

The Home Reading Circle

American and Foreign Travel Compared.

The Observations of Chauncey M. Depew on This Interesting Subject.

From the Magazine of Travel.

The prophet is never truly appreciated in his own country, we are told, and verily it seemeth true. The prophet may be a very proper and capable person, and yet his fellow-countrymen will turn from him...

The English is perhaps better than the Continental railway, the reason probably being that the English road is not hampered by state ownership...

THE COMPARTMENT EVIL.

Of the compartment system which obtains abroad, enough can be said in denunciation; it is the most unpleasant, inconvenient, and dangerous feature of foreign management...

Americans have become so accustomed to toilet luxuries on the cars, that they now regard them as necessities, and the absolute lack of such conveniences in foreign trains is difficult to appreciate...

In the matter of speed the English railways are equal to ours, and on some trains the rate is considerably higher. On the continent, however, the average speed of all passenger trains is not equal to that of the American...

Another striking peculiarity of the continental railway system of fees by which station and train officials very largely augment their regular salaries...

he is sure to be jammed into a compartment already overcrowded, or left behind. While this may not happen often at a junction point, where another car can be attached to the train, I have seen it happen frequently at way stations...

An incident connected with the fee system, at once amusing and annoying, had a friend of mine as its hero. The scene was the depot at Frankfurt; my friend was about to enter a compartment where there were several vacant places, when he saw one of the occupants...

UNDER ARREST.

Another instance of collision with the powers occurred also in Germany. A party of American students, traveling through the country, reached the station just as their train was starting...

The practice not only produces the results mentioned, but applies with equal force to the baggage question. The liberal fee-giver, who is almost always an American, secures prompt attention at the hands of the baggage-master and his assistants...

OPERATIVES UNPROTECTED. No American railway man who visits Europe can help feeling great sympathy for the engineers and firemen everywhere, as he sees them stand on the foot-boards of their locomotives, with only a screen in front to protect them from rain, snow, and the cold wind...

When on the continent, I have often been asked, why are the railroad companies so opposed to the ownership of railroads by the government...

When the railway officials of the monarchial countries of the continent constitute the strongest bulwark of the government and of monarchy, I need not picture the result in this country where the seven hundred thousand or more employees of our railroads to be suddenly, or in ever so deliberate a way, transformed into government officials...

prevailing, intelligent, and ever-present force from one end of the country to the other, controlling the machinery of the party in power, using their offices to perpetuate such power...

BREAKFAST INJURES HEALTH.

Dr. Dewey Tells of the Benefits to Be Derived From Abstinence.

About thirty friends were gathered in the cozy parlors of Dr. S. A. Edson last evening to listen to a talk by Dr. E. H. Dewey, of Meadville, Pa., who has been her guest and the guest of Mrs. Alice Birney during the past week. His subject was the no-breakfast system, which is now attracting much attention. The closest attention was shown by those present, and a number went home with the laughing remark that tomorrow they would go to their work without breakfast...

WERE X-RAY GHOSTS.

A Wonderful and Startling Display Which Becomes Simple Enough When You Understand How It Was Achieved.

In the Journal des Debats M. Henri de Parville gives an account of a recent spirit manifestation in Paris cleverly produced by X rays. "The spectators," said M. de Parville, "were ushered into a parlor in which there was an abundance of vases and artistic glassware. In a corner there was an apparatus about as big as an ordinary magic lantern enveloped in black stuff. The guests numbered about twenty."

The lights were extinguished just as in the case of a regular spirit séance. A sort of rattling was heard, and immediately afterward a gigantic and luminous hand passed over the heads of the assistants. Evidently it almost touched some of them, and was quickly suppressed. "Don't be afraid," said the host, "it is not the hand of a ghost; it will show it to you in the light by and by."

At the same moment a flock of luminous visions appeared and flew about in all directions. An old habitue of the boulevard remarked that he was with the Davenportes. "Not at all," said the host, "there never was a ghost in this house. And the visions disappeared as silently as they had come. Then an immense globe descended from the ceiling like a ball of phosphorus, oscillating like the pendulum of a clock. A luminous bell appeared in front of this globe and made regular bells to it. We could see the tongue moving while the globe waited around."

DARKNESS, THEN LIGHT.

