

HOW HE TESTED THE TRAIN.

Don Pedro's Way of Trying a New Brake and its Inventor.

The late Emperor Don Pedro, of Brazil, once gave audience to a young engineer who came to show him a new appliance for stopping railway engines. The emperor was pleased with the thing and said:

"We will put it at once to a practical test. The day after to-morrow have your engine ready; we will have it coupled to my saloon carriage, and then you can fire away. When going at full speed I will unexpectedly give the signal to stop, and then we will see how the apparatus will work."

At the appointed time the emperor entered his carriage and the engineer mounted his engine, and on they went for a considerable distance; indeed, the young engineer began to suspect that the emperor had fallen asleep, when the train suddenly came to a sharp curve round the edge of the cliff, on turning which the driver saw, to his horror, an immense bowlder lying on the rails.

He had just sufficient presence of mind to turn the crank on his brake and pull up the engine within a couple of yards of the fatal block.

Here the emperor put his head out of the window and asked what they were stopping for. The engineer pointed to the piece of rock, on seeing which Don Pedro burst into a merry laugh.

"Push the thing on one side!" he called out to the engineer, who had jumped down from the locomotive; and when the latter in his confusion blindly obeyed, and kicked the stone with his foot, it crumbled into dust.

It was a block of starch that Don Pedro had ordered to be placed on the rails the night before.

CURIOUS RAILWAY RELIC.

Specimen of the First Passenger Ticket Used on the Railroads.

Among various trophies secured by Chief Smith, of the transportation department of the world's fair, during his recent visit to Europe, is a small brass pocket piece resembling an ordinary baggage check, which is worth a great deal more than its weight in gold. It is of octagon shape and on one side is stamped the inscription "L. and S. Railway," "Bagworth No. 29." On the opposite side the number is repeated. This fortunately preserved relic represents the kind and form of tickets in use in 1833 for "open-carriage passengers" on the Leicester and Swannington Railway.

The distance covered by the main line was a trifle over sixteen miles, and the passenger fares charged were one and a quarter pence per mile. There was one class only, and passengers stood up in an open carriage, generally known as a tub, which was nothing better than a high-seated goods wagon, having no top, no seats, no spring buffers. These brass tickets were issued to the various stations, the guard of the train carrying a leather bag something in the style of a collection box, having eight separate divisions, one for each station. At the end of each passenger's journey his ticket was taken up and placed in the bag by the guard to be returned, recorded on the books and again used.

A COUNTRY OF REPTILES.

No Land Beats Australia for Snakes, Lizards and Frogs.

A Scotchman who has lately traveled extensively in Australia says that it is a great reptile country. "I have traveled," he said, "in almost every country and I have never found a land that went ahead of Australia for snakes, lizards and frogs. There are some sixty-five species of snakes in that country, of which forty-two are venomous and twelve positively dangerous. There are forty or fifty different kinds of frogs, embracing every variety from a common tree frog to a large green variety with blue eyes and a gold back, making a wonderful showing of color as he hops about. There are probably forty kinds of lizards, of which twenty belong to a class known as night lizards, many of which hibernate. One species can utter a cry when hurt or alarmed, and another kind, the frilled lizard, can lift its fore legs and hop about like a kangaroo. The monitor, or fork-tongued lizard, burrows in the earth, climbs and swims and grows to a length of nine or ten feet. The crocodiles of Queensland, however, grow to a length sometimes of forty feet. Some of the Australian species of lizards can change their color not only from light to dark but from gray to red. All kinds of turtle are caught. I saw one caught there that was ten feet in length."

Cash and Credit.

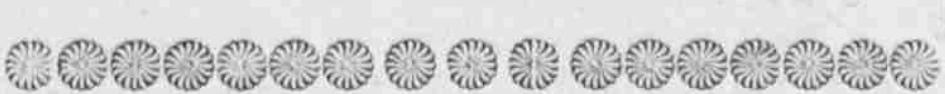
An enterprising grocer in the town of Santa Clara, California, has adopted an original method of trade. Each side of the store is fitted up for business on its own account. In the general arrangement each side is a duplicate of the other, the difference being that one side is for cash and the other for credit. When a customer comes in, the first question asked is, "Do you wish to buy for cash or on account?" If it is a cash customer the goods on each side are shown; but if it is one who wants credit he is shown to the other side, and for the first time in his life perhaps made to realize the value of ready money.

Puzzles the Doctors.

