

WOODEN RAILROADS

THE FIRST CRUDE METHODS USED IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Tracks Were Merely Stout Planks or Maybe Blocks of Stone—The Finage Was Invented Toward the End of the Seventeenth Century.

It is not known with any certainty when the first pair of parallel tracks for wheeled traffic was laid down in Great Britain or whether it was of wood or of stone. Perhaps the former is the more probable, the material being found everywhere and its long shape being much more suggestive of fitness for such a purpose than stone. But so long as each neighborhood produced everything it wanted such things were not needed. At last the destruction of timber near London made the use of coal indispensable. This could only be conveyed by sea, and one of the few places where it could be got with the limited appliances and skill of those days was the valley of the Tyne, just above and below Newcastle. About 300 years ago a considerable trade in coal for shipment began there, which soon led to difficulties as to getting it from the mines into the boats. The distances were small, but the art of roadmaking had died out and in had wretched pack horses could not carry enough to render their use profitable. Some unknown benefactor to his species at last laid down two parallel lines of timber for carts to run on. Probably they were merely stout planks at first, but the suggestion that other planks should be placed under them, the structure then becoming fairly efficient. When flanges, either on the wheels or the rails, were first invented or by whom is not known, but it was apparently toward the end of the seventeenth century.

Those wooden railroads seem to have survived throughout the greater part of the following century, and even into the nineteenth in some cases. The Middleton colliery railroad, for example, was of wood until it was rebuilt for the use of Blenkinsop's rack rail engines. These were started in 1812 and were unquestionably the first commercially successful locomotives. Many other wooden railroads had existed in the same neighborhood for fifty or sixty years previously, and no doubt in other colliery districts as well. One was laid down near Sheffield, for instance, so early as about 1712 from the mine of Newbottle, colliery at The Manor into the town, nearly one and one-half miles down hill. It lasted till 1775, when it was destroyed in a riot. Next year it was reconstructed with the first cast iron dished rails by James Outram, their inventor. A wooden railroad long existed at Bath. It was laid down in 1733 by Ralph Allen, who, having gained a fortune by postoffice contracts, acquired and developed extensive quarries of the celebrated Bath stone on Combe down. These being at a great height and away from any regular mode of transit, it became necessary to devise a means of bringing down such a heavy material. The wooden railroad occupied the site of what is now called Prior Park road and was laid partly upon low walls and partly on the ground, like the wagon ways leading to the collieries in the north of England.

The colliery lines about Newcastle used in the eighteenth century rails of beech wood, carefully planed on the top and pegged down to crosspieces, which were even then termed "sleepers." Longitudinal timbers in addition were sometimes used, the extra height being of use in enabling the cross sleepers to be well covered up and protected from the action of the horses' feet. There were usually two lines of rails, the descending one being called the main way, the other the byway. The cars held a Newcastle chaldron, or fifty-three hundredweight, 5,500 pounds. They were built of fir planks, strengthened with iron straps, and had oak or ash shoes. They sloped forward, having slightly larger wheels at that end. This was found to ease the load. The wheels were of cast iron, the rear pair being made solid of pieces of beech wood dovetailed and slamped together. It was supposed that brakes held better on wood than on iron. Some of these wooden lines ended in a short timber viaduct, where the land sloped much to the river, leading to a shipping quay, from which the coal could either be discharged at once down a chute into the "keel" or large which carried it to the ships or stored if no keels were at hand. The wagons opened below to effect this.

In going down hill with a loaded wagon the horse followed behind, so that he might not be knocked down if it got beyond control, which is said to have happened rather frequently. The drivers generally owned the horses, often of a miserable description, and were paid by the trip or "rate."—Railroad Gazette.

**Nests on the Water.** It is almost unthinkable that a bird should build a nest on the water, and that it is exactly what the grebe always do. With reeds, grass and plant stems the grebe makes a regular floating island, somewhat hollowed out on top, usually near the open water of a marshy or reedy lake. We have several kinds of grebes, but their nests are much alike, sometimes moored to the reeds, but usually floating freely on the water.—St. Nicholas.

**The Finish.** "What is a finishing school?" "It is a place where girls who have any lingering respect for their parents go to have it removed."—Life.

