



YOUR GRANDMOTHER USED A BUCK'S RANGE

Were the best when she was a girl.
Are the best to-day.
Will be the best when your daughter is a woman.

Fifty years of successful stove making goes into each one.
Fifty years of constant improvement, Keeps them at the head of the list.

Rhodes-Futch-Collins Company

Transportation in Days Before the War

By
Wm. H. Trimmer,
Molino, Fla.

I wish I could induce you and every young man to read the articles on "Pioneer Transportation" in McClure's magazine, which interest me individually, having been associated in the years 1857-8 with frontier life.

After spending the terribly cold winter of 1856 in New York City I decided to go west, starting up the Hudson river to Albany, thence to Niagara and Quebec, then back to the states bringing up at Saint Louis in June, 1857. The Pacific railroad was then completed to Jefferson City, Mo. The cars arrived at midnight and passengers bound west were transferred to a big side-wheel boat called the "Platte Valley." This transported us up the Missouri river against a regular spring fresh with floating cotton wood trees and vast masses of debris. Our progress was very slow.

We reached Kansas City, then a town of 500, and while the boat unloaded her freight, I walked up the one street, Choctaw. Proceeding we got to Leavenworth, a small frontier town of about 500 population and so on to St. Joseph and Omaha and Council Bluffs.

Not liking the appearance of Omaha, I concluded to return to Leavenworth. The town was under much excitement as the pro-slavery citizens were in the majority, "Border Ruffian" hostilities had broken out and John Brown, with four of his sons and a crowd of adventurers and some twenty others were causing much terror in the guerilla warfare they

practiced. Leaving the levee one straight street, Cherokee, was built up with shacks and shanties on either side, barrooms and gambling houses, auction sales going on daily and nightly.

Saw John Brown.
In one of these gambling halls I first saw John Brown. I was in there myself playing faro when in rushed Brown and his crowd, demanding liquor and flourishing their big revolvers. The gambling was for the time broken up. The players themselves were a hard set, all armed, every one had a bowie knife and revolver, and they were teamsters, bull whackers and mule skinner. Brown tried to control his men as he did not take any liquor himself but his men made up for it. At this time much bitterness existed as a year before five pro-slavery men living on Pottawatomie creek had been killed and John Brown and his followers were charged with the assassinations.

My gambling adventure did not pan out successful and in ten days spent in Leavenworth I was broke and had to get to work. I was soon introduced into the big supply store of Russell & Waddell, hired for a "bull whacker" and given an outfit of one heavy red flannel shirt, one buffalo robe, one pair cow leather boots and one big six shooter. Cartridges were not known then and we had to mould our own bullets. This outfit was charged to me on account, twenty-eight dollars. I was now turned over to the

wagon master who took me out to his camp, about one mile from town. Here with some others like myself, put into a big pen where my first lesson of yoking up took place, a very difficult and dangerous undertaking as I soon found out. About ten days were spent in this practice, being kept at work morning and evening, our nights spent in gambling.

Start for Laramie.
At last orders to start were given. Our train consisted of twenty-two wagons loaded with flour, meat, barrels of Dexter whiskey and other groceries, bound for Fort Laramie. The wagon master and assistant each rode on horses. We teamsters walked alongside our oxen three yoke to a wagon. The freight was protected by covers of Onaburg sheeting oiled, being rain proof. At dusk camp was made, the big wagons being drawn up in a semi-circle, the tongue of one of the footboards of the other, oxen fed and hitched while surplus feed lasted they were turned loose to graze on the prairie. Fires of buffalo chips, dried, were made in front, all in line, we laying down on our buffalo robe in good weather. One man cooked for the crowd and here I was first introduced to the big camp kettles used. This big contracting firm of Russell, Waddell, & Co. had over 6000 wagons employed, and ten of thousands of big horned Texas steers. The trip to Laramie took over three months—94 days after leaving Leavenworth.

The first sight of buffalo we got was out on the Republican Fork. We were very close to some of this vast herd and could see the animals distinctly. To estimate the number was impossible, but thousands upon thousands rushed past us followed by numerous smaller game, a fire on the prairie causing this stampede.
All of these big freights were hauled by the pound weight. A barrel of

flour to Laramie cost; over \$20.00; a hundred pounds of sugar \$14.00; a six hundred pound piece of bacon for freight alone \$110.00; a barrel of whiskey \$40.00.

