

A CONDUCTOR'S STORY

MONEY COULDN'T STOP THE TRAIN. BUT IT WAS STOPPED.

There's a Grave Somewhere at the Foot of the Long Range of White Capped Mountains Over Which the Trains of the Great Northern Cross.

I never read or hear of the mountains that I do not recall a story told by a conductor of a train on the Great Northern road. We were going to Butte. The train had just crossed the river at Great Falls. From that point the range begins its eastern ascent of the range whose tops are whitened with the snow all the year round. A wide plain spreads out between the line of the road and the range. As the train was getting "a fresh hold on the rails," as one of the party expressed it, the conductor stood on the rear platform of the coach and looked steadily at one spot until it was lost.

"Got a claim anywhere around there?" asked a traveler who had noticed the conductor's longing look.

"A kinder of a claim," he replied, "but not the kind you're thinkin' of."

How he came to tell us makes no difference now. Here is what he told:

"About a year ago, I think it was, a young man was put on my train by the conductor who had brought him to where I take it. He had been east. His folks lived down there, I believe. He had been west a good many years, was a cowboy, then a deputy marshal, then a boss of a ranch and then he got to speculate in Anaconda. He had lived the sort of life out here that a man was expected to live in them days. He was a hard citizen and then a good one. Best if I know just where he quit off, but he did. He finally got to lovin' a girl, and just when he was havin' it the worst way she ups and marries a good for nothin' dude that came out here and got to clerkin' in a raghouse. Then the young man that I am talkin about he goes east to wear out his feelin's, I reckon. And he was gone all summer. They said he was at the seaside. I thought when I heard that as how he would not last long. When a man quits this climate to go to the seaside, there must be something mighty bad about his case. If a man can't get cured here, he needn't go anywhere else.

"Well, when he was put in my care there was four or five of the boys with him. They had heard he was comin' back, and they met him away down this side of St. Paul. And they nursed him all the way and fed him just as if he had been a sick girl. He was lookin out of the window of the car all the time, day and night, but wasn't sayin nothin. When we got to Great Falls, he looked out of the car window and smiled. It was the first time that the boys had seen him do that since they met him, and they thought he was gettin well. He asked 'em to set him up in his berth so he could see.

"And he looked at the mountain tops out there covered with the whiteness of God, and the foot of the mountains that is washed by the purest water this side of the divide. The train was just getting a good hold on the rails when the poor fellow sank back, and the next thing I see the boys was takin the pillar out from under his head. Then I knowed it was all over. Then one of the boys come to me and asked me if I would take \$1,000 to stop the train. I told 'em I couldn't do anything of that sort. They said money was no object. Then I asked 'em what was up, and one of 'em told me that he, meanin the dead man, had made a last request that he be taken from the train and buried in sight of the mountain that had the snow on it, the one that caught his eyes first after he had come over the river. They said they had promised him they would. I asked 'em where they would get a box, and they said a man as good as he was didn't need no box; that the angels would take care of him as soon as he was laid away.

"I asked 'em what they would do if the train wasn't stopped. They held a short parley and said in a most respectful way, which I understood, that they had to carry out the wishes of the deceased at all hazards; that they could stop the train if I didn't. I understood 'em. I pulled the cord and went for'ard, and while the engineer was mendin the locomotive, which got out of sorts just then, the funeral procession moved out, and the dead was buried out there in full sight. It so happened that we got the locomotive fixed just as the funeral was over, and we took the pallbearers into Butte that night.

"And I never pass that spot that I don't look out there where they laid him. I ain't never seen any of the pallbearers since, and I don't know the name of the young man that his grave is green all the year round. I once thought of puttin up a gravestone at the head, but, thinkin I'd be none of my business, and, besides, the boys said the angels was goin to take care of his body, so I thought I wouldn't be intrudin on any angel's business. It was the only time, though, that my locomotive ever got anything the matter with it."—Chicago Tribune.

Insects Used For Medicine.

The cochineal insect is in some cases recognized as a medicine, and at one time had a reputation for wonderful virtues. Honey and wax, often used in pharmacy, are insect products, while galls, used in medicine for their astringent properties and the gallic and tannic acid they furnish, are also the work of insects.—London Tit-Bits.

The application of animals and animal substances to the cure of disease has preceded from the earliest times, though the greater part of such remedies, until recent times, have been founded on either fantastic or superstitious notions.

