

# SUPPLEMENT.

## Coast Mail.

MARSHFIELD, OREGON

### OUR RAILROAD KINGS.

A railroad president and a United States senator were talking about government ownership of railroads, says Ainslee's Magazine.

"I believe," said the senator, "that it would be a good idea for this government to buy and operate all the railroads in the United States."

"Well," replied the railroad president, smiling significantly, "if the government has the money to pay for 200,000 miles of railroad, with an aggregate capitalization of nearly \$5,000,000,000 I can point out the shop where most of the goods can be bought."

"The shop?" echoed the senator inquiringly.

"That is what it amounts to, senator. There are seven or eight men that control all the railroads of the United States, and most of them can be found in New York city on any business day."

"Who are they?" the senator asked eagerly.

Propounded in Wall street or in any assemblage of well informed men, this question will invariably elicit mention of these names: J. Pierpont Morgan, E. H. Harriman, William Rockefeller, James J. Hill, William K. Vanderbilt, George J. Gould, Jacob H. Schiff and A. J. Cassatt.

### Useful Inventions.

Inventors are coming signally to the aid of women in the last few years in the realm of housework. Any number of apparently trifling things have been brought out to lighten labor, which, though seemingly small, are nevertheless most helpful.

The dainty housewife can now provide most wonderfully tempting dishes for her table in the matter of fancifully cut vegetables and fruits. Formerly it was a task to daunt the most energetic to undertake to serve potatoes or other vegetables cut in fancy designs, but now, by means of a new vegetable slicer, she can turn out squares, diamonds, circles or ovals all perforated in small designs at almost a moment's notice. A dish of such potatoes would bring appetite to the most dyspeptic. Cucumbers, radishes, beets, bananas and many other things that figure on the menu can be thus daintily served, and a luncheon becomes a much prettier affair with several of the dishes in such pretty form.

### Shadow Pictures.



### SARAH'S ACHING VOID.

With all her triumphs there is one crumpled rose leaf in Mme. Bernhardt's couch. The French government has never accorded her the official recognition that was bestowed on the late Rosa Bonheur and a few other famous Frenchwomen—she has never been given the cross of the Legion of Honor.

A determined effort was made to secure the cross for her some five years ago. A magnificent fete was organized in her honor. Performances of the third act of "Phedre" and the fourth act of "Rome Vaincue" were given at the Renaissance. This was followed by a luncheon for 500 actors, litterateurs, artists, politicians—all those who go to make up "tout Paris," in fact—at the conclusion of which poems in her honor were read by Francois Coppee, Edmond Rostand, Andre Theuriet and Catulle Mendes, and the fete came to an end with the coronation of Mme. Bernhardt as queen of the drama.

The ministry were then besought to grant the coveted decoration. But for once the ministry were chary of dispensing the favor. Whether it was that they thought her unworthy of the honor or that the proper influence had not been brought to bear, Mme. Bernhardt's name has never come out in the lists, and she is still without the right to display the "splash of red" that means so much in France.—Cosmopolitan.

### Merriam's Clever Ruse.

Census Director Merriam has recently employed the most successful scheme for ascertaining who are really the good clerks in any branch of the government service. The duty devolved upon him of getting rid of some of his superfluous clerks. The usual way for ascertaining the ones to be dismissed is to ask the plain question. But Merriam did it the other way. He asked which of the clerks each division chief wished to keep. Each chief, with an eye single to having his work well done, made out a straight list. No drones were included in it. The chiefs thought they would be allowed to retain these clerks. Instead of that the director ordered the transfer of these good clerks to divisions in which there are to be no dismissals at present. Now the chiefs who were caught by the trick are wondering how they are to finish the work they have on hand with the inferior clerks that are left.—Chicago Chronicle.

### Senatorial Repartee.

Once in the senate chamber John J. Ingalls was directing some remarks to Senator Hoar of Massachusetts. The other senator from that state, Mr. Dawes, having come in while Mr. Ingalls was speaking, thought the words were meant for his ear; and so, interrupting, he asked Ingalls if he was directing the remarks at him. The tall senator turned slowly around, for Mr. Dawes sat behind him, and then, with delicious intonation, but an instant wit, he said, "I was directing my remarks to the successor of Charles Sumner and not to the successor of Daniel Webster."

The repartee has become traditional, and the utterance was at once placed alongside of that reply of Conkling to Senator Thurman, which is also traditional in the senate chamber.

Conkling was speaking, and Thurman had said, interrupting him, "Does the senator aim his remarks at me?" he constantly turns to me?" when Mr. Conkling, with delicious gravity, bowing to Thurman, with whom he was very friendly, said: "When I turn to the senator, I turn as the Mussulman turns to Mecca; I turn as I would turn to the common law of England—the world's most copious fount of jurisprudence."

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