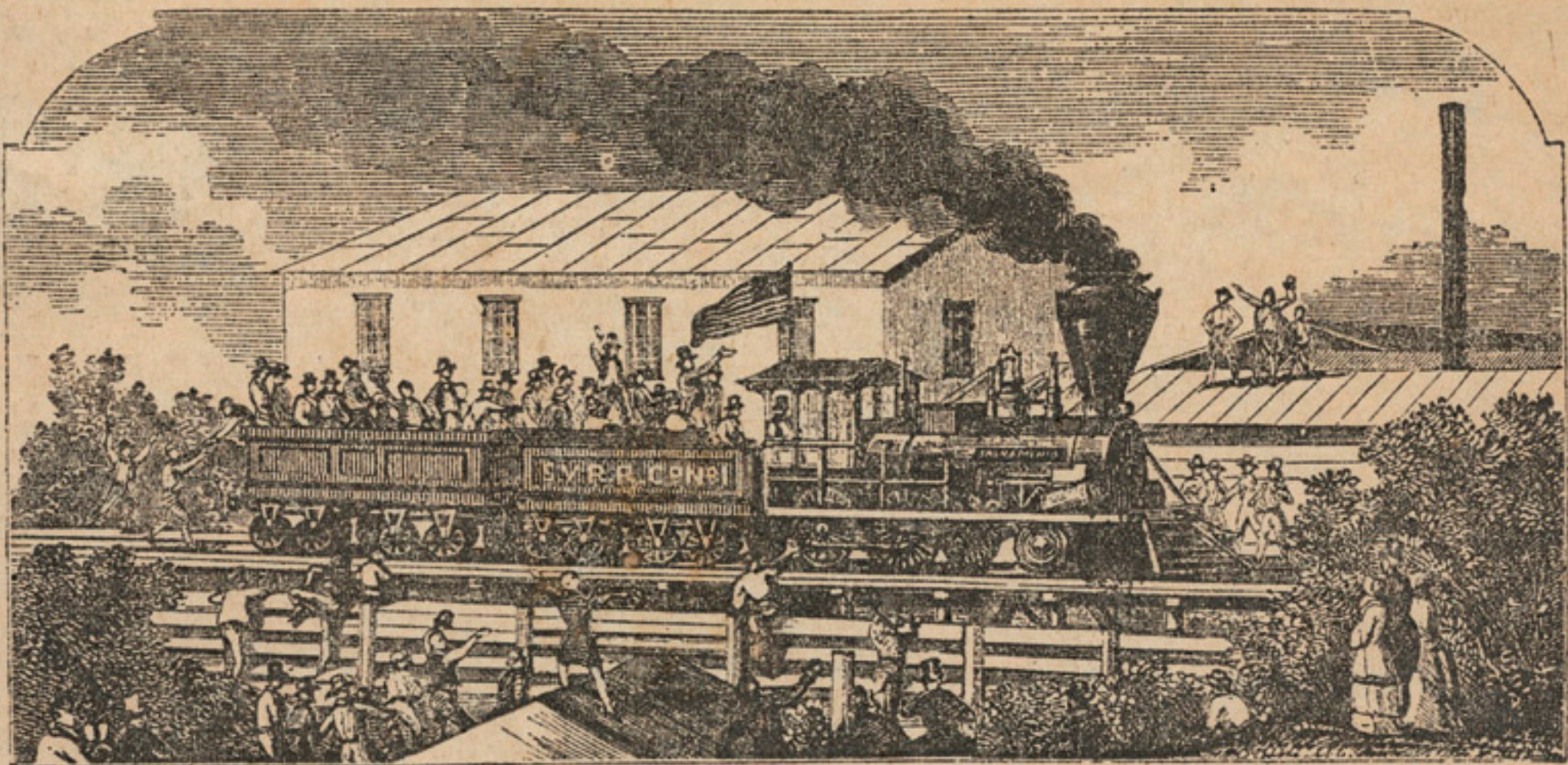


THE FIRST RAILROAD RIDE IN CALIFORNIA



"Sacramento claims the honor of the first California railroad," said the Union of January 1, 1856, which carried the above cut. "On the seventeenth of last August a trial trip was made on the opening of the road to Seventeenth street. The occasion was marked by the gathering of a large crowd of people at the depot, who gazed upon the iron horse, harnessed for the first time, with mingled feelings of surprise and admiration.

"The train, consisting of three platform cars and the engine, was densely crowded. It started from the levee about half-past six amid the cheers of the excursionists. The road is now completed to Negro bar, a distance of twenty-three miles.

"The officers of the company are: President, C. K. Garrison; vice president, W. T. Sherman; secretary, H. R. Payson; treasurer, E. Jones.

"A short time only will elapse before our anticipation expressed three years hence—that Sacramento will become the center of the railroad system of the valley—will have been fully realized."