A story comes from San Francisco of an individual there who is a standing puzzle to the San Francisco doctors. He is for weeks at a time, little distinguishable in complexion and appearance from the mass of his fellow citizens. But then all at once his tint deepens, and he wakes up one fine morning to find himself as black as any negro. So altered is his appearance that his friends can only recognize him by his clothes.

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Final-Proof-Notices

Hon. J. W. WEHR, Jr., Register.

Hon. F. M. BROOM, Receiver.

Parties having notices in this column are requested to read the same carefully and report to this office for correction any errors that may exist. This will prevent possible delay in making proof.

Land Office at Alliance, Neb., Dec. 17, 1896.

Notice is hereby given that

John W. Pierce,

of Hemingford, Neb., has filed notice of intention to make final proof before Register or Receiver at Alliance, Neb., on the 23d day of January 1897, on timber culture application No. 924 for the s. 1/4 sec. 25, tp. 29 n., r. 30 w.

He names as witnesses: John P. Neeland, James A. Hunter, William D. Cross, Hamilton Hall, all of Hemingford, Neb.

J. W. WEHR, Jr., Register.

Land Office at Alliance, Neb., Dec. 7, 1896.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and that said proof will be made before Register or Receiver at Alliance, Neb., on Jan. 16, 1897, viz:

Vojtech Chladek,

of Dunlap, Neb., who made H. E. No. 288 for the n. 1/4 sec. 25, tp. 29 n., r. 30 w.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Henry Lidke, John Potomell, Christoph Lidke, Bernard Fendrich, all of Dunlap, Neb.

J. W. WEHR, Jr., Register.

Land Office, Alliance, Neb., Dec. 2, 1896.

Notice is hereby given that

John C. Alexander,

of Ardmore, S. D., has filed notice of intention to make final proof before M. J. Hewitt, clerk district court, at his office in Harrison, Neb., on January 9, 1897, on timber culture application No. 416, for the s. 1/4 sec. 14, tp. 29 n., r. 48 w.

Witnesses will give testimony before register or receiver at Alliance, Neb. He names as witnesses: Thomas L. Hopkins, Wm. J. Britton, John Jelinek, Wm. D. Johnson, all of Hemingford, Neb.

J. W. WEHR, Jr., Register.

There will be held in Hemingford, Nebraska, a Bible institute, conducted by Rev. Frady, beginning Jan. 20, 1897, and continuing in session four days. The work of the institute will be a study of four Gospels—the life of Christ. Circulars concerning the institute may be had from Rev. Hazelton, Rev. Preston, C. J. Wildy or Mr. Sherwood. Everyone is invited to attend. A large class is desired.

A meeting concerning the institute will be held at M. E. church next Tuesday evening Nov. 24, 7:30 p. m. Everyone come.

Anna Neeland, Sec.

Comfort to California.

Every Thursday afternoon a tourist sleeping car for Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Los Angeles leaves Omaha and Lincoln via the Burlington Route.

It is carpeted; upholstered in rattan; has spring seats and backs and is provided with curtains, beddings, towels, soap and etc. An experienced excursion conductor and a uniformed Fullman porter accompany it through to the Pacific coast.

While neither as expensively furnished nor as fine to look at as a palace sleeper, it is just as good to ride in. Second class tickets are honored and the price of a berth, wide enough and big enough for two, is only \$5.

For a folder giving full particulars, call at the nearest B. & M. R. R. ticket office. Or, write to J. Francis, Gen'l Pass'r Agent Burlington Route, Omaha, Neb.

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Photographic Views.

Photographer W. T. Caldwell of Alliance has made arrangements with Mr. W. T. Andrews, a photographer having years of experience, who will take views of the country within a radius of fifty miles in all directions from Alliance for the next few months.

He is equipped with a first-class outfit and all the work will be furnished at the popular Caldwell Studio, and will be furnished the same as the best grade of portrait work. Parties wanting work of this kind done, by dropping a card to either of the above parties at Alliance will be notified when Mr. Andrews is expected to be in this vicinity.

The executive committee have decided to postpone the meeting of the Box Butte County Theaters association, which was to be held in Alliance, December 12, 1896, until the last Saturday in January, 1897.

INA I. MARSHALL, Sec.

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Sold by newsdealers everywhere and subscriptions received by all postmasters. Address THE CHICAGO RECORD, 181 Madison-st.

MIIGHTY WEARING ON A MAN.

This Snoring Wife's Mams Trots Around With baby at Midnight.

