

Iowa Railroad Charges.

Judge Farrar, of the Iowa state court, in the same view as Judge Brewer of the United States court, is to the power of the Iowa railroad charges. The state law gives the commissioners power to fix railroad rates and the judges hold that such unlimited power cannot be delegated to the commissioners because it amounts to a power of confiscation. Judge Brewer declares that the railroad rates of charges cannot be reduced by the commissioner below a rate that will pay the railroads proper expenses and some divided to its owners.

The state railroad commissioners are not likely to impose any rates that in their judgment will not pay such profit to the railroads. If they reasonable men they know that railroad enterprises, like all other enterprises, should pay a fair profit to their owners. There is therefore no danger that the Iowa law, wisely administered, will cause confiscation of railroad property. And there seems to be little doubt that the law, unwise administered, may bring about such result.

We presume that it will be admitted all around that a state cannot confiscate private property without making fair compensation; and if the law of the Iowa legislature is obnoxious to the objection that it confiscates railroad property, it may be properly held to be bad.

Evidently however, it produces no such effect on its face. The state commissioners are authorized to fix the railroad rates, with intent that they shall be made fair to both the railroads and their customers. The courts now step in and assert their power to determine whether the rates that have been made by the commissioners are just to the railroads.

The presumption is that this power of supervision exists in the courts. It is their province to see that there is just dealing between men; and there is great opportunity for their discrimination in securing just dealing between railroads and people. These courts are peculiar in that the cases are appealed to for defense by the railroads against the state that has created them. It is a forum into which the people of Iowa may be glad that their railroads have invited themselves.

They have not got that far as yet down this way. They never get into court here of their own motion. They have power enough to take care of themselves. We shall be very glad indeed when we find them so weak as to appeal to the law for their protection. We shall be very willing that they shall get all the law can afford them.

The Iowa railroads have secured nothing by the decision, so loudly flaunted as in their favor, but a declaration that they have a right to live, and that they may appeal from the state commissioners to the courts to declare whether the rates of charges imposed by the state commissioners, are just. In Iowa it takes state commissioners and courts to determine whether railroad rates are fair. In Pennsylvania it takes only railroad directors.

If the Iowa railroads are happy over this situation, the Iowa people may be. And perchance some day the people of Pennsylvania may be as well protected against railroad robbery.

The Indian Question.

The Indian question will, in all probability, be forced upon public attention at an early date by disturbances in Dakota and Montana, directly traceable to the same old causes that have made most of our troubles of the kind in the past.

The Indians hold by right of sacred treaties which regard their little tribes as nations, a great deal of country which we cannot in the nature of things suffer them to hold much longer. Most of them fully appreciate the fact that in spite of the most sacred obligations assumed by the "great father at Washington" they must sooner or later give up their land, but they naturally want to make the very best bargain obtainable, and having been treated as nations have some tribal pride and spirit. The movement for the opening of their reservations has drawn around them the usual crowd of rascally land sharks and unscrupulous white men who have so often succeeded in provoking Indian wars for their own profit. It is a little hard to believe that there can be men so brutally selfish as to encourage a savage war so that they might sell a few supplies to the troops and Indians, or gain a little land, but such is the fact. These things are not quite so bad now as they have been, because the circle is narrowing and the Indians and their real enemies can be better watched, but matters are bad enough to endanger the peace of the frontier. Two-thirds of the effective fighting force of the army is now in the northwest watching the tribes affected by the treaties under negotiation, and they are the most warlike and dangerous savages on the continent.

The error of our Indian policy has been in the making of treaties that could not be kept with tribes un-

worthy of consideration as nations. As soon as we can deal with the Indians as prospective citizens, having individual as well as tribal rights, the chief difficulties of the eternal Indian question will disappear.—Intelligencer

Protect The Settlers.

The bill reported in the Senate last week to forfeit the entire land grant of the Northern Pacific Railway at the western end of the line is, if urged in earnest, about the most radical measure of land grant forfeiture yet presented. The source whence it comes, is calculated to create a suspicion that it is introduced more for utility in the present campaign than with any serious purpose of its ultimate enactment. It may seem somewhat ungracious to take that view; but such a wide departure from the previous course of the Senate on incorporation questions at this particular juncture is most easily explained by that theory.

But whether the bill be political or practical, it is a very good one, with one exception. It provides that owners of lands that they have purchased from the railroad can purchase them again, in quantities not exceeding 320 acres, by paying \$2.50 per acre to the United States. This does not seem to preserve the equities. The only purpose of reclaiming the land grants is to open them up to actual settlers. The farmers who have already purchased land from the railroad company have met this requirement, and should be left undisturbed. They have paid for the land to the railroad company under a state of affairs that was permitted by the United States; and for the Government to make them pay \$400 more for a 160-acre farm, or \$800 for 320-acre tract, would be to subject them to hardship and injustice to the Government's own negligence.