Plenty of Game.
The voyage across these magnificent rolling prairies was never to be forgotten. There were the most beautiful wild flowers, sometimes miles of one color then would change to different flowers and color. The grass during a large portion of the trip was green and luxuriant and at the small water courses was timber in narrow skirts on either side, cottonwood, hickory, paw paw, locust. In these places we always found turkeys and our men would kill great, big fellows that would easily weigh twenty pounds. At times the cattle and ourselves suffered for water and many a time I have knelt in a buffalo wallow pushing the green scum aside to gulp down tepid water, inhaling poison at every swallow. Our good shots frequently got a buffalo and fresh meat was then plenty. The extravagant custom existed of taking only the hind quarters and hump, leaving the balance with the hide for the wolves.

From Fort Kearney we traveled many miles along the North Platte river and so into the then territory of Nebraska. After some weeks rest at Fort Laramie we returned empty, following a lot of volunteers and regular United States troops who, under General Harney, had been sent out to Salt Lake to quell some Mormon disturbance. Gen. Harney was then commander of the department of the Oregon. We arrived safely at Fort Leavenworth and three miles from town my services ended with Russell, Waddell & Co.
John Brown's name was often mentioned. He and his gang were raiding and carrying off slaves from planters in Missouri and running them through

CHRISTMAS TREE FOR POOR OF THE CITY

Pres't Ingraham Appoints Committee from United Charities to Look After Work.

President Walker Ingraham, of the Society of United Charities, has appointed the following committee for the collection and distribution of contributions to the Christmas tree for the poor and needy of our city:
Judge E. D. Beggs, Hon. Jas. McHugh, Mr. D. Hale Wilson, Mr. W. C. Mackey, Mr. E. Forchliemer, Mrs. W. A. Blount, Mrs. W. Fisher, Mrs. Sol Cahu, Mrs. F. E. Brawner, Miss Carrie L'Alenberte, Miss Minnie Anderson.
The members of the above committee are requested to meet at the parlors of the Y. M. C. A., corner Palafox and Belmont streets, Tuesday evening, December 12, at 4 o'clock to formulate plans for the work.

Remarkable Cure.

"I was much affected with sciatica," writes Ed. C. Nud, Iowaville, Sedgewick, Co. Kan., "going about on crutches and suffering a great deal of pain. I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment, which relieved me. I used three 50c bottles. It is the greatest liniment I ever used; have recommended it to a number of persons; all express themselves as being benefited by it. I now walk without crutches, able to perform a great deal of light labor on the farm." 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by all druggists.

Doll Fair.

The annual doll fair of the Ladies' Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church, will be held on Dec. 19. The usual refreshments and fancy articles will be on sale. The public is cordially invited.

PIANO AND ORGANS.

Cash or easy terms. All piano tuning and repair work guaranteed. CLUTTER & RUSHING, 12 E. Government. Phone 476.

TORTOISE SHELL.

The Best Imitation of It Is Made of Celluloid.

"Celluloid makes the best imitation of tortoise shell," says a manufacturer. "It has the requisite hardness and luster and approximates so closely to the real shell that although I have handled both products many years, I cannot always tell one from another at a glance. Of course I can do so by making a close inspection. The ability to distinguish shell from celluloid by the appearance can only be acquired by years of experience in handling both.

"The principal way in which celluloid is revealed is in its susceptibility to the influence of heat. Hold a celluloid comb in your hand and the heat of the body will cause the teeth, after a few moments, to give a rattle, and there is not the elasticity in springing back that you will observe in real shell. Tortoise shell will not bend unless subjected to heat at the boiling point. There is, of course, a great difference in the celluloid employed in manufacturing combs, and some of the combs that are put out under that name are not entitled to the designation. Even when the celluloid is of the highest grade it then should be seasoned from three to twelve months in order that there may be no danger of its shrinking."—Jewelers' Circular.

A JAPANESE LEGEND.

The Girl Fish and the Shinto Shrine at Choshi.

Most Shinto shrines in Japan have a story. Here is one which is told of the leading shrine of Choshi: A traveler was entertained in the home of a rich man. A daughter of the host fell in love with the traveler, who did not care for her because she was ugly. Being under obligation to the family, he could not ignore the girl's love, so he told her that he meant to drown himself the next day. She decided to do the same and did it. The traveler gave up the idea—if he ever had it.

One of the gods changed the girl into a fish, and to this day the fishermen of the town often see that particular fish in the waters near their shores. Sometimes she is caught in the nets, but she is always reverently returned to the sea. A shrine was erected on the hill above the town and dedicated to the memory of the girl fish.

