

RAILROAD LITERATURE.

"The Four Track Series" and "The Four Track News."

When a man goes to the Grand Central Station with trunk, handbag and other travelling paraphernalia he usually knows to what point he will buy his ticket, if he has not already secured it. But before the trip to the station can be made there has usually been a season of study and research and of consultation with people whose experience was drawn upon for points as to where to go.

The New-York Central Railroad has made this preliminary to pleasure trips a simple matter by the publication of a series of little books of travel, known as "The Four Track Series," which contain a great amount of information.

From these books one may gain a fair knowledge of the country, the attractions of the various resorts, the means of transportation, the accommodations and the scenic and historical features. "The Four Track Series" contains, besides the descriptive articles, written in short, interesting style, many fine illustrations, and the booklets are, on that account, appreciated by people who remain at home as much as by those who travel.

"The Luxury of Modern Railway Travel" was the first number to be issued. It was an experiment. In this the writer gave a description of the luxurious through trains on the New-York Central, with buffet, sleeping, drawing room, dining and sleeping cars and observation facilities. The book attracted favorable attention and was soon followed by No. 2, "The Railroad and the Dictionary," a useful book to students and teachers. The little pamphlet contains only fourteen pages, but on these are spread all the railroad information required by the layman. In the next number "America's Summer Resorts" are described, and ever since its publication it has been the guide and friend of thousands of people who were in doubt as to how they should answer the question which comes up for discussion every year, "Where shall we spend the summer?"

The attractions of New-York and vicinity are then taken up in booklet No. 4, which was entitled "Suburban Homes North of the Harlem River." In this number of the series forty-eight pages are devoted to descriptions of the towns and villages in Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess and Columbia counties. The popularity of the summer resort booklet and the growing custom of taking a vacation in the winter suggested No. 5, "America's Winter Resorts," and this was soon followed by one of the most pretentious numbers of the series, "In the Adirondack Mountains." Then in quick succession came "Three Ways to Go to New-York," "Two to Fifteen Days' Pleasure Tours," "Two Days at Niagara Falls," "The Thousand Islands," and then a story of the quick transmission of the mails, under the head "Race with the Australian-London Mail." The visit of the German Emperor's brother is the subject of one of the booklets, entitled "Fifteen Hundred Miles Over the New-York Central Lines with Prince Henry." "The Urban Population in 1900," "Bronx Park," "Saratoga," "A Trip to Ottawa, Ontario, by Way of the Rideau Lakes and River," "Historical Pilgrimages About New-York," "The Centre of the First City of the World" are among the other interesting subjects treated in the series.

While this series is a remarkable feature of the literary bureau of the New-York Central Railroad, it is eclipsed by "The Four Track Series," an illustrated magazine of travel and education, published by George H. Daniels, the general passenger agent of the company. The magazine is a monthly publication, which contains in every issue articles of real merit and illustrations of a superior kind. The book is interesting alike to old and young, and the fact that its subscription list has grown in the short time of the magazine's existence to upward of 50,000 shows that the public appreciates "The Four Track News." This magazine, with its clever articles, good illustrations, information on matters of general interest foreign and domestic, and its book, theatrical and news reviews, is mailed to any address in North America for 50 cents a year, and to foreign countries for \$1 a year.

In speaking of the magazine George H. Daniels, the publisher, said: "Its departments have kept pace with the march of events and have been filled with valuable facts, interestingly presented. "Each number of the magazine contains a sprinkling of humorous paragraphs and other miscellany, together with notes of the stage, book reviews, 'Vest Pocket Confidences' and 'Little Histories.' "Each issue of 'The Four Track News' consists of not less than one hundred pages, thus enabling it to use handsome fullpage halftones, almost any one of which is worthy of a frame."

PLANS FOR NEW-LONDON SEASON.

New-London, Conn., June 13 (Special).—Among the many Eastern resorts none are meeting with more success this season than New-London. It advances indications in the way of engagements of rooms and cottages can be depended upon. Those from New-York who have engaged cottages are Edwin L. Meyers, Maurice Rothschild, Mrs. M. A. Spang, John R. Hegeman, L. L. Gans and Stuyvesant Fish.