It is the right thing to forfeit every acre of land grants that can be reclaimed; but the actual settlers holding the title from the company which the Government permitted to be given, should be left undisturbed.

PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS.

The Bill Passed in the House and Discussed in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Sept. 3.—Mr. Scott in the House to-day asked unanimous consent to introduce for present consideration a bill supplementary to an act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese, approved May 6, 1882.

Section 1 provides that from and after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful for any Chinese laborer who shall at any time heretofore have been or may now or hereafter be a resident within the United States, and who shall have departed or shall depart therefrom and shall not have returned before the passage of this act, to return to the United States.

Section 2 provides that no certificates of identity provided for in the fourth and fifth sections of the act to which this is a supplement shall hereafter be issued; and every certificate heretofore issued in pursuance thereof is hereby declared void and of no effect; and the Chinese laborer claiming admission by virtue thereof shall not be permitted to enter the United States.

Section three provides that all duties prescribed and liabilities and forfeitures prescribed by the second, tenth, eleventh and twelfth sections of the act to which this is a supplement are hereby extended and made applicable to the provisions of this act.

Section 4 provides that all such part or parts of the act to which this is a supplement as are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Mr. Scott stated that the proposed legislation was the only means by which the Chinese laborer could be kept out of the country.

Mr. Payson (Ill.) inquired whether the bill had been submitted to the Republican members from California.

Mr. Scott replied that it had not. It was submitted to them now. If the report as to the rejection of the Chinese treaty were correct, or if the treaty should be hereafter ratified, there was nothing in the bill in violation of any treaty.

Mr. Morrow (Cal.) then asked that the bill be read again, which was done, and he expressed his approval of it. It was then passed without objection and sent to the Senate.

When the bill reached the Senate Mr. Stewart said he hoped that there would be no objection to its passage.

Mr. George stated that the bill was possibly unjust in excluding Chinese immigrants returning to this country under the certificates given to them in compliance with existing law, and who might now be within sight of the shores of the United States. He thought that it should be amended so as to extend the time long enough so that those now on their way [and who are entitled to admission] should not be excluded. He asked that it be referred. The reference was opposed by Senators Mitchell, Dolph and Teller, and Mr. Vest declared that he did not believe in temporizing on the subject, and was ready to vote for the bill.

Mr. Sherman gave a detailed statement of the course of the Committee on Foreign Relations in regard to the treaty. No one doubted, he said, the power of the United States Govern-

ment to make the exclusion of the Chinese absolute, even without negotiating a new treaty, and even in violation of the existing treaty. He, therefore, would not make any objection to the passage of the bill, and he hoped it would pass; but this was with the distinct understanding that the House had passed it with the knowledge that the new treaty had been rejected by the Chinese Government. If that should prove otherwise the fault would not be that of the Senate.

Mr. Butler thought that there was a good deal of the game of politics in the whole business. But for the fact that we are on the eve of a Presidential election, and that each party wants to get the vote of the Pacific slope, there would be no discussion in the Senate over the bill. In reply to a question of Mr. Teller about the House passing the bill Mr. Butler said:

The Republican Senate proposes to "see the House play and go one better." That is the plain English of it. You may call it a contravention, a repeal, an abrogation of an existing treaty; but the plain English of it is that it is the violation of a treaty. You cannot doge it.

Pending debate on Mr. George's motion the matter went over. No official information of the rejection of the treaty has been received by the State Department.

Lancaster's Ancient Inns

Taverns Which Have Stood Since the Revolution.

The closing of the Grape hotel in this city by the sheriff brings to an inglorious close the career of a famous inn—a career that began in 1741. This ancient city of Lancaster still contains many of the hotel or tavern buildings that were erected long before the Revolution, and business is continued in them under their original name, in many instances the great harking signs painted by artists long forgotten, and bearing portraits of the person or picture of the animal or object the hotel may have been named after, still swinging, faded and quaint, over the doors. The Lamb, the Swan, the Fountain Inn, the Plough Tavern, the Leopard, and a host of other ante-Revolutionary hostleries are among these interesting relics. To them all interesting historical incidents are attached, but none hold the place in history that the Grape does.

The original Grape hotel was started by a man named John Harris in 1741. It was sold in 1769 to Adam Reigart and a host of other ante-Revolutionary hostleries are among these interesting relics. To them all interesting historical incidents are attached, but none hold the place in history that the Grape does.

