

REMARKABLE OLD MAN.

Dr. John Vedder's Life Reads Like a Romance.

He is the Oldest Living Locomotive Engineer and Now Lives in the Oldest House in St. Augustine, Fla.

[Special St. Augustine (Fla.) Letter.]
In quaint old St. Augustine, in Florida, one may live the gayest life that modern luxuries afford, and yet, walking a few blocks hence, pass entirely from the scene of extravagant elegance into the storied days of the past, when the hard pioneer braved the terrors of the frontier life. Here, in this town, are still standing many specimens of the old Spanish coquina houses. It is in one of these that a most interesting character lives all alone. He is Dr. John Vedder, the oldest living locomotive engineer in America.

Treasury street is the narrowest street in the town. It measures barely six feet, and is associated in the minds of the Minorcans with many stories of those terrible days when their forefathers were brought there as

brass foundry he learned the principles of proportion in the making of bell metal. By applying this knowledge to his experiments he soon became an expert brass worker. As an employe in the repair shops of the Utica & Syracuse railroad he learned to be a machinist, and in 1839 and '40 ran the first snow plow between Utica and Syracuse. In an interview with Dr. Vedder, he said: "I had the honor of handling, as engineer, one of the first locomotives built in this country. The first locomotive built by the Baldwin locomotive works was for the Schenectady & Utica railroad. When that road was completed to Syracuse, in 1839, this company gave an order to the Baldwin works for 12 locomotives. Four—Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 13—were used in the division out of Syracuse. The first train was run in this system July 4, 1839, and created a wonderful excitement throughout the country. Locomotive No. 12 was in the winter of '39 and '40 used as a snow plow and was in my charge. This was, undoubtedly, the first snow-plow locomotive in regular work handled in America.

"In 1841 and 1842, I had constructed a sand-box after my own ideas. I am nearly positive that the first sand-box lever I had adopted was one similar to that

PERFECT HEALTH.

How It May Be Obtained by All.

An Interesting Bit of History as Told by a Traveling Man.

From the World, Cleveland, Ohio.
After an extended trip lasting several months and embracing many points of interest throughout the West and South, Mr. George Lockhart, of Hudson, Ohio, returned home a few days ago. He is bright and genial as ever and looks as if his long holiday had thoroughly agreed with him.

Mr. Lockhart's business during his travels took him frequently to Hot Springs and other health resorts. He does not appear to have been very favorably impressed with the peculiarities of life at such places, nor with the benefits received by the patients. "Men go there to get cured of disease," says he. "They take one hot bath in the morning and spend the rest of the day generally in drinking, gambling and general dissipation. How they can expect to recover under such treatment passes my comprehension. But they are, as a rule, what the world calls good fellows, free with their money and bent on enjoying themselves.

"With one man, however, whom I met at such a place I formed what I hope will prove a permanent friendship. I am indebted to him for benefits which have left on my mind a feeling of the strongest gratitude. I was, as you know, not at all well. A slight lameness in my right leg, contracted about a year ago, had gradually become worse until I was compelled to go around on crutches all the time. Then my general health failed, until in the latter part of the summer I had about concluded to come home to die. Such a state of affairs as you will easily understand, was anything but comfortable. I was, in fact, neither more nor less than a helpless invalid, a nuisance to myself and every body around me. It was at this juncture that one day on the train I fell into conversation with the man I mention. He recommended me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I did so. You see the result!"

And Mr. Lockhart expanded his broad chest and smiled. "Look here," he continued, as he took off his hat and holding it on a level with his head, kicked it easily with the foot that used to be lame. No better picture of perfect health and abounding animal spirits could be wished for than this one-time invalid.

"My future movements are uncertain," said Mr. Lockhart at parting. "I will remain in Hudson for some time, but before the summer is over I expect to make a visit to Europe."

