of the glasses increased proportionately. Mr. Rosenberg argued that, at a time when rich and poor felt the business depression, 100 per cent. profit on beer was too much. Mr. Bach said: "Shentlemens—I don't shpeak if you don't call upon me, but dere ought to be as much buer in de beer glass ash deer ish in de barrel." Mr. Schonberg advocated a size of glass that would bring the profit down to one cent on each filling. The following resolution was passed unanimously by the 300 voters: "That those present at this meeting organize themselves into a society to advocate an increase in the size of beer glasses in New Orleans. That we make this our earnest appeal to the saloon keepers to increase the size of glasses to such an extent as to make it obtainable by all at a fair price for fair measure." A pledge to drink no more beer out of small glasses was signed by 246 men.

Wonderful Telescopes.

The perfection of workmanship attained by American opticians in making telescopes and microscopes has often won high praise from scientific men both at home and abroad. In 1861, European astronomers may be said to have had their eyes opened by Clarks discovery of a minute companion to the brilliant Sirius with the eighteen-inch object glass made for the Chicago Observatory. The monster telescopes of Herschel and Lord Rosse, and the great achromatics in the chief European observatories had given no hint of this star's existence, although there was mathematical reasons for believing that Sirius had a companion. Since its discovery this delicate star has been seen with comparatively small telescopes, and now Mr. Jay Harcourt, of Wappinger's Falls, announces to Admiral Rogers that one fine night in April he saw the companion of Sirius with a Bryne telescope of only 4 1/2 inches aperture. Several other persons saw the star, and they certify to the correctness of the observation.

Lord Beaconsfield Photographed.

A new photograph of Lord Beaconsfield has come out in London, with the words: "As he was taken by order of Her Majesty," printed beneath. His Lordship is still the aged "Vivian Gray" remembered as young Ben D'Israeli—there is the same priggish air, the same foreign-office-clerk demeanor, the same cut clothes, the same suggestion of flowered satin waistcoat beneath the tightly buttoned overcoat, the same door-knocker curl upon the forehead—but all so rumpled, wrinkled, and limp that it would seem as if the whole figure had been dragged against the tide, so shrivelled, so elongated and weather stained, does it appear.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

LOST.—On the night of the 19th inst., about 20 dollars of new 10 cent notes, Bank of Astoria, No. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

NET LOST.—On the night of May 20th, 1879, I lost a case to S. and I. and, about 60 lbs. of new web, Barbers 12 ply thread, 10 lbs. of pair of lace, season marked K 13 on 1 lb. of socks and K on the leads. The funds will be rewarded by returning the same to ASTORIA FISHERY, Astoria, Oregon, May 21st.

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I will sell at my Auction Rooms One Fine Pigeon Hole Table; (Nearly New.) One Remington Sewing Machine; A lot of Clothing; Men's Wall-Breakers, Gent's Silver Watcher, A Case; One Glassware, Side Lamps, Tables, Lounges, and a variety of other articles. F. C. HOLDEN, Astoria, Ore.

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