A STAGE COACH INCIDENT.

It was a ride of thirteen miles by stage, and as we all got seated the driver counted up and said there were four of us and one old woman.

"No ass, if you please," replied the old lady, as she pushed her umbrella under the seat. "I've got a right to travel if I pay for it, and none of my relashuns never had to drive a stage, either!"

"Perhaps they didn't know enough!" he growled as he shut the door.

"Perhaps three of my brothers were not constables, you sassy, red-headed man!" she exclaimed, as she pushed a big satchel over my knees. "And perhaps my first husband didn't hold the situation of postmaster, and my second didn't go to the Legislature! Oh, we are an ignorant family, we are!"

The driver didn't have time to say further, but as he climbed up and started off it was plain to the rest of us that he meant to have his revenge.

It wasn't five minutes before the wheels struck a stone, raised the left hand side of the coach a foot high.

"Great catnip! but is anyone killed!" screamed the old lady, as she went down.

All of us were living. Looking around to make sure of this fact, she continued:

"I wonder if we struck a spur of the Rocky Mountains? I think I shall see the boss of this road when we get to K——, and have that driver discharged to once. Such jostling around as that will burst that satchel and like enough mash them boiled eggs all over my deep-mourning bonnet."

There was deep silence for the next fifteen minutes. Some were recovering from the jolt, some looking at the corn-fields, and the old lady was about to remove her spectacles when one of the hind wheels fell into a deep rut.

"My soul! but was that an earthquake?" screamed the old lady. "I felt every tooth in my head give way then! Is any one mortally injured to death?"

No one answered. Selecting a red-faced man from Cleveland, the woman pointed to him, and said:

"When I ask you a question why don't you answer? Do you think you own all this world and Canada besides?"

"I am all right," he gruffly replied.

"Well, I'm not anyways glad to hear it. You don't look to me like a good member of society. I've been looking at you pretty closely, and I'd be almost willing to swear that you was an escaped pirate!"

He didn't reply. He didn't smile, nor let on that he heard her at all, and each one of the rest realized that his own turn would soon come. We were as solemn as quakers when the wheels struck another stone.

"Garters and galluses!" shrieked the female, as she was thrown against the side of the coach. "I've broke three ribs and swallowed my spectacles, and I call for the perlice!"

No one moved, but each one pretended not to have seen or heard her. She found her spectacles in her lap, discovered, after feeling around, that her ribs were all right, and reaching over she cuffed a man from Montreal on the head, and cried out:

"Didn't you hear my wails of agony?"

"Beg pardon, madam," he replied, as he faced her.

"I don't care whether you beg my pardon or not; you are a nice man to sit here like an old wood-shed while I am being crippled for life! Didn't I say that three of my ribs were broken?"

"I—I don't know," he stammered.

"If you don't understand the English language you'd better have a Pawnee Injun travel around with you!" she observed.

"Thank you," he replied.

"I don't want any of your thanks, sir! The more I sit and look at you the more I suspect that you have been in State's prison for murder!"

He turned very red in the face and bit at his mustache, but the Ohio man winked to him not to pursue the argument farther.

Half an hour later the stage rolled into a small village, and as the vehicle halted in front of the hotel the horses were pulled up so suddenly that all of us were thrown forward.

"Help! Murder! Perlice!" screamed the old lady, as she bumped against a consumptive-looking young man who clerked in a Pittsburg store.

No one minded her voice until she gave the clerk a kick on the shins and spunkily exclaimed:

"Boy! didn't you hear my shrieks of mortal anguish? Will you sit there like a shingle on the vast prairie and not care whether I live or die?"

"Be careful who you kick, madam!" he retorted.

"Don't talk back to me, you pale-faced infant! I'm old enough to be your great-grandfather, and if you give me any sass I'll make your knees knock your teeth out!"

"And I don't want you to pass me, either!" he exclaimed.

His life was saved only by the fact that the landlord and others came out just then and wanted to know what the row was about.

The driver was ready to start in another minute, and when the wheels turned each man had his head out of the window, and was trembling in fear. I was the only one left unscathed by her vigorous tongue, and when three or four miles had been left behind, and she seemed to have gone to sleep, I felt relieved.

"Great hens! but who has been smoking an old clay pipe in this stage?" she suddenly howled, giving each one of us a start.

No answer.

"Didn't you hear me talking?" she exclaimed, raising her voice a note higher.

If we did we didn't answer.

"I demand to know who has dared to smoke cheap tobacco in an old clay pipe in the presence of a lady!" she continued, giving each man an awful look.

We didn't say.

She looked from man to man, shut her teeth together, and I saw that she meant me.

"You miserable scalaway of the howling wilderness——"

I stopped her there with a gesture, opened the door and jumped out, and the last I saw of her or heard her voice she was reaching for the clerk, and saying:

"Boy, I'll learn you to sit there and grin?"

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(Oct. 6, 1877-y1)

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Railroad Guide.

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5:17a. m., via L. V. arrive at Phila. at 645 a. m.
7:42 a. m. via L. V. " " 11:05 a. m.
11:07 p. m. via L. V. " " 2:10 p. m.
2:25 p. m. via L. & S. " " 5:40 p. m.
6:29 p. m. via L. V. " " 9:50 p. m.

Returning, leave depot at Perks and American sts., Phila., at 8:15 and 9:45 a. m., 2:15, p. m.

Jan. 1, 1877. ELLIS CLARK, Agent.

PHILA. & READING RAILROAD.

Arrangement of Passenger Trains.

NOVEMBER, 5TH, 1877.

Trains leave ALLENTOWN as follows:—

(VIA PERKIOMEN BRANCH.)

For Philadelphia, at 6.50, 11.05, a.m., *3.15 and 5.55 p. m.

SUNDAYS.

For Philadelphia at 3.25 p. m.

(VIA EAST PENNA. BRANCH.)

For Reading, † 2.30, 5.50, 9.05 a m., 12.15, 2.10, 4.30 and 9.05 p.m.

For Harrisburg, 2.30 5.50, 9.05 a. m., 12.15, 4.30 9.05 p. m.

For Lancaster and Columbia, 5.50, 9.05 a.m. and 4.30 p. m.

† Does not run on Mondays.

SUNDAYS.

For Reading, 2.30 a.m. and 9.05 p.m.

For Harrisburg, 2.30 a. m. and 9.05 p. m.

Trains FOR ALLENTOWN leave as follows:

(VIA PERKIOMEN BRANCH.)

Leave Philadelphia, 7.30 a. m., 1.00, *3.30 and 5.15 p. m.

SUNDAYS.

Leave Philadelphia, 8.00 a. m.

(VIA EAST PENNA. BRANCH.)

Leave Reading, 7.45, 7.45, 10.35 a m., 4.00, 6.10 and 10.20 p m

Leave Harrisburg, 5.00, 7.20 a. m., and 1.40, 3.20 p. m.

Leave Lancaster, 7.30 a. m., and 3.25 p. m.

Leave Columbia, 7.20 a. m., and 3.15 p. m.

SUNDAYS.

Leave Reading, 7.30 a.m.

Leave Harrisburg, 5.20 a.m.

Trains marked thus (*) run to and from depot 9th and Green streets, Philadelphia, other trains to and from Broad street depot.

The 6.50 a. m. and 5.55 p. m. trains from Allentown, and the 7.30 a. m. and 5.15 p. m. trains from Philadelphia, have through cars to and from Philadelphia.

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