The committee of observation also met at the Grape during the war, when the famous order was issued to merchants who were suspected of selling tea contrary to the "Association of the Continental Congress" to appear before the committee. In 1794 the house passed into the possession of the John Michaels family, different members of which conducted it until a few years ago, when it passed into other hands. The Grape was the favorite stopping place of James Buchanan when he visited Lancaster, and many noted political conferences have been held beneath its roof. When Buchanan was minister to England Daniel E. Sickles was secretary of legation. Buchanan was careful in money matters, and was not a liberal entertainer. On one occasion he deputed Sickles to do some entertaining and to have the bill sent to him. Sickles entertained and handed a bill for the dinner to Buchanan, as directed. The bill was for \$500, and when the minister read it he was speechless for some moments. When he found his tongue he exclaimed: "Five hundred dollars! Why, I could have got the same thing at the Grape for \$25!"

Of late years the Grape has been a favorite stopping place for commercial travelers and theatrical companies. It was taken in charge a few months ago by two young men who materially changed the arrangements of the inn, but their management seems to have been unsuccessful.

The Cross Keys is another very old tavern stand. It was first licensed as a tavern in 1730. This tavern was the favorite stopping place for Quakers and the early court officers of Lancaster county. The famous Samuel Alonston, the pioneer Quaker preacher, was a regular guest of this house, and the land-lord, Samuel Bethel, falling in love with the Quaker's daughter, pretty Sarah, on one of their visits, he won and married her. When Bethel died in 1740, his widow married another celebrated Quaker, Peter Worrall, who became the land-lord of the Cross Keys. He was a member of the provincial legislature or council, from 1754, when he resigned because he could not conscientiously support the levying of a tax to carry on the French and Indian war, and

did not want to oppose it. This ancient hostelry is now kept by a man named Smith.

The Shober house, on the corner of Orange and North Queen streets, was erected in 1754 as an inscription on a stone in the building testifies. The Lancaster County house was licensed in 1754. Its first landlord was William Bausman, who was master of the barracks in Lancaster when the Moravian Indians, confined there for protection, were massacred by the Paxton boys in 1763. The old tavern remained in the hands of James Buchannan, to whose estate it belonged at the time of the ex-president's death.

The Fountain Inn, in South Queen street, was opened in 1758, and the rude sign representing a fountain playing then swung in front of the inn still swings as its sign, although it would be hard to tell now that the painting represents a fountain, so faded and time stained is the board. While the Lancaster county court house was building court was held in the Fountain Inn from 1781 to 1784. The supreme court of the state sat at the inn in 1785. Its first landlord was Ulrich Reigart, and it remained in that family until 1811. In that year John Whiteside took charge of it, and a theatre was started at the inn and an original play bill of the performance given on the night of July 11, 1811, still hangs in the old reading room of the inn substantially framed. It announced that that night was the last night but two of the season and it was for the benefit of Mrs. Jeffries. The bill was "A Tale of Mystery," the "Festival Dance," a farce entitled "Sylvester Daggewood; or a Mad Actor," and a comedy called "The Weathercock." Tickets were sold "at the bar of Mr. Whitesides."

The Leopard tavern was started in 1765 by Michael Diffenderfer. The old sign of a fierce crouching leopard that was swung from the front of the house that year is still in place, but the colors are almost entirely obliterated. A new sign similar to the old one, occupies a position in front of the house, below the relic of the tavern's first days.

The Block House and the Indian Queen, the one opened in 1742 and the other in 1760, were maintained as taverns until a short time ago, when they were torn down to make room for modern buildings. The quaint signs that had marked the two buildings as taverns for a century and a quarter were destroyed by a thoughtless workman.

The Cooper house is one of the ancient hotels of Lancaster. It was in this house that John Jefferson opened a theatre in 1850, the opening night of which, May 3, was marked by the appearance of Joseph Jefferson, the elder, father of the manager, in the comedy of "The Birthday," and the operatic farce of "Turn Out." It was on the steps of the Cooper house that John Jefferson slipped and fell during the management of the theatre and received injuries that resulted in his death.

The old stone building at the corner of Prince and James streets was a tavern long before the Revolution, and during that war Gen. Hazen and a force of troops were quartered there. The tavern was called the cat.

The Plough tavern was built in 1748. It has never ceased to be a public house since, although its reputation is not first class at present. Each of these ancient hostleries has immense stabling capacity attached and great stone court yards, covering in some instances almost a block. These accommodations were necessary in the days the buildings were put up, as they were called upon to quarter hundreds of teams and the great Conestago wagons in these days of teaming, the only means of transportation.