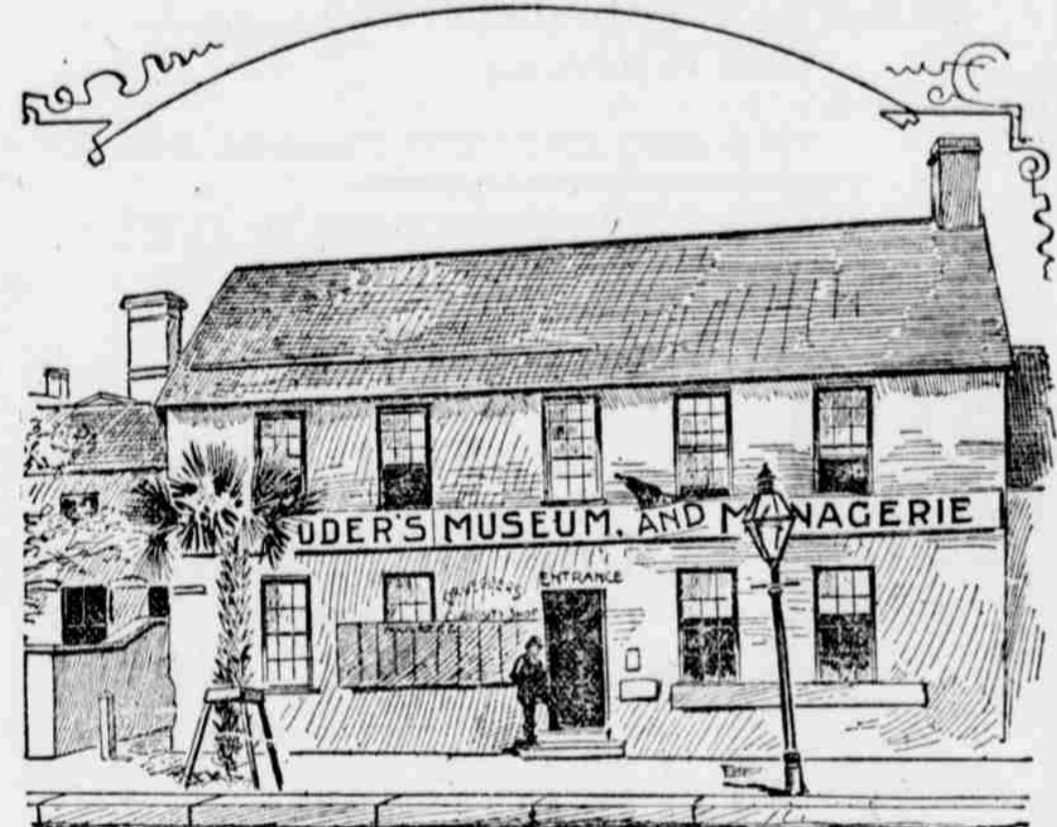
Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain, in a condensed form, all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females, such as suppressions, irregularities and all forms of weakness. They build up the blood, and restore the glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. In men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of whatever nature. Pink Pills are sold in boxes (never in loose bulk) at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

The Florentine Epicure.

Your typical Florentine is epicurean to the toe tips. His enthusiasms and yearnings are quite other than those of the northerner. Give him two francs for life and he will toil no more. He may be a marquis and seventh or eighth in direct descent, but he will be content to forego the assertion of his rank so he may thenceforward enjoy the priceless boon of leisure and independence. His leisure he will dissipate at the cafe, with perhaps two three-half-penny sweet fluids per diem; and you may study the effect of his independence in his courtly manners, even though his hat be worn at the brim and his coat-back be deplorably shiny. He is a pellucid brook—shallow as you please, yet engaging for his pellucidity. As he sits on the red velvet cushions and looks forth at the carriages and gowns of fashion in the Via Tornabuoni he shows no trace of envy on his open countenance. What, in effect, have those rich ones more than he, save the ennuui of modishness and the indigestion of high feeding? The monuments and blue skies of Florence (not to mention the glories of stirring memories of its history) are rather more his than theirs.—Cornhill Magazine.