Before starting out to sea the fishermen go to this shrine to pray for good luck, and in their absence the families continue to invoke the favor of the god. A storm at sea or absence of good luck means that the fish god has been offended and must be appeased by special offerings.—Chicago News.

to Canada.

Returning to the states in the summer of 1858, I got back to New York and joined an expedition going up the coast to observe a transit of Venus, then later entered the United States Coast Survey and was given a tidal station at Hallett's Point, in Long Island, opposite Hell Gate, where the terrible rocks called then the Hen and Chickens obstructed the entrance to the East River and New York harbor.

In October, 1859, while at Key West, we got the news about the attack on Harper's Ferry, made by John Brown.

BLOOD POISON THE BLACK FLAG

The black flag is an emblem of horror and dread. When it is hoisted by an army, the order has gone forth that "no quarter" will be given, everything must be destroyed. Helpless women and children, as well as opposing soldiers, meet the same fate, and a trail of desolation, suffering and death is left behind. Contagious Blood Poison is the black flag of the great army of disease. This vile disorder is known as the blackest and most hideous of all human afflictions, overthrowing its victims and crushing out the life. It is no respecter of persons; no matter how pure the blood may be or how innocently the disease is contracted, when this awful virus enters the circulation the hideous, hateful and humiliating symptoms begin to appear, and the sufferer feels that his very presence is polluting and contaminating! Usually the first sign of the disease is a little sore or ulcer, but as the blood becomes more deeply poisoned the severer symptoms are manifested, the mouth and throat ulcerate, the glands in the groins swell, a red rash breaks out on the body, the hair and eyebrows come out, and often the body is covered with copper-colored spots, pustular eruptions and sores. In its worst stages the disease affects the nerves, attacks the bones and sometimes causes tumors to form on the brain, producing insanity and death. Not only those who contract the poison suffer, but unless the virus is driven from the blood the awful taint is handed down to offspring, and they are its innocent victims. Blood Poison is indeed a "black flag." Mercury and Potash, so often used, never can cure the trouble. These minerals merely drive the symptoms away for awhile and shut the disease up in the system, and when they are left off it returns worse than before. This treatment not only fails to cure blood poison but eats out the delicate lining of the stomach and bowels, produces chronic dyspepsia, loosens the teeth and frequently causes mercurial rheumatism to add to the patient's suffering. S. S. S., the great vegetable medicine, is the conqueror of this vile disease. It goes down to the very root of the trouble and cures by cleansing the blood of every particle of the poison. S. S. S. does not hide or cover up anything but clears the entire circulation of the virus and puts the system in good healthy condition. It cures safely as well as certainly, because there is not a particle of mineral in it. We offer a reward of \$1,000.00 for proof that S. S. S. is not purely vegetable. When the blood is purified and strengthened with this great remedy the symptoms all pass away and no sign of the disease is ever seen again; nor is there left the least trace to be handed down to posterity. Special book with instructions for self-treatment and any medical advice desired will be sent without charge to all who write.

Several years ago I had blood poison and my flesh was in an awful condition. Great sores would break out and nothing I put on them would do any good. My hair and eyebrows fell out and I was a fright. My mouth was so sore I had to live on milk and water. I took Mercury for a long time and instead of getting better I continued to grow worse and my arms and hands became solid sores. My legs were drawn so I could not walk and I felt that my time was short here if I did not get some relief. I began to use your S. S. S. and it helped me from the start. After taking it while the sores all healed, my rheumatism was cured and to-day I am a strong, well man. It got all the mercury out of my system and it cured me sound and well. ADAM SCHNABEL, Evansville, Ind. No. 211 Mary St.

S.S.S.

PURELY VEGETABLE.
great remedy the symptoms all pass away and no sign of the disease is ever seen again; nor is there left the least trace to be handed down to posterity. Special book with instructions for self-treatment and any medical advice desired will be sent without charge to all who write.

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If so, you will do it with the intention of improving upon present conditions. Our part is to interest you in our ability to improve and perfect your sanitary equipment.

Many families pay out yearly for doctor bills, due to sickness caused by the deadly sewer gases which enter the home on account of poor and defective plumbing, more than the difference between the cost of the cheapest and the best work.

You cannot have too many safeguards for the health and happiness of yourself and family. Of these safeguards, the sanitary equipment of your home is unquestionably the most important and can be securely trusted to us.

We do but one kind of work—the best—and use the famous "Standard" Porcelain Enameled Ware, every piece of which is guaranteed by the manufacturers to be strictly first quality. Let's talk it over.

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