A Big Speculation.

A syndicate of New York and European capitalists has obtained from the Mexican Government certain banking privileges which will enable them to carry out a long contemplated plan for establishing a bank in the City of Mexico, which will do much toward giving the control of the silver market to Mexico and the United States, the countries which produce the bulk of the metal for the use of the world. Such a scheme has long been recognized as desirable by American financiers. H. B. Hollins & Co. and Robert Colgate are at the head of the New York capitalists. More than a year ago they began negotiations through their agents with the Mexican Mortgage Bank of the City of Mexico.

By the terms of the agreement just concluded the syndicate comes into possession of the charter of this bank, and the International and Mortgage Bank of Mexico is created. The Government adds important privileges to those of the original charter, by which the new bank is authorized to issue gold and silver certificates in dollars or ounces, payable in Mexico or abroad. The authorized capital is \$5,000,000, which may be increased to meet the needs of the bank. Mortgage bonds may be issued to the extent of ten times the capital, the issue at no time to exceed 50 per cent of the mortgage property. The International and Mortgage Bank of Mexico is expected to be called upon to supply large loans upon public works.

Altogether, the projectors of the enterprise are confident that they will accomplish much toward moving the control of silver quotations from London to New York.

Why do People Drown?

"I suppose," I remarked to Mr. Johnson, the well known swimmer, "that such a cork as yourself cannot understand how a person sinks." "Oh, yes, but I can. It is only such as myself, who study the science of floating, that can understand the mystery of sinking. A swimmer becomes a swimmer by endeavoring to flud out, not so much how to swim, as how not to sink. Man or woman can float—there is no exception. The big secret is knowing know, and being self possessed enough—that is, in cases of emergency—to take advantage of one's knowledge. But directly the boat capsizes, or the canal banks subside, or the sands shift, or the deep part of the river uncomfortably asserts itself, the ignorant mortal (ignorant of how to use his powers of buoyancy) sets about to sink himself."

"Sinks himself, Mr. Johnson?" I observed, dubiously. "Yes, sinks himself. Up go his hands, and down he sinks like a flagstone. Of the ten thousand and one frenzied actions in which a drowning man indulges not one is there that leads a title of buoyancy. In the first place, he clutches at the proverbial straw, and there is no surer way of sinking one's self than by thrusting the hands out of the water. The consequent lurch of the body strikes fatal terror in the man's heart, he struggles spasmodically, and then, bereft as he is of all consciousness, vanishes to his doom. Take, as an instance, the yachting accident of Ilfracombe the other day. A jovial party set sail in a crazy fishing smack, and an extra cupful of wind upset her. Instantly there was chaos and confusion, as is always the case, and fourteen luckless souls drowned themselves. It is simply suicidal for a non-swimmer to risk his life in an uncertain craft.

"Suppose, then, Mr. Johnson, that you and I are cruising. The boat has capsized; we are in the water. What am I, a non-swimmer, to do?" "If there is anything floating catch at it steadily. The least particle will support you. This bending [which was no more than an inch square] would keep your head above the water. But if there is nothing at all within reach this is what you should do." At this juncture Mr. Johnson sprang to his feet. Throwing back his head, and placing both hands in the small of his back, his form assumed a slanting position. "So long as you remained as I am now, so long would you float." "Then it is not necessary for the requirements of floating that one's toes should be level with his nose?" "Not in the least. The mode of floating in a moment of emergency is as I have just illustrated—or, at least, my experience tells me that it is the safest and the easiest. It would be an inconsiderable matter for people to familiarize themselves with the principles of floating, and a simple acquaintance with the subject might prove to be of life long service. To be of any real service, swimming must be studied to perfection. A man or woman is termed a good swimmer [and the man or woman comes to think so too] who can manage, say, a score lengths of a bath twenty yards long. Here the water is tepid and smooth, but it is different at sea. How many yards would that same swimmer traverse in troublous waters? But the chances are that he could float till rescued, which is always the end sought after.

STILL A MYSTERY.

No New Light Thrown on Maggie Rice's Tragic Fate.