THE GENERAL MARKET.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 25.	
CATTLE—Best beefs	\$ 3 50 @ 4 15
Stockers	3 15 @ 3 35
Native cows	2 25 @ 2 97½
HOGS—Choice to heavy	2 70 @ 2 99
WHEAT—No. 2 red	19 @ 60
No. 2 hard	56 @ 57
CORN—No. 2 mixed	21 @ 22
OATS—No. 2 mixed	15½ @ 16
RYE—No. 2	28 @ 29
FLOUR—Patent, per sack	1 40 @ 1 30
Fancy	1 15 @ 1 30
HAY—Choice timothy	7 50 @ 8 00
Fancy prairie	4 50 @ 5 00
BRAN—(Sacked)	29 @ 30
BUTTER—Choice creamery	12 @ 13
CHEESE—Full cream	9½ @ 12½
EGGS—Choice	10 @ 10½
POTATOES	17½ @ 20
ST. LOUIS.	
CATTLE—Native and shipping	3 40 @ 4 00
Texas	2 50 @ 3 35
HOGS—Heavy	2 90 @ 3 25
SHEEP—Fair to choice	2 10 @ 2 31
FLOUR—Choice	3 50 @ 3 40
WHEAT—No. 2 red	62½ @ 63
CORN—No. 2 mixed	19½ @ 20
OATS—No. 2 mixed	16½ @ 17
RYE—No. 2	29½ @ 30
BUTTER—Creamery	11 @ 16½
LARD—Western mess	3 25 @ 3 22½
PORK	6 25 @ 6 50
CHICAGO.	
CATTLE—Common to prime	3 00 @ 4 00
HOGS—Packing and shipping	2 45 @ 3 50
SHEEP—Fair to choice	2 25 @ 3 00
FLOUR—Winter wheat	3 20 @ 3 40
WHEAT—No. 2 red	62½ @ 63
CORN—No. 2	19½ @ 21½
OATS—No. 2	16 @ 17
RYE—No. 2	28½ @ 30
BUTTER—Creamery	9 @ 15
LARD	3 31 @ 3 47½
PORK	5 72½ @ 5 87½
NEW YORK.	
CATTLE—Native Steers	3 00 @ 4 35
HOGS—Good to Choice	3 50 @ 4 00
FLOUR—Good to Choice	3 20 @ 3 75
WHEAT—No. 2 red	68½ @ 71
CORN—No. 2	20½ @ 17
OATS—No. 2	20 @ 20½
BUTTER—Creamery	10½ @ 15½
PORK—Mess	7 75 @ 9 50



DR. VEDDER'S OLD COQUINA HOUSE.

slaves to the Spaniards. At the corner of Treasury and Bay street is Dr. John Vedder's solitary home. The date of its erection is not known, but students of the chronology of St. Augustine affirm that it is one of the oldest, if not the oldest house in the city. The very thick walls are formed of coquina quarried from Anastasia island. The house faces the sea, and the beveled projection extending between two and three feet from the base of the front wall appears to bear evidence of the fact that it was built before the original coquina sea wall, which was constructed in 1693.

It is assumed that, previous to that time, such projections were built as a protection against the tides. The house contains two rooms on the ground floor, and two on the upper. The heavy beams are of red cedar. An adjustable ladder and square hole between the rafters constitute the staircase.

This quaint old building with its curious interior is quite apropos as a home for the genius who resides there with only the company of animals and reptiles from the land and waters of Florida.

Dr. John Vedder was born in Schenectady, N. Y., July 22, 1819, coming from an ancestral line of the earliest Dutch settlers on the Hudson. The Vedders settled at Schenectady before the French and Indian war, and the story

now in use. While handling locomotive No. 11, I noticed that whenever I would wish to use the sand, and pull the lever, the sand would run down through a faucet outside of the box, and fly over the machinery. I thought the problem over and over, and finally persuaded the company to adopt my suggestion for having the valves inside of the box, connected with a rod from the cab. As I wander over the space of time, I cannot help wondering at the rapid and magnificent strides made by railway companies in the perfecting of locomotion, since I manipulated the throttle.

While a resident of Schenectady, Dr. Vedder was elected alderman of the committee on land and buildings.

The doctor has been married twice, and though now a widower the second time, and 78 years old, he is still a fine looking man, with silky white hair and beard and full blue eyes—as bright and clear as those any man of 35 would be proud of. It would not be at all surprising to his friends to hear that he again anticipated matrimonial bliss, for he is lionized by widows who visit the "Anciente Citie."

Some years ago, while in his son's study, Mr. Vedder took it into his head that he would be a dentist. So he applied himself to his books, and without other instruction soon won the title of "doctor," and was practicing regularly before his son had even graduated. He practiced dentistry for several years, until his health failed, and then went south to recuperate.

Ever since he has resided in the land of flowers, following the dentist profession until his office was burned in one of the conflagrations that have visited St. Augustine.

He then bought the old Spanish landmark in which he still lives. In 1876 he began the study of taxidermy and made his own collection for a natural history exhibit. Now he is an acknowledged authority on that subject, and has the finest collection of live animals and birds, Indian relics, mounted fish, reptiles, crustaceans, etc., in Florida.

There is still another interesting phase of this man's life, and that is his military career. At 16 years of age, he enlisted in a military company under Capt. Platt Potter, and advanced from corporal to sergeant, to ensign, and, at 20, was in command of the Governor's guards at Schenectady. Being an expert in manual exercises, he was chosen by the colonel fustler and instructor for the general parade.