**Empty Longevity.** "Pa, Methusalem lived to be very old, didn't he, son, about 900 years, I believe; but then, as far as I can learn, there was just about as much doing per year in those days as there is in five minutes now."—Watson's Magazine.

**Appreciation.** Dear Doctor—Inclosed find check for professional services rendered by you to my late uncle. I thank you for your seal in the matter and shall not fail to recommend you to all my other wealthy relatives.—Meggendorfer Blattler.

Queen Lurline's Wishes-and Mine

At the fancy dress ball the profile of Queen Lurline pleased me greatly, a beautiful line from the gold banded, gem decked forehead to the piquant chin where I remembered years before a dimple had lurked. "Your chin is charmingly the same," I murmured, bowing low before her. "And your cheek, Gordon?" I laughed. Slang from the lips of royalty is delightful; also I was pleased that she had recognized me. I looked with distaste at the crowds. "Do you know a bank whereop the wild thyme grows?" I asked seductively. "I do. Let's find it."



It was down by the lake, and over and around was moonlight caressing Lurline's face, and making her eyes glow like the gems in her dark hair. "It has been nine years," she said presently. "Nine years, two months and a day," I corrected. "Have you received your money's worth?" "I suppose so," she answered, colorlessly. "I used to think if I could have a gold watch and a piano I should be perfectly happy, but when they came so many other things came with them that I felt like the child who has too many gifts at Christmas. I didn't know which one to play with first, and so I got tired of them all."

Her dark eyes held a look that had no right in the eyes of three and twenty. "If youth, beauty and riches cannot bring you contentment you must be hard to please," I said. "She gave an impatient shrug. "And royalty—you forget that or perhaps you didn't know. I suppose I am to be the Princess Casimir."

"Lurline," I exclaimed, "you wouldn't! Why, he is a beast! His name isn't fit to be mentioned in a woman's presence."

"So I've heard," she answered calmly, "but he's a prince. Shouldn't I reward my benefactor by making her a mother in royalty, so to speak? I think I shall tell him yes."

The queen leaned toward me and touched my arm. "Why don't you tell me of yourself, Gordie?" she asked wistfully. "And the old home and the schoolhouse—are they still there? And the winteregreens and the old oak tree?"

He did not know how my arms ached to hold her. "When we were together she was not at home to the prince, for which I was duly thankful, but I exerted all my energies toward making her realize the horror of a union with him. She would not argue, neither would she promise to refuse him. At last I appealed to Mrs. Van Houter. "It's not right of you to let the child sacrifice herself," I blazed. Mrs. Van Houter regarded me lazily. "Would you mind telling me why you don't want Lurline to marry the prince?" "He is a wreck, physical and moral," I answered, trying to keep cool. "He is a drunkard. I should think these are sufficient reasons."

"Have you told them to Lurline?" "Yes, but she is blinded by her gratitude to you. A young girl cannot realize what it means anyway." "Have you no other reason, Gordon?" I felt my face grow hot. "I think you know there is. If it weren't for your wretched money, Mrs. Van Houter, I would marry Lurline Holland if she would let me."

"And what have you to offer her, boy?" "Two clean hands and a tongue that has never spoken evil of a woman and the unimpaired resources of a village doctor," I added bitterly. "Good. I should advise you to tell the child so."

I stared at her; then I took up my hat. "That is impossible, Mrs. Van Houter. I am not a fortune hunter."

Mrs. Van Houter laughed. "Make your mind easy on that score, Gordon. I have lost every cent I had. Only Lurline and I know it yet, but soon—"

I was unforgivingly rude, but I waited to hear no more. I hastened into the garden to Lurline. "Lurline, girl, I want to explain those three wishes—power, position and pelf. It wasn't for myself that I craved them, dear, but because I thought their possession might help me to win you. The barrier is down between us now. My beloved, may I take you back to the old home and the winteregreens? I will be good to you, Lurline."

Into Lurline's face flashed rose color; from her glorious eyes looked heaven. I took her into my arms, that were so glad, so glad, and she whispered: "You didn't ask me my three wishes, Gordie. The first one was you, and the second was you, and the third was you."

THE LIBERTY CAP.

Its Significance Dates Army Back to Early Greek Times.

