

The Gauge of the Railways of the Future.

Under this head Mr. R. F. Fairlie, one of the ablest of English civil engineers, publishes an important article in the *Engineer* for September 23, in which he argues with great force and clearness that "every inch added to the width of a gauge beyond what is absolutely necessary for the traffic adds to the cost of construction, increases the proportion of dead weight, increases the cost and danger of working, and in consequence increases the tariffs to the public, and by so much reduces the useful effect of railways;" and that, taking the average of the circumstances under which railways are built, the cost will be found to vary nearly as the gauge." He asserts that English railways have been built in flagrant violation of these principles, and illustrates his argument in favor of narrower gauges by an analysis of the business of the London and Northwestern Railway, the good management of which is "universally admitted." He shows that "if the gauge of this road were 3 feet instead of 4 feet 8 1/2 inches, its goods traffic could be hauled at half the present cost, with half the present motive power, and in such a way as to reduce the present tonnage by one-half, and to remove the necessity for the heavy expense that is now being incurred in the construction of a third line of rails." The goods traffic on this road is estimated at ten million tons per annum, requiring seventy million tons of iron to haul it; but in order to avoid all risk of exaggeration, Mr. Fairlie estimates the dead weight at forty million tons, and the whole gross weight hauled by the engines at fifty million tons, at an average speed of twenty-five miles an hour. The average distance traversed by each ton is about thirty-eight miles, at an average cost of 1 1/2 p. per ton. The cars employed average four tons in weight, and carry one ton for every mile run.

"The speed in each case up to forty miles per hour is assumed as being equal. The cars for a line of three feet gauge weigh each one ton, and carry a maximum load of three tons. Supposing that the same number of cars and trains were run on the narrow as on the broad gauge, it follows that the average one of merchandise now carried could easily be taken in a car weighing one ton instead of four tons, and that the gross load passing over the line for one year would be only twenty million tons instead of fifty million, while the same amount of paying load would be carried in either case. The haulage cost being the same whether the tons hauled consist of paying or non-paying loads, it follows that the expense would be reduced to two-fifths of what it now is. This does not include the enormous saving in wear and tear which would arise from hauling twenty million tons instead of fifty million. From the foregoing the fact is established that the 3 feet gauge can produce twenty-five million net out of a gross tonnage of fifty million, while the 4 feet 8 1/2 inch gauge, to produce the same result, would have to haul one hundred and twenty-five million, and at a cost increased in the same proportion."

If Mr. Fairlie's conclusions are correct, and they seem to be, they are of great importance not only to this country, but to South America, Asia, and Australia—in fact, to all countries not fully supplied with railways. He claims that these indispensable adjuncts of commerce and intercommunication, instead of costing \$100,000 per mile, as they have in England, India, and the British colonies generally, can be made cheaply and at the same time thoroughly efficient; and those who aver to the contrary are, in fact, enemies to progress and to civilization. There is no country too poor to have railways sufficient for its requirements, and railways furnish the cheapest possible mode of transportation when they are not hampered down by the results of that incompetence and extravagance which we so often see associated together.—*New York Sun.*

Dogs, Socially Considered.

"I think," says Dr. John Brown, of Edinburgh, who of all prose writers has written with the most hearty and delightful appreciation of dogs, "I think every family should have a dog. It is like having a perpetual baby; it is the plaything and cronies of the whole household, and keeps them all young; and then, he tells no tales, betrays no secrets, never sulks—asks no troublesome questions, never gets into debt, never comes down late to breakfast, is always ready for a bit of fun, lies in wait for it, and you may, if choleric, to your relief, kick him instead of some one else, who would not take it so meekly, and, moreover, would certainly not, as he does, ask your pardon for being kicked."

Next to a merry child, we do not know so good and healthful a companion for a man as a dog. He does not call over the roll of your sins, with dolorous intonation, nursing and petting them by recital, nor does he anger you by combatting your splenetic fancies. He just ignores them so innocently that you ignore them too. If, after a convivial evening, you awake with a pound of lead in the epigastric regions, spiders in your eyes, and mephitic vapors curling through your brain; if the day looks cold, and dark, and dreary, and you feel half inclined to try the "bare bolting" remedy, rather than draw on your clothes, and open the door to your dog. See what a delicious good-morning he has for you. How he leaps upon you, and sprinkles you all over with cool fragrant dew, which has been brushed from his eyes and whiskers! How his eyes flash, and his tail wags like an excited pendulum, as he winds up his welcome with a series of acrobatic somersaults.—*Pennsylv. Magazine.*

According to the California papers, the annual production of gold in that State has in eight years' time fallen from \$25,000,000 to \$18,400,000, and has now become an ordinary occupation, yielding no more than an average remuneration, and not so much as many other trades. The business, it is stated, has passed under the control of large capitalists, and the miners receive wages of \$2.75 a day.

NEWS SUMMARY.

THE WAR.

