

five miles, extending from the two hundred and seventieth to the three hundred and fifth mile post west from Omaha; and they express themselves highly pleased with the admirable manner in which the road has been built throughout. They occupy the beautiful car which was gotten up by the Quartermaster's Department, during the late rebellion, for President Lincoln, and which first carried him when his mortal remains were borne through a weeping nation, from the capital of our country to his home at Springfield, Illinois. The Government sold the car to this great national railroad company, and now it is used by its officers for national purposes in connection with the progress of this highway of the world.

This main trunk is so admirably linked with the Sioux City branch, the Mississippi and Missouri Railroad branch, the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad branch, by the way of Atchison, and the Missouri Pacific branch, west from St. Louis, that all these roads should continue to be fostered by the General Government. These branches give equal facilities to all parts of our common country, and every citizen, as well as the Government, should take equal pride in encouraging this greatest of all enterprises.

The writer had nearly forgotten to speak of the railroad connection with the net of railroads east of Omaha, by the near completion of the Iowa branch of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. This road the writer rode over last week, from Chicago, as far as St. Johns, twenty-two miles east of Omaha, and certainly before spring, if not within a month, the connection will be complete all the way from New York to the west end of the Great Pacific Railroad.

Already an Express Company has been organised, called the Western Transportation Company, which is in operation day and night, and transports freight within five days from this, North Platte Station, to Denver. This, again, is progress.

WESTWARD, HO!

#### DEATH OF GENERAL CURTIS.

Major-General Samuel R. Curtis, whose name is mentioned in the foregoing letter as one of the Government Commissioners of the Union Pacific Railroad, died very suddenly while returning from this visit to the road. He was riding over from Omaha to Council Bluffs, in a car-