The mystery surrounding the death of Maggie Rice is no nearer a solution than on the morning her dead body was found floating in the Susquehanna river at Highspire. Every effort is being made to fathom the mystery, but every inquiry ends where it first began. There is no clue yet discovered that would indicate when or how Maggie Rice left the home of Mrs. Gray, at Fifth and Muench streets, on Saturday night. That is all that can be truthfully said about her. No person has yet come forward to say they saw the missing woman after leaving her aunt's. From the hour Mr. and Mrs. Gray bade Maggie and Edward Smith good night in the sitting room at about 11 o'clock that night all knowledge of the girl ends, except, perhaps, young Smith who says he remained in Maggie's company for an hour or two later. He too retired bidding the young woman "good night" at the stair door. Smith supposed Maggie had followed him up stairs or laid down upon the lounge. In the bedroom usually occupied by Maggie when she remained over night was found her purse. In the sitting room was also found her parasol and breastpin and last evening a pair of valuable gold bracelets were discovered on a stand. She left no note of explanation; and her disappearance is more completely enshrouded in mystery than any similar occurrence ever taking place in this city.

Last evening an INDEPENDENT representative called upon Mr. Gray at his home, and there learned that the young man, Edward Smith, to whom reference has been made, was, so far

as known, the last person who saw Maggie Rice alive. He knew nothing next morning, believing that she had returned to Mr. Brown early Sunday morning, as she had done at times previous. Nothing more was thought of the matter until in the evening, Maggie had promised to come to her aunt's home and accompany her to church. She did not come and Mr. Gray went to Brown's to inquire if she was ill. The Brown household knew nothing of the girl further than Saturday evening, when she left their house. The hunt for the missing girl, the assistance given by Chief of Police Weikert, the finding of the body at Highspire, and the hasty verdict of the jury has all been told in these columns.

Through the persistence of John W. Brown, Esq., who persuaded District Attorney Kunkel to take hold of the affair and have a further investigation, a post mortem was ordered and held last night. In advance of the statement of the physicians it may be said there was nothing discovered that would indicate how Maggie Rice died. The internal organs were in a healthy condition and whatever indications were dropped concerning the girl's chastity have been proven false. Those present at the autopsy last night were Drs. Walters and Elenberger, District Attorney Kunkel, Chief of Police Weikert, Lieutenant of Police Kautz and Undertaker Hawkins. This morning the body of the dead girl was shipped to New Port, Perry county, from which place it was taken to Edinburg for interment.

The conflicting stories told by different persons residing at Highspire are many and varied and the correct statements will be learned and published at the proper time.

It was since learned that the autopsy confirmed the suspicion that the young woman's death was caused by drowning. The lungs were filled with water and the heart clogged with blood. There were no finger marks about the throat as was rumored by persons who know nothing of the circumstances.

Work of the Jersey Railroad Juggernaut.

The annual statement of the railroad and canal companies of New Jersey has just been issued by the state printer. It shows a great loss of life by the railroads during last year. Thirty-two railroads of the state present reports and show that 274 persons were killed and 1,062 injured.

The United railroads of New Jersey which comprises the main line to New York, the Camden and Amboy, the Camden and Burlington county, Pemberton and Hightstown, the Kinkora branch, makes the startling showing of 610 casualties during the year. Of these 93 resulted in death. On the New York division alone 13 persons were killed while walking or standing on the track, 4 persons were killed trying to get on and off the trains; 9 people lost their lives crossing the track and 19 were injured in this manner while coupling and handling cars at station; 7 employes were killed instantly and 113 were hurt. By other accidents 20 employes lost their lives and 150 were injured. In all on the New York division 25 were killed and 368 injured. On the Amboy division 25 were killed and fatally injured and 121 hurt.

On the little Patterson and Hudson River railroad, which is only 12.57 miles long, 28 persons were killed and 85 injured. On the Patterson and Rampago road, just five miles long, 16 persons were killed and 22 injured.

Tariff Conundrums.

Why should 100,000 Germans tear themselves away every year from their native land, where they enjoy all the benefits that a protective tariff can confer upon them, and come to the United States?

Why is England overrun with continental laborers escaping from the protection of "protection" to the misery of free trade?

Why are the farmers of Pennsylvania going away from the "home market" in a State dotted with mining and manufacturing industries, and scattering themselves over the lands of the West where manufactories and mines are as scarce as square meals for a tenement seamstress?

Why are wages higher in the unprotected than in the protected industries in the United States?

There is but one answer for all these questions: Protection does not protect the laboring man. He sells his labor for what it is worth wherever he may be. He gets more in the United States than in some other parts of the world because labor here is more intelligent and efficient, because there are fewer laborers in proportion to the work to be done, because labor cannot be permanently forced below the wage of the land-tiller, and in this country there is cheap land.

Whilst protection cannot raise wages, the persons engaged in protected industries who have sought to enlarge their profits by overstocking the labor market with imported laborers have materially helped to low wages and to demoralize labor. It only way to certainly increase the wage rate is to reduce the tax rate.—Philadelphia Record.