From very early times one of the distinguishing marks of a slave, both in Greece and oriental countries generally, was the lack of any covering for the head. Accordingly the cap came to be considered the insignia of liberty, and when slaves were given their freedom they were presented with a cap as an emblem of it. In Sparta the helots wore a cap of dogskin, and this was reckoned a badge of servitude, but upon gaining their freedom this was replaced by a cap of a different material of another shape and ornamented with flowers. A similar custom was observed in Rome, where the presentation of the plica, or cap, was always a part of the ceremony of manumitting a slave; hence arose the proverb, "Servus ad plicem vocare." Also on medals the cap is the symbol of liberty and is usually represented as being held in the right hand by the point. When a cap was exposed to the people's view on the top of a spear, as in the case of the conspiracy against Caesar, it was intended as a public invitation to them to embrace the liberty that was offered them. The Goddess of Liberty on Mount Aventine was represented as holding a cap in her hand as a symbol of freedom. The Jacobins wore a red cap during the French revolution, and in England a blue cap with a white border is used as a symbol of liberty. The custom which prevails among university students of wearing a cap is said to have had its origin in a wish to signify that the wearers had acquired full liberty and were no longer subject to the rod of their superiors.

RESTAURANTS.

The First of Them Was Established in Paris in 1755.

For a long time inns and eating houses in France were only intended for the benefit of traveling people, for the people took their meals at home and restaurants were unknown. The first enterprise of the kind was founded in Paris in 1755. A citizen by the name of Boulanger opened in the Rue des Poulies an eating house where soup, meat, fowl and eggs were served. A chronicler relates that meals were served on these on small, round marble tables and everything was scrupulously clean.

Over the entry to this first eating house the proprietor had hung a sign, upon which were the Latin words, "Venite ad me omnes que stomacho laboratis, et ego restaurabo vos" (Come unto me all ye whose stomachs need attention, and I will restore them). This is a parody on the well known Biblical quotation, "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest," only in place of labor and heavy laden he said, "whose stomachs need attention." The word "restaurabo," from the Latin "restaurare" (restore or refresh), was the main characteristic of the new establishment and gave it its name. Boulanger amassed a large fortune, for his enterprise proved eminently successful, but he was soon imitated, some of his imitators becoming more famous than he.

A Child Wonder.

The French Academy of Sciences in 1729 examined the case of a French lad only seven years old who, in all respects save that of intelligence, was the equal of a man of twenty. His remarkable physical development began when he was two years old. At four he could do the farm work of a boy of fifteen or sixteen, and at seven he was a fully grown man. Although his physique was thus remarkably developed, his intelligence was no greater than that of children of the same age. He died before he was twenty. As is usual in such cases of premature development, his strength faded away, and he became prematurely old before other men would attain maturity.

The Pandects of Justinian.

The pandects of Justinian, the most complete body of Roman laws ever collected, were supposed to be lost, but in 1527, when Amald was taken and plundered by the Pisans, a private soldier found a copy, which he sold to an officer for a few pence. The value of the discovery was soon apparent, and the precious volume was taken to Pisa and stored in the city library. When Pisa was stormed by the Florentines in 1455 the precious volume was captured and taken to Florence, where it was placed in the library of the Medici.

Needles.

Needles are all made by machinery. The piece of mechanism by which the needle is manufactured takes the rough steel wire, cuts it into proper lengths, files the point, flattens the head, pierces the eye, then sharpens the tiny instrument and gives it that polish familiar to the purchaser. There is also a machine by which needles are counted, and placed in the papers in which they are sold, these being afterward folded by the same contrivance.

True Wealth.

A man's true wealth is the good he does in this world. When he dies men will ask what property he has left behind him, but angels will inquire, "What good deeds hast thou sent before thee?"—From the Arabic.

Erubescens.

To be content is to be happy, and happiness is one of the three who cannot be bribed; the other two are Love and Death.—Papyrus.

A man cannot leave a better legacy to the world than a well educated family.—Thomas Scott.

We are extremely anxious to have our customers try a package of our most excellent cereal coffee. Dr. Shoop's Health Coffee is designed particularly for nervous trouble, stomach, liver and kidney complaints invariably aggravated by coffee drinking. Health Coffee consists of pure, toasted grains, malt, fruits, etc. The flavor is of true old government Java coffee yet not a grain of true coffee is used. Sold by all dealers.

