

otherwise disposed of, other lands shall be selected by said Company in lieu thereof, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, in alternate sections and designated by odd numbers, not more than ten miles beyond the limits of said alternate sections."

I am not aware that anything further than an organization of the Company has been effected up to the present time.

In addition to the above it may be proper to mention the old organization known as the Southern Pacific Railroad, which was intended to run from Memphis to San Diego, about which very little has been heard for some years.

S. SEYMOUR,  
*Consulting Engineer, U. P. R. R.*

#### GENERAL SIMPSON'S SPEECH.

The following speech of General Simpson, President of the Board of Government Commissioners (copied from the *Chicago Tribune*), delivered at Chicago, on the return of the excursionists, will also be found to contain much interesting and valuable, as well as later information upon this subject :—

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—

The interests of the Pacific Railroad have been ably presented by the gentlemen who have preceded me ; but as there are some points upon which they have not touched, and it may be expected of me, as the President of the Board of Commissioners on the road and its branches east of the Rocky Mountains; and the officer to whom has been intrusted by the President of the United States the charge of the road and its branches, so far as concerns the General Government, to say something in this regard, I trust I shall be pardoned for making the following statement :—

#### MAGNITUDE OF THE ENTERPRISE.

Preliminary, however, to this, I cannot but generally descant upon the magnitude and importance of this great enterprise. If we take a railroad map of our country, we