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Entertaining Scenes Where Horseless Cabs Are Given New Power.

One of the most entertaining sights which any city in which the electric cab has been introduced affords is the cab station itself during the rush hours. The cabs wheel in and out of the station, as they return from their trips, or are called out, swiftly and noiselessly. What strikes the observer most, perhaps, is the astonishing ease and accuracy with which they are guided by the driver. They move and stop apparently to an inch, and twist around sharp corners with a recklessness, but withal a certainty which is foreign to all one's previous experiences of passenger vehicles. The motorman has everything within hand's reach or foot reach. With his hands he operates the controlling gear for operating the switch beneath his seat which admits the current; he also steers with his hand. The braking is done with his foot, with which, also, he rings the bell. There is an emergency switch placed near his heel, by which he can throw out the switch and break the current when necessary. In order that no tampering with the vehicle can take place while he is temporarily absent, he can remove the lever. After that the machine is proof against the tricks of the after a free ride, and will not budge until again directed by the motorman's hand. The charging of the batteries has been brought down to a fine point. Often a cab will run in to replenish its power, and be out of the station again in a minute and a quarter. Meanwhile the "fares" will remain inside and watch the process with interest. During the opera or theater hours they are likely to be in full regalia, and the variety and brilliance of the evening dress of these visitors give an odd charm to the scene. The equipment for changing the batteries is most ingenious. As the cab enters it runs on to a table which is split in two parts and balanced below so that the parts are free to move in either direction sideways. The cab is instantly raised to the proper level, and a hydraulic ram comes out, takes hold of the batteries and pulls them out of the way. They are at once picked up by machinery, carried down the length of the battery room and deposited upon a table ready for re-charging. In the meantime one of a number of sets of batteries which have been brought forward by an electric crane and deposited in readiness on a table, is placed opposite the opening in the cab. The ram makes a forward movement and forces the batteries into the carriage. which backs off the table platform, and rolls out on its errand. To all appearances the batteries are handled as easilv as if they weighed a few ounces instead of a quarter of a ton. The number of electric vehicles engaged by the month or quarter by private individuals is increasing with astonishing rapidity, and the swell coachman is no longer looked upon as master of his craft unless he can manage an electric carriage as skilfully as he can drive a team of horses.-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A SACRED TREE,

The Story of a Thorn Tree That Blossomed Only Christmas.

The sacred Glastonbury thorn having, as has been its custom for numberless Christmasses, duly blossomed at Yuletide, has now returned to its normal appearance, which in no way differs from that of an ordinary thorn

Six miles northwest of the quiet little Episcopal city of Wells rises a lofty peak, called by the Celtic natives of West Britain a "tor." It is conspicuous for miles around, with the tower of an ancient chapel on its top, and with a neat little country town and the ruins of a noble old abbey.

Sufficient evidence remains to show that the abbey was of vast proportions, occupying in all 60 acres of ground. It was founded by Saxon kings, and further endowed by the Normans and Plantagenets. The grand chancel and its fine chapels were built in the finest style of later Norman architecture, but now little more than erumbling walls and pillars testify to

the once great beauty of the abbey. The porch of St. Joseph chapel, however, is in a fair state of preservation. Outside there grows the famous Gastonbury thorn that blossoms but for one day in the year, and that Christmas day. This tree has a strange his-

During his long journey from Palestine St. Joseph of Arimathea visited the district, he and his 12 companions having been sent by St. Phillip the Apostle to convert the then heathen nation of Britain and to east out the

Druid superstition. St. Joseph and his followers found their way to Gastonbury, then known as "Yhiswytryn." They were all a-weary, and arriving at the summit of the hill, Joseph, who was using a hawthorn stick as a walking staff, stuck it into the ground and it burst into bloom. The present Gastonbury thorn is an offshoot by continued grafting of St. Joseph of Arimathea's walking staff .- London Mail.

Fireproof.

"Aha!" exclaimed Cheops, as the pyramid builders put the finishing touches on the great structure. "I will now convince these insurance companies that it is possible to construct an absolutely fireproof office building."--Philadelphia Record.