Dr. Vedder, with all his practicability, is quite sentimental and religious. He belongs to the Dutch Reformed Church of the East, and the saddest and most serious moments for him are: those when he recalls the lessons taught at the side of his mother, who died when he was a boy of nine, yet whose sacred memory still lives in the holy-places in an old man's heart.

LOTTIE MILLER.



DR. JOHN VEDDER.

goes that Nicholas Vedder, of "Rip Van Winkle" fame, was a character of this same Vedder family. He is an uncle of Elihu J. Vedder, the famous American artist, who spends much time in Rome.

Dr. Vedder started out very young on his active career. At the age of 20 he worked successfully at five trades, being a blacksmith, moulder, brass founder, machinist and locomotive engineer. He was never an apprentice, as he always received pay for his services. Five days is the longest time he has ever been idle.

In talking of his boyhood days, Dr. Vedder laughed as he related that he "stole" his trade. Employed in his father's shops at Schenectady, he learned smithing and moulding. Through a friend who worked in a

Trips undertaken for health's sake will be rendered more beneficial, and the fatigues of travel counteracted, if the voyager will take along with him Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, and use that protective and enabling tonic, nerve invigorant and appetizer regularly. Impurities in air and water is neutralized by it, and it is a matchless tranquilizer and regulator of the stomach, liver and bowels. It counteracts malaria, rheumatism, and a tendency to kidney and bladder ailments.

MISS QUIZZER—"Do you believe all the disagreeable things you read in the newspapers?" Miss BUZZBUG—"I do if they are about people I know."—Roxbury Gazette.

The Modern Beauty

Thrives on good food and sunshine, with plenty of exercise in the open air. Her form glows with health and her face blooms with its beauty. If her system needs the cleansing action of a laxative remedy, she uses the gentle and pleasant Syrup of Figs. Made by the California Fig Syrup Company.

AN Atchison boy of 15 carries such a wonderful list of improbable anecdotes in his head, that his parents have decided to make an evangelist of him.—Atchison Globe.

SHR—"Was there any particular thing about the town which struck you?" He—"Yes; a bicycle."—Yonkers Statesman.

A DOSE in Time Saves Nine of Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar for Coughs, Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

ELLA—"I heard something mean about you to-day." Stella—"I thought you looked pleased."—Town Topics.

AFTER six years' suffering, I was cured by Pisko's Cure.—MARY THOMSON, 29½ Ohio Ave., Allegheny, Pa., March 19, '94.

WHEN you have another man's money in your pocket, it is so hard to remember that it is not your own.

Hall's Catarrh Cure Is a Constitutional Cure. Price 75c.

It is the quick nostrums that gather in the ducats.—Texas Sifter.



Blooming Health

Secured to every woman by the use of

Warner's Safe Cure

Thousands of afflicted women have been cured by its use.

Why not You?

A Purely Vegetable Preparation.

A Remedy with a Remarkable Record.

Large bottle or new style smaller one at your druggists. Write for Medical Blank free. Warner's Safe Cure Co., Rochester, N. Y.

A. N. K.—D. 1623

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS please state that you saw the advertisement in this paper.

The Ins and Outs of It.

If you get best wear out of a coat, best work must have gone into it. You can't get good bread out of poor flour.

Moral: You can't get the best out of anything, unless the best is in it; and the best has to be put in before it can be taken out. Now, we have a rule to test those sarsaparillas with a big "best" on the bottle. "Tell us what's put in you and we'll decide for ourselves about the best." That's fair. But these modest sarsaparillas say: "Oh! we can't tell. It's a secret. Have faith in the label."... Stop! There's one exception; one sarsaparilla that has no secret to hide. It's Ayer's. If you want to know what goes into Ayer's Sarsaparilla, ask your doctor to write for the formula. Then you can satisfy yourself that you get the best of the sarsaparilla argument when you get Ayer's.

Any doubt left? Get the "Curebook." It kills doubts but cures doubters. Address: J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.



"The New Woman."

Battle Ax
PLUG

The "new woman" favors economy, and she always buys "Battle Ax" for her sweetheart. She knows that a 5-cent piece of "Battle Ax" is nearly twice as large as a 10-cent piece of other high grade brands. Try it yourself and you will see why "Battle Ax" is such a popular favorite all over the United States.