The steamship *Hermann*, of the North German Lloyd, which left New York on the evening of the 26th of September for Bremen, has arrived at the latter port in safety. Her officers report no blockaders in sight of the coast, and no French cruisers were encountered on the voyage. Commerce with Germany may be regarded as fully resumed.

Prince Napoleon, who recently arrived in London, is actively intriguing for the restoration of the Bonapartes. The Emperor himself declines to sanction the schemes of the Prince.

Advices from the city of Paris represent the people as steadfast, quiet, and orderly, and without any anxiety on the question of food. They claim to be fully prepared for any assault the Prussians may make.

Advices from various parts of France repeat the statement that the Prussians are committing the greatest atrocities upon helpless towns where the fracturing of their gain advantages.

Later advices have been received from the army besieging Metz. Up to Thursday last the Prussians had burnt twenty small villages in that neighborhood, and executed one hundred and fifty peasants for carrying on illicit warfare. Marshal Bazaine's soldiers are said to be greatly dissatisfied with the situation, and had counselled a surrender.

The French army of the Loire were driven out of Orleans after nine hours' fighting, and Orleans was subsequently stormed. The Prussians took upwards of ten thousand prisoners. Their loss was small.

The obstacles to the conveyance and planting of the Prussian siege guns have been so far overcome that the cannonade before Paris may be momentarily expected.

Information from Lyons shows that the city is prepared to resist any force the Prussians can send against it. The heights near the city have been strongly fortified, and entrenched camps have been constructed and heavy guns placed in position. The entire population are armed and are drilling day and night.

A detachment of three thousand Germans under the command of Prince Albert, with artillery, have marched on Rouen, making exhaustive requisitions on the French.

The French fortresses on the Belgian frontier—Mezières, Manhege, Poeroy, Donai, Valenciennes, Lille, etc.—are prepared for a siege. The bombardment of the first named is imminent.

Garibaldi has been appointed to command the irregular forces in the Vosges, with a brigade of Gardes Mobile attached.

It is rumored that General Boyer has been sent by Bazaine to royal headquarters at Versailles, to treat for the surrender of Metz. General Fleury, after a visit to Napoleon at Wilhelmshöhe, has gone to St. Petersburg.

It is said that negotiations looking to peace are going on actively, though the people of Paris seem to be determined to oppose any peace based upon the cession of French territory or in any way humiliating.

The French fleet is again assembling off Dunkirk. This fact, coupled with the unexpected arrival of a squadron in the North Sea, causes the Germans to again remove the lights and restore the torpedoes and other obstacles in the Elbe. The squadron in the North Sea is accompanied by flat-bottomed boats. The Germans apprehend mischief.

Russia has rejected M. Thiers' project for a congress of the Great Powers to settle questions between France and Prussia, unless the treaty of 1856 can be revised by the same body.

A despatch has been received announcing another successful sortie by the Parisians. The loss of the Prussians is put at 3,000.

GENERAL NEWS.

Prof. Young, of Dartmouth College, is to go to Malaga, in Spain, in the expedition of the United States Coast Survey, for the purpose of observing the total eclipse of the sun on the 22d of December. He is to have charge of the spectroscopic observations.

The Council of the Cherokee Nation has passed resolutions authorizing the principal chiefs to inform the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of their willingness to receive the North Carolina Cherokees into their nation.

The Southern Commercial Convention met at Cincinnati, October 3. About one hundred and fifty delegates were present at the opening. Hon. Geo. H. Pendleton delivered the address of welcome.

The *Vicksburg Times* says that every steamboat and railroad car is loaded with emigrants to Texas.

Proclamation by the President.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—The following proclamation has been issued by the President to-day:

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, Divers evil-disposed persons have, at sundry times, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, begun, or set on foot, or provided, or prepared the means for military expeditions or enterprises to be carried on, against the territories or dominions of Powers, with whom the United States are at peace; by organizing bodies, or pretending to have powers of Government over portions of the territories or dominions of Powers with whom the United States are at peace; or by being, or assuming to be, members of such bodies, by levying or collecting money for the purpose, or for the alleged purpose of using the same in carrying on military enterprises against such territories or dominions; by enlisting and organizing armed forces to be used against such Powers; and by fitting out, and equipping, and arming vessels to transport such organized armed forces to be employed in hostilities against such Powers; and

Whereas, It is alleged, and there is reason to apprehend that such evil-disposed persons have at sundry times, within the territory and jurisdiction of the United States, violated the laws thereof by accepting and exercising commissions to serve by land or by sea against Powers with whom the United States are at peace; by enlisting themselves or other persons to carry on war against such Powers; by fitting out and arming vessels with intent that the same shall be employed to cruise or commit hostilities against such Powers, or by delivering commissions within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States for such vessels, to the extent that they might be employed as aforesaid; and

Whereas, Such a course of violation of the laws of the United States in such cases made and provided, and are done in disregard of the duties and obligations which all persons residing or being within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States owe thereto, and are condemned by all right-minded and law-abiding citizens;

Now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare and proclaim that all persons heretofore found, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, committing any of the aforesaid violations of the sovereignty of the United States, for which punishment is provided by law, will be rigorously prosecuted therefor, and, upon conviction and sentence to punishment, will not be entitled to expect or receive the clemency of the Executive to save them from the consequences of their guilt; and I enjoin upon every officer of this Government, civil and military, to use all efforts in his power to arrest, for trial and punishment, every such offender against the laws, providing for the performance of our sacred obligations to friendly Powers.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this twelfth day of October and year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and of the independence of the United States of America the ninety-fifth.