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Porties wishing to attend the sale will be furnished round trip tickets free of charge by applying to B. & O. Ticket Agent. Don't forget the date, THURSDAY, SEPT. 27, 1906.

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NELLIE CALLAHAN IN "THE TRIUMPH OF BETTY," AT THE GRAND, FRIDAY, SEPT. 28.

Election Officers

Election commissioners have been appointed as follows to hold the Republican primary election Sept. 27, 1906:

- Clark District. Gas House—Thomas L. Anderson, J. E. Kelley, Karl Davis. Fairground—J. I. S. Stealy, C. C. Fittro, B. S. Davis. Court House—Ellsworth Cork, Roy Alexander, Samuel R. Bentley. Coal District. Nutter House—Michael Rooney, P. J. Leydon, Tom Barke. Walker House—E. N. Flowers, C. M. Ernst, L. Wayman Ogden. Ed. Armstrong's—Harry Douds, W. L. Cole, Arthur K. Thorn. Adamston—Dan Cutright, John E. Kidd, John Southern. Wilsonburg, Strother's Store—Jno. B. Strother, H. E. Strother, Dr. D. E. Ritter. Grant District. Mt. Clare—C. E. Feather, James Adkinson, W. P. Weekly. Lost Creek—Wesley M. Bird, C. L. Ladwig, Scott Hall. Eagle District. Lumberport—B. F. Matthews, A. O. Brooks, D. E. Mason. Wyatt—F. W. Cunningham, Geo. H. Berry, J. W. Hess. Robinson School House—Silas Stark, C. T. Harbert, R. G. Robinson. Elk District. Quiet Dell—John Ross, Sidney Haymond, Lewis Cottrill. Romine's Hills S. H.—Jas. N. Lanum, H. C. Martin, Z. W. Curkendall.

- Union District. West Milford—Isaac Goldsberry, Daniel Underwood, W. A. Sturm. Burnside S. H.—Guinn Minter, Wm. J. Law, A. W. Davis. Jarvisville—M. R. Post, Wm. I. Mowrey, James Casey. Simpson District. Grasselli—John G. Lang, E. W. Eakin, John M. Carr. Bridgeport—Jesse G. Lawson, John N. Robinson, Duncan Lodge. Meadowbrook—Wm. Kellison, Oscar Fortney, Rufus Powell. Clay District. Terra Alta—E. W. Thompson, Chas. Swiger, Newton Linville. Enterprise—Arthur Sturm, Ira G. DeVault, Fletcher B. Pigott. Shinnston—B. A. Reader, Allison Robinson, Robert W. Dalby. Gypsy—A. W. Rapp, L. S. Smith, B. L. Duty. Sardis District. Precinct No. 1—H. A. Swiger, A. E. Davison, A. L. Husted. Precinct No. 2—E. E. S. Rodgers, A. P. Bennett, A. T. Williams. Precinct No. 3—O. W. Swiger, M. K. Baker, T. D. Bennett. Tennie District. Salem, Precinct No. 3—Bristol—J. B. Innis, J. T. Young, W. F. Ross. Precinct No. 4—Lynchburg—W. F. Meredith, T. A. Bumble, Jno. F. Clayton. Precinct No. 5—Clay, Precinct No. 1—S. I. Ritter, E. M. Estlack, J. S. Davison. Salem, City Building—R. C. Davis, W. L. Steel, W. E. Parish. S. F. REED, Chairman. C. G. COFFMAN, Secy.

An Insidious Danger. One of the worst features of kidney trouble is that it is an insidious disease and before the victim realizes his danger he may have a fatal malady. Take Foley's Kidney Cure at the first sign of trouble as it corrects irregularities and prevents Bright's disease and diabetes. For sale by Sturm & Wilson.

A man who is in perfect health, & he can do an honest day's work when necessary, has much for which he should be thankful. Mr. L. C. Dodgers, of Branchton, Pa., writes that he was not only unable to work, but he couldn't stoop over to tie his own shoes. Six bottles of Foley's Kidney Cure made him a new man. He says, "Success to Foley's Kidney Cure." Sold by Sturm & Wilson.

A fresh line of Whitman's candy just received by express. Swager's Confectionary. a291f

Stop It! A neglected cough or cold may lead to serious bronchial or lung troubles. Don't take chances when feet security from serious effects of a cold. Sold by Sturm & Wilson.

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