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CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES.

In *Illinois Central R. Co. v. City of Chicago*, Jan. 30, 1892, the principal question was as to the power of the city to extend its streets across a railroad. The Court (Circuit Court, Cook Co.) held that the railroad company took its charter and acquired its right of way subject to the right of the State, by itself or its accredited representatives, the municipalities, to exercise the right of eminent domain, and to extend public highways and streets across the railroad whenever the public exigency demands it. The railroad must, in this, yield to the municipality, a governmental agency representing the public at large. Railroads take their charter subject to the exercise of the police power by the State, or by its agencies, the municipalities, in which is the power to compel railroad companies, at their own expense, to provide and maintain crossings for the safety of the public and the prevention of accidents. The *Chicago Legal News* of Feb. 13, in which the case is reported, says: "The decision of the Court in this case has been watched with much interest by those operating railroads, or administering municipal government. It follows in line with the opinion delivered by Chief Justice Magruder, published in this issue, and would, therefore, seem to be next thing to a Supreme Court opinion."