Mr. Bissell Measured For a Chair.

On the scales Mr. Bissell is undoubtedly the greatest postmaster general the country has ever had. He is considerably over 6 feet perpendicular, and his horizontal measurements have so far been withheld from the public. Unfortunately for him, he found on his arrival at the postoffice department that he not only filled the chair of his predecessor, but considerably overflowed it. In fact the office chair occupied by Mr. Wainmaker, although of the ordinary size, was found so inconveniently small for Mr. Bissell that he immediately secured a requisition for a new chair, to be built for him according to specifications furnished by him.

The new piece of office furniture is to be made of heavy quartered oak, 30 inches across the seat, supported on straight legs 3 by 4 inches, weighing about as much as the heavy mahogany desk before him. It is not the sort of chair that one would twirl carelessly about while engaged in idle conversation and will not be in any danger from the petty thieves of the department, who carry away towels and soap and such like articles. It will, however, be a great comfort for Mr. Bissell, who up to the present time has preferred standing to confining himself to the narrow bounds of the chair of his predecessor.—Washington Cor. Baltimore American.

Tonsils Cauterized In Sleep.

For five months a girl of 13, of good family, has been lying in a state of complete lethargy in a private hospital at Vesinet, outside Paris. The sleeping maiden has been recently restored to consciousness by Dr. Roffeveau, who had charge of her, in a peculiar manner. She usually lay asleep with her mouth wide open and her throat exposed to view. The physician noticed that one of the tonsils was enlarged, so he resolved to cauterize it with a red-hot iron, an operation which would be beneficial to the patient, even if it did not have the effect of terminating her cataleptic condition. After the iron had done its work the girl, who had been previously insensible to the pricking of pins, manifested unmistakable signs of pain and uttered a feeble cry. From that moment she began to return gradually to consciousness and at last awoke, saying to the nun who was taking care of her, "Where am I?" The patient had no recollection or notion of anything that had taken place during the five months in which she was asleep and manifested the greatest surprise when told about her extraordinary long slumber. She is now said to be in a normal state of health, full of spirits and eager to make up for her long silence.—Paris Cor. London Telegraph.

Wolves Chase a Bicycle Rider.

One of the most interesting events in the sporting record of the year was accomplished by Mr. Fred Wishaw, an English bicyclist, who recently distanced five large gray wolves in the district of Pakoff in Russia. We ought to say that, a herd of elk coming along just as Mr. Wishaw's "bike" ran into a snowdrift, the five large gray wolves left off chasing Mr. Wishaw and proceeded to chase the elk so that, speaking with strict technical accuracy, the pursuers saved themselves from the record.

Nevertheless they were distanced, for Mr. Wishaw states that when the five large gray wolves have in sight he was 10 miles from the city of Laxvik, and he calculated that he could cover the distance in 45 minutes. As he was 50 yards ahead of the wolves when the elk came in, Mr. Wishaw distanced them as long as there was any race. We fear that the Russian wolves are not what they were, for in old times the story always ended in the wolves eating the hero.—Boston Transcript.

Pure Milk In Cities.

There is no doubt that purer milk can be got in the cities now than it was possible to find in cities 10 years ago. Formerly all milk came to New York in cans. Now a good deal of it is put into glass jars and sealed at the dairies. A "milk raiser" whose entire product comes to New York once declared that he did not believe that a drop of pure milk got into the city. He confessed that he watered his milk—one quart of water to 24 of milk—and he knew that the peddlers and shopkeepers diluted it still further. The reason that he diluted it was that the middlemen took it for granted that he would and did not allow full pay for what they took. He gets 2 cents a quart for milk in summer and 21 cents in winter.—New York Sun.

Everything Will Cost Money.

If any one thinks he can see the World's Fair for 50 cents, he will find he has made a mistake. The water privilege, the toilet room privilege, the privilege to charge money to sit on the benches in the park and a hundred others have been granted. In many cases the fair directors have not received anything for the grants. In others the amount to be paid is so small in comparison with the lowest estimate of the profits that it would be better if the franchise had been a free gift.

A sanitary company has placed in the various buildings on the grounds 1,000 water closets and lavatories. A fee of 5 and 10 cents will be charged for the use of them.—Chicago Letter.

Sunday and the Fair.

A Milwaukee workman asks that he may work Sundays in order that he may be able to attend the World's Fair on Mondays. A commentary on this from the Sunday closing advocates would be read with great curiosity.—Indianapolis News.