"Maud has promised to become my wife." "Well, don't worry about it, my lad. Women frequently break their

J. M. Johnson, freight traffic manager of the Rock Island, was yesterday

elected third vice-president of the company. He has been in the service of the Rock Island company since 1884, when he was appointed first assistant general freight agent. In March, 1888, he became general freight agent, and eight years later was appointed freight traffic manager. Mr. Johnson began his railroad career in 1871 as station agent at Franklin, Ind., on the Indianapolis, Cincinnati & Lafayette road, now a part of the Big Four. He afterward went through the positions of general freight and ticket agent, traveling auditor, supervisor of local freight traffic and assistant general freight agent, in which capacity he entered the service of the Rock Island.

The recent order of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for five thousand steel coal cars to be built by the Pressed Steel Company and the Carnegie Company, brings the total purchases of the receivers of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad up to 30,394 since March 1, 1896. The locomotive purchases during that time have been 216, of which about 20 are still to be delivered. The company has also purchased five postal cars, ten express cars, ten combination cars and six dining cars.

William C. K. Wilde, the younger brother of Oscar Wilde, who died in London several days ago, came to New York after marrying ...rs. Frank Leslie in 1891 with the intention of writmischievous passer-by, who hankers ing for publication. He had been connected with various English papers in a desultory fashion for several years but had never displayed any marked ability as a writer. Mr. Wilde was tall, young and of pleasant address. His style of writing did not commend itself to any of the New York newspapers, and during his stay in New York he was apparently a man of leisure, spending most of his time at the Lotus club. The divorce which freed Mrs. Leslie from her English husband was not unexpected by the men who knew him.

> Some men's charitable contributions are confined to suggestions

OTHERHOOD is woman's natural destiny. Many women are denied the happiness of children through some derangement of the generative organs. Actual barrenness is rare.

SORROWS STERILITY

Among the many triumphs of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the overcoming of cases of supposed barrenness. This great medicine is so well calculated to regulate every function of the generative organs that its efficiency is vouched for by multitudes of women. MRS. ED. WOLFORD, of Lone Tree,

Iowa, writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM-Before taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I had one child which lived only six hours. The doctor said it did not have the proper nourishment while I was carrying it. I did not feel at all well during pregnancy. In time I conceived again, and thought I would write to you for advice.

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel towards you for the help that your medicine was to me during this time. I felt like a new person; did my work up to the last, and was sick only a short time. My baby weighed ten pounds. He is a fine boy, the joy of our home. He is now six weeks old and weighs sixteen pounds. Your medicine is certainly a boon in pregnancy."

MRS. FLORA COOPER, of Doyle, S. Dak., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM-Ever since my last child I suffered with inflammation of the womb, pains in back, left side, abdomen and groins. My head ached all the time. I could not walk across the floor withoutsuffering intense pain. I kept getting worse, until two years ago I wrote to you for advice, and began taking

I had not finished the first bottle before I felt better. I took four bottles, and have been strong and perfectly healthy ever since, and now have two of the nicest little girls.'

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

THE BEST SPRING TONIG.

As winter passes away it leaves many people feeling weak, depressed and easily tired. This means that the blood needs attention and sensible people always take a tonic at this time of year. Purgatives are not the right medicine - they weaken instead of strengthening.

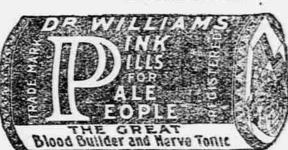
Dr. Williams Pink Pills for Pale People are the best tonic medicine in the world and do not act on the bowels. They stimulate the appetite, enrich the blood, strengthen the nerves and make people feel bright, active and strong.

No one is better able to speak of this fact than Miss Hazel Snider, a charming young woman of Arlington, Ind. To-day she has rosy cheeks, sparkling eyes and a plump form, which prove that she is in good health. A year ago Miss Snider was very thin, her cheeks pale, eyes sunken and dull. She was troubled with nervousness and general debility. She says:

"After several months' treatment from the family physician we saw he could do no good. I was discouraged and did not know what to do. One day I read an item in a paper of the wonderful curative qualities of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I tried the medicine, and when nearly through with the second box noticed a change for the better. After I had taken eight boxes I was cared, and have had no occasion to take any kind of medicine since. I owe much to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, probably my life, and I advise any one suffering with troubles similar to mine, to take these pills."

Miss HAZEL SNIDER.

Sold by all drug. dists or sent post paid by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N.Y., on receipt of price, 50 per box; six boxes, \$250.



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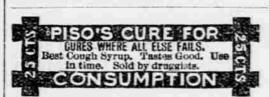


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