The lord of the manor slept although the baby had the colic and was in nowise disposed to suffer in silence. "Wah—oop—oo—oo—wahi!" wailed the infant. Distracted at the child's distress the mother rushed wildly to the cradle. "Hush-a-bye, hush-a-bye," cooed she. "Gr—r—r—siss—pool!" snored the lord of the manor. The woman made ten quick laps around the room, danced the suffering babe vigorously and performed a great variety of exhaustive antics popularly supposed to make young children forget their troubles. "Woop!" yelled the little one. "Hush-a-bye baby on the tree—" "Gr—r—oo—siss—pool!" The lord of the manor slept. One by one the sands of time flowed through the hour glass. Minutes grew into hours. Just as the rising sun was giving the eastern horizon with a glow the baby fell asleep, the mother of tender radiance the mother of the darling in the cradle, leaning a soft kiss upon its forehead, turned to her own couch. The lord of the manor stirred and opened his eyes. "Can I help you, Maria?" he feebly asked, with a yawn. The wife and mother sighed. "No, John," she wearily rejoined. They slept. "I shouldn't be surprised—" It was the lord of the manor talking to a friend next day. "If I look mighty haggard. This being up nights—" He gaped prodigiously. "With the baby is mighty wearing on a man." The lord of the manor looked decidedly dissatisfied with life.

TABLE TURNING IN CHINA.

How the Almond-Eyed Medium Conducts a Celestial Seance.

As things go by contraries in China, we find the phenomenon of table turning is reversed; in other words Chinese tables, instead of turning on their legs whirl around on their heads with their legs pointing to the ceiling. The directions usually given are to place a couple of chop sticks at right angles across a mortar or bowl filled with water, and upon these the table is turned upside down.

Four children are then called in, and to each is assigned a leg, on which one hand is gently laid, while the other seizes the free hand of a companion. The medium then reads an incantation and soon the table begins to heave with emotion and at last revolves, carrying the legs along with increased velocity, until the table is whirled on its axis. The Chinese are said to implicitly believe that table turning is the work of devils or spirits, yet it is never performed save for the sport it yields, nor do they ever attempt to hold communication with the spirit world by this means.

A DEVOTEE OF MORPHEUS.

The Duke of Devonshire Sleeps in the House of Lords.

It is said the Duke of Devonshire goes to sleep in the house of lords. What else is he to do, should that august house sit late, as it does three or four times a year? Besides, it is the custom to go to sleep in parliament when you have a mind to. The rules forbid the refusal of a newspaper, a magazine or a book. If a peer or a member of the commons desires to read he must go to the reading-room or the library.

Therefore, when a bore is on his legs about 10 or 11 o'clock, and his diffuse and uninteresting commonplaces are running out in turgid verbosity, what better thing can a statesman do than go to sleep?

When in the lower house as Lord Hartington the duke was a confirmed sleeper, with his legs against the clerk's table, his hat tilted down over his eyes, his mouth open and arms folded, or balancing his body upon the seat. At times his lordship was guilty of an approach to snoring. People who go to bed about 3 or 4 in the morning must take their sleep somewhere.

A Gigantic Goddess of War.

In the Japanese capital there is a gigantic image of a woman made of wood, iron and plaster. The time of its erection and the name of its designer are in dispute, but it is known to have been dedicated to Hamura, the god of war. In height it measures 54 feet, and the head alone, which is reached by a winding stairway in the interior of the figure, being capable of holding a company of 20 persons. The goddess holds a sword in her right hand and a huge painted wooden ball in the left. Internally the statue is the finest anatomical model in existence, every bone joint and ligament being represented on a gigantic scale in proportion to the height and general size of the huge figure itself. The large eyes are magnifying glasses, through which a fine view of the surrounding country may be had.

Origin of Danabug.

During the reign of Henry VII. there lived in Lincoln, England, a famous ballist named Joe Dunn. Joseph was very clever in the management of his business, and so dexterous in annoying those who refused the payment of an account with which he had been intrusted that, "to set Dunn on him," or "to Dunn him," became common advice to the owner of a bad debt. To this personage we owe what to not a few people is one of the most disagreeable words in the language.

Her Day Would Come.

We are all prone to retaliate for personal slights, but perhaps the funniest incident of it is one of an old Irish woman, who, seeing a funeral to which she had expected an invitation pass her door, expostulated angrily: "Oh, go on wid ye! go on wid ye! go on wid ye! But maybe there'll be a funeral at our house soon, and this we'll see who'll be a-d.".