U. S. GRANT.

By the President,
HAMILTON FISH, Sec'y of State.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

PRESERVING FARM TOOLS.

Every farmer should have a can of linseed oil and a brush on hand, and whenever he buys a new tool he should soak it well with oil and dry it by the fire or in the sun before using. The wood by this treatment is toughened and strengthened, and rendered impervious to water. Wet a new hay rake, and when it dries it will begin to be loose in the joints; but if well oiled, the wet will have but slight effect. Shovels and forks are preserved from checking and cracking in the top of the handle by oiling; the wood becomes as smooth as glass by use, and is far less liable to blister the hand when long used. Ax and hammer handles of iron break off where the wood enters the iron; this part particularly should be toughened with oil, to secure durability. Oiling the wood in the eye of an ax will prevent its swelling and shrinking, and sometimes getting loose. The tools on a large farm, and a large stock of money; they should be of the most approved kinds. It is poor economy at the present extravagant price of labor to set men to work with ordinary, old-fashioned implements. Laborers should be required to return their tools to the convenient places provided for them; after using, they should be put away clean and bright. The mold boards of plows are apt to get rusty from one season to another, even if sheltered; they should be brushed over with a few drops of oil when put away, and will then remain in good order till wanted.—*Farm Journal.*

HOW LITTLE LAND WILL KEEP A COW.

On the 1st day of June last I commenced cutting clover for one cow confined in a yard inclosed by a high tight board fence, with a stable attached in which she had been fed. She had no feed but freshly-cut clover from the 1st of June to the 15th of October, and all taken from one-fourth of an acre of ground. She has averaged eighteen quarts of strained milk per day, from which my wife has made eight pounds of butter per week, during the four and a half months. The cow is five years old; and a cross of the Ayrshire and Durham. She has given more milk, more butter, and of a better quality, than she has ever done on pasture. In one-eight of an acre I have raised 150 bushels of sugar beets and carrots, which with the two tons of hay will keep her handsomely through the balance of the year. The labor of cutting clover for the cow is less than that of driving her three-fourths of a mile to pasture; besides, the manure saved is quite an item. In the dairy districts, the usual estimate is four acres to the cow, on the hay and pasture system, whereas by soiling and raising roots five-eighths of an acre is found to be sufficient. I will state further, what I believe from nearly 30 years' experience in farming, that there is no crop so valuable for soiling as clover, no crop so many pounds of which, and of equal value, for milk and butter, can be produced from an acre of ground. Sweet corn is a good crop for late feeding where clover will not grow, but not profitable for winter feeding.—*American Stock Journal.*

The Boston reporters talk of getting up a new badge, and some one suggests a pump in active motion.

Chloroforming a Crazy Man with a Syringe.

There is confined at our Alms House a man who is mad as a March hare. He is religiously crazy, very volatile, ugly in temper, and filthy beyond description. Yesterday it became necessary to have him taken from the cell where he is thoroughly cleaned. Dr. Ward tried all the persuasion he was capable of to induce the madman to be quiet and allow himself to be taken care of, but the poor fellow's mind was wandering among the ruined walls of Zion, where the serpents hiss and spit, and the birds of evil hide, and he became violent and dangerous. It was also ascertained that the madman had secreted in the nasty straw of his cell a razor and other things. It was concluded to be a good plan to try the persuasive influence of chloroform, and a hole was bored in the floor over his cell with an inch and a quarter auger. As soon as the hole was made, the cry was made to stop, and with rags by means of a stick that he had procured, and the doctors had a lively time. Dr. Bissell, who was present, produced from among his repository of instruments, a machine like a garden syringe, and came to the little half-moon hole in front of the cell. The machine was full of chloroform. The man, exulting in his strategy and throwing things around in a loose and unpleasant manner, presented a full face front to the hole in the floor, when the doctor drove the contents of the machine. It struck him fair and filled his beard and moustache, and very soon he became quiet as a lamb under the astonishing novelty of treatment. After he had been subdued, he was brought out of his cell and thoroughly washed all over and put into clean clothing and transferred to another cell which had been prepared, there to stay until another removal shall be necessary.—*New Haven News, Oct. 11.*

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It is harmless to the most Delicate Child; IT CONTAINS NO OPIUM IN ANY FORM! It is sold by Medicine Dealers generally.

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