San Francisco Examiner February 6, 1896

Its Shameless Work Goes On

J.W. Raphael the Latest Victim of Huntington's Press Bureau Frauds—Credited With Statements Laudatory of the Funding Bill That He Never Made—Exposure Does Not Check the Unauthorized Use of Citizens' Names in the Washington Organ

Julius Raphael was shown the following dispatch from Bierce last night. He said: "I was not interviewed on the subject, and the Washington "Poast" was imposed upon when it published what purported to be an interview with me. No one had any authority to send on to that paper the stuff it has printed in connection with my name."

WASHINGTON, February 5.—This morning's "Post" contains the views of a new cloud of California witnesses to the righteousness, benevolence and expediency of Mr. Huntington's plan to satisfying the claims which the Government has for a quarter of a century been unable to enforce against him.

Among the gentlemen that he has succeeded in branding and rounding up this time is Mr. Julius Raphael of the great retail clothing house. Mr. Raphael is represented as having expressed himself as follows: "There is one straightforward and businesslike solution of this question. In my judgment it is for Congress to extend the time of payment of the debt of the Central Pacific for a reasonable period. The builders of this road and of the Southern Pacific have done much for California, and I have no sympathy with tose who are clamoring against them or trying to break them down."

If Mr. Raphael thinks that way, or nearly that way, the person who evolves the "Post's" so-called telegrams from San Francisco has made an uncommonly good guess. In view of the denials made by so many others the guesser must be considered, with regard to his general work, a lamentable incapable.

Mr. William Macondray of Macondray & Co. is reported to have said: "I am absolutely opposed to the Government ownership of railroads. Government management would be too radical a measure and would tend to upset business conditions."

If Mr. Macondray is satisfied with the "business conditions" established by the Southern Pacific Company he is not a very exacting person. The question of government management is one on which honest men may conceivably differ, so it is likely that Mr. Macondray may have said what he is said to have said; also, it is likely that he did not. In the light of Mr. Huntington's interpretation of Mr. Macondray's utterance the presumption that Mr. Macondray favors government management is very strong.

Mr. Horace Davis is seriously, not to say solemnly, opposed to government operation, but as he begins by the disheartening confession that he knows nothing about the matter, he is a force

with which we need not reckon. If Mr. Davis had enjoyed the advantage of attending the State University at Berkeley his authority would be more impressive.

Mr. W. Montague favors an extension of twenty-five years, "with better security," but why the personal characters of the gentlemen who diverted more than sixty millions of the Central Pacific's assets to their private use is not deemed good enough security he does not explain. Evidently Mr. Montague is set altogether in harmony with the railroad environment, and his continued tenancy of the Huntingtonian heart is imperiled.

Mr. R. Cohn, commission merchant, of Los Angeles, favors the funding bill for the reason that it leaves the management of the roads in the hands of the angels. Mr. Cohn is too happy under the present regime to be willing to fly to evils that he knows not of. It seems not to have occurred to him that he owes his happiness to other blessings and other sources than the Kentucky corporation.

John Boggs of Colusa, having said too little a week ago, clears his bosom of the remnant of its secretion today and gets from the inspired scribe a first-rate eulogy in payment. The only important addition that he makes to his former testimony is the narration of a very interesting phenomenon. Mr. Boggs has had the discernment to observe that the wisest people of California think as he does. It should be stated in justice to him that he does not account for this on any other ground than coincidence. His modesty is such that one hardly knows whether one has caught the still small voice of John Boggs or the perfume of a wayside violet.

Hon. Charles F. Irwin, ex-judge of El Dorado County, is also of the opinion that funding is the best way to recover from the people who have the stolen money, the money that they stole and inherited. This chivalrous gentleman is forbidden by his nature to favor holding them up by the ankles and shaking it out of their pockets, for some of them are ladies.

On Friday next Mr. Huntington is to leave the dark corners of the Capitol and come out once more in the light. He will go before the House Committee on Pacific Railroads and tell the members how good he is when suffered to have his own way and his own way of having it.