MANHSETT HOUSE, SHELTER ISLAND.

One of the Most Attractive Parts of Bewitching Long Island.

The very name of Shelter Island expresses the serenity and peace characterizing the delightful summer resort, where the conditions for rest and recreation are unsurpassed. The very position of Shelter Island gives emphasis to the meaning of its name, while the original designation of it by the Indians has the meaning, "An island sheltered by Indians." In this its geographical position is clearly set forth, for it lies between the two ends of Long Island, the Montauk Point peninsula on the south and Orient Point on the north. To the south are the waters of Peconic Bay, while Gardiner's Bay is on the east. It is swept by the breezes from these sheets of water, and from the Atlantic on the south and Long Island Sound on the north, resulting in a remarkably fine climate so far as coolness is concerned. In point of fine weather no region is more favored. That part of Long Island, according to the government reports, has more cloudless days than any other in the country, even in famed California.

The name Shelter Island is said to have been given to the spot by those New-Englanders who sought refuge from persecution by crossing Long Island Sound, but it might well be called Shelter Island because of the number of persons who seek shelter there in the days of inclement heat in mid-summer.

The island is unique, not only in its situation, but in its character. Here is no flat expanse of burning sand, backed by dreary salt meadows and pine barrens, as in the case of so many coast resorts, but 5,000 acres of high, rolling upland, diversified with hill and vale, clothed with luxuriant vegetation, and much of it shaded with fine forests of oaks, locusts, hickory, chestnut and oak. Imposing cliffs and headlands jut sheer upon the sea, with a precipitous bluff and a smooth shingly beach below. Elsewhere the shore is dotted with huge rocks and bowlders, or it winds in and out with innumerable bays and inlets and capes and promontories, presenting one of the most varied and charming appearances imaginable.

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more desirable. There is one most desirable feature of this part of Southern Rhode Island, and this is its extreme healthfulness. This region affords the largest amount of pleasurable recreation, combined with all the advantages of the most delightful of seaside climates.

The pleasure of guests is the chief object of every attraction for their stay within its walls. It is modern, well equipped and beautiful hotel, with 150 rooms, which are also provided with every modern convenience. The public rooms of the hotel are finely furnished. The house is supplied with pure water from the town, and the bedrooms in the Grecian Gardens, where refreshments are served out of doors, is one of the novel features of the hotel. The house is supplied with electricity and is equipped with every modern convenience. While close to the water it has noble trees surrounding it and fine lawns, which add to the attractiveness of the resort.

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are most attractive and enjoyable. The great hotel contains every convenience in construction and equipment, and nothing has been left unprovided for the enjoyment of every guest. The New-York Yacht Club has a station in the Derling Harbor. Adjacent to the hotel, the Manhattan Hotel, which is a fine example of the good roads of both island and mainland, if the adjacent parts of Long Island can be so designated, will be a most desirable place for the most exacting golfer can desire in the way of courses and conveniences among the most attractive of the island. The hotel is a modern structure erected in 1770 by Thomas H. Easton, his son, Henry, to whom he gave the eastern half of the island, which is the first island, acquired from Nathaniel Sylvester, the whole island, which is the first island, and the finest bathing beach of the island, and the hotel is a daily delight.

The house is equipped with all conveniences, and has steam heat and electric lights. Provision is made for all forms of amusement under the most desirable conditions. Fine horses and carriages afford facilities for the full enjoyment of the surrounding region. The Kettle Cove Golf Club course is only ten minutes' walk from the hotel, and is open to all guests. The tennis courts and croquet lawns are of exceptional excellence. A new 40-foot launch is equipped with the most delightful excursions under the finest conditions. The arrangements for bathing are complete, with a supply of bathers from the hotel to the beach, and ample shower baths of fresh water to follow the surf plunges. There are concert halls, a bathing house, and the rooms of the hotel are attractive and desirable, and the ample piazzas are much enjoyed by guests.

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