The Rhode Island Pronunciation of Olney

In many sections there is doubt as to the way in which the name of the new attorney general ought to be pronounced. Down in Rhode Island, the chief seat of the family, they call it Oh-ny.—Boston Globe.

Criticism of "Cymbeline."

At one of the performances of "Cymbeline" by Modjeska's company one of the audience heard a man behind him say to another, "What is this piece and where did she get it?" "Oh," answered his companion, "something she picked up, I suppose." All this seems less reprehensible when Dr. Johnson's criticism of "Cymbeline" is recalled. To him it sounded like the creation of a lunatic without a single lucid interval.—Chicago Herald.

How a Fashion Was Started.

During the reign of George III the Duke of York had a duel with Colonel Lennox, with the result that the colonel succeeded in shooting away one of the duke's curls. Hence it became the correct thing to wear a curl on one side of the temple only. We do not know whether this was the origin of the celebrated curl of a deceased prime minister.—London Tit-Bits.

Two Things Without Patents.

The floating dock and the typewriter are among the many important inventions that were hit upon by men who have made no attempt to patent their ideas. A photographer conceived the idea of the floating dock before the device was perfected and put to practical use, and a naval officer thought out a practical typewriter, but was persuaded by friends to abandon his invention as a thing that nobody could be induced to use.—New York Sun.

Some Old Cheeses.

In the cheese regions of Switzerland a custom formerly prevailed for the friends of a bride and bridegroom to join in the presentation on their wedding day of an elaborate cheese. This cheese was used as a family register, on which the births, marriages and deaths were recorded. Some of these old cheeses date back to 1600.—Exchange.

The Russian Spoon.

The Russian spoon, with its oddly twisted handle, is greatly affected by our New York swells. It is made of gold and costs a lot of money. The bottom of the bowl is made of Russian enamel in green and red and has the appearance of being set with emeralds and rubies.—Once a Week.

The Threads of Fungus.

The threads of fungus which flourish upon the roots of oaks and beeches surrounded by decaying leaf mold turn the latter into nourishment for the trees, and the seedlings of the trees are unable to grow amid such surroundings without the aid of the fungi.

The Charm of Dickens.

Perhaps the dominant charm of Dickens' novels lies in the secret of his ability to portray with skill the workings of an affectionate heart. The Cheeryble brothers send out warm sunny rays of loving kindness on every reader of "Nicholas Nickleby." Little Dorrit, God bless her memory, with her sweet, unselfish devotion to her complacent father and thoughtless brothers and sister and witless Maggie, wins the sympathy of every one. Dear old Pegotty, redarmed, a genuine lover; honest Ham and his father; poor little Emly, Agnes and Dora (the juxtaposition does not harm them); the pinched face and willing hands of the Marchioness; Ruth Pinch and her brother—and hosts of other faces shine out with genial warmth from the novelist's pages and become tender household memories. Whenever such hearts are found, in poetry or fiction, in the pages of the novelist or in the busy streets, their power is recognized as unimpaired, beneficent and enduring.

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and have induced many to use it. "Thirty-five years ago this Spring, I was run down by hard work and a succession of colds, which made me so feeble that it was an effort for me to walk. I consulted the doctors, but kept sinking lower until I had given up all hope of ever being better. Happening to be in a store, one day, where medicines were sold, the proprietor noticed my weak and sickly appearance, and, after a few questions as to my health, recommended me to try Ayer's Pills. I had little faith in these or any other medicine, but concluded, at last, to take his advice and try a box. Before I had used them all, I was very much better, and two boxes cured me. I am now 80 years old; but I believe that if it had not been for Ayer's Pills, I should have been in my grave long ago. I buy 6 boxes every year, which make 210 boxes up to this time, and I take no more but without them than without bread."—H. H. Ingraham, Rockland, Me.

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NOTICE.

I HAVE APPOINTED T. J. OSBORNE AS my Agent, to act during my absence, and to file all bills, etc., due me and to be paid. A. MANDICH, Dated Pioche, Nevada, Oct. 19, 1892.

ALL persons indebted to the Pioche Brewery and to the undersigned, will please call and settle immediately, as no further notice will be given. Any and all accounts unpaid January 30th will be collected by me. CHAS. STEIN, Pioche Brewery Saloon, Pioche, Nevada, January 5, 1893.