"Then again all was darkness. Gradually the light returned in an in-come in the corner of a velvet portiere a human form appeared at first vague and vaporous, hardly distinguishable, but soon its outlines became clear and it advanced. A lady beside me stepped back. It was certainly she who was not the only one for we could hear the noise of her feet on the carpet. She advanced a few steps and then stopped. It was a tall woman. Her face had a greenish pallor; and what an extraordinary look it had. Her eyes were not human eyes, but could only see two black holes under the eyelids. The mouth was closed; the hair was phosphorescent. A long, luminous veil enveloped this animated statue, and in the folds of the veil little spots of light appeared, like stars, and her right arm slowly and flexibly raised from her hand. There was no applause; all was hushed. The silent and severe apparition was watched with intense interest. A song sounded. The apparition receded gently, and gradually faded out of sight. "Once more there was a noise of moving chairs, and we distinctly heard a sigh of relief. In the center of the room an immense and luminous band of light appeared with its ends hanging upon which was written 'X-rays.' "Then the lights were turned on, and the parlor appeared in all its splendor. The host arose. The scene is over," he said, "there was no spiritism about it, no occultism, nothing supernatural; it showed what X rays can do, and that is all."

Spring Crockery Sale.

Starts today. The news of this offering should make every housewife hasten to get her share of these matchless bargains. We are always ready to take advantage trade chances.

Here's an example: Ten crates of Crockery shipped to Chicago, were not delivered, owing to some hitch about the payment. The shippers, the Abram French Co., of Boston, resold the lot to us at one-third off the import price—for cash. So back they came, and your chance at them begins today.

Open Stock

From Meekin's famous pottery in England. Their new "Gertrude" pattern, at less than two-thirds their value. Semi-porcelain, warranted not to craze. Decorated in gold and colors.

5-inch Plates..... 60c  
6-inch Plates..... 75c  
7-inch Plates..... 1.00  
8-inch Plates..... 1.15  
9-inch Plates..... 1.30  
Cups and Saucers..... 1.50  
6 to 8-inch Dishes..... 1.75  
Porcelain Plates..... 2.00

Platters

8-inch..... 1.50  
12-inch..... 2.00  
14-inch..... 2.50  
16-inch..... 3.00  
18-inch..... 3.50  
20-inch..... 4.00  
22-inch..... 4.50  
24-inch..... 5.00  
26-inch..... 5.50  
28-inch..... 6.00  
30-inch..... 6.50  
32-inch..... 7.00  
34-inch..... 7.50  
36-inch..... 8.00

Carlsbad China Dinner Sets

With 2 covered dishes, large soup tureen and covered sauce boat; 3 platters, plates, etc., a plenty. A complete dinner set of real China, handsomely decorated.

\$13.90, Worth \$20

Tea Set

A good tea set of 56 pieces, nicely decorated. Choice of several colors.

\$2.48

Carlsbad China Tea Sets

What do you say to a real China Tea Set, filled with gold, hand-drawn and gold edges, for

\$4.98

Cups and Saucers

Some of the real old-fashioned sort, like grandma had, in delft blue and delft brown. They were big value at 10c., but during this sale we sell them at

6c

Toilet Sets

Since we do nothing by halves, we make big reductions all over the department. Nearly all the stock is marked for quick moving. Under glaze toilet sets with pretty decorations, 10-piece sets,

\$1.98

Dinner Set

Gold traced and gold lined dinner sets of 100 pieces, green and pink decorations. Worth \$12.00; sale price,

\$7.90

Chamber Sets

A specially good lot in 3-color decorations, with gold tracings and gold bands. 10-piece sets, such as usually sell for \$6.00 will be sold during this sale for

\$3.90

Butter Dishes

Two thousand Japanese China butter dishes. Not more than 12 to a customer.

1c Each

There's some good picking yet in the picture room. Let's sell you some pictures this week. Your walls will look better with a few new pictures on them.

REXFORD'S, 303 Lackawanna Ave

A. E. ROGERS' Jewelry Store, 213 LACKAWANNA AVE. DIAMONDS, JEWELRY, CLOCKS, WATCHES. Look at our \$10 Gold Watches, Warranted 15 Years. 213 Lackawanna Avenue.

E. ROBINSON'S SONS' Lager Beer Brewery. Manufacturers of the Celebrated Pilsener Lager Beer. CAPACITY: 100,000 Barrels per Annum. THE MOOSIC POWDER CO., ROOMS 1 AND 2, COM'LN BLD'G, SCRANTON, PA. MINING AND BLASTING POWDER. MADE AT MOOSIC AND RUGG-DALE WORKS. LAPLIN & RAND POWDER CO'S ORANGE GUN POWDER. Electric Blasting, Electric Light-liners, for plowing, blasting, Safety Fuses, and Repanno Chemical Co.'s HIGH EXPLOSIVES.

THIRD NATIONAL BANK OF SCRANTON. Special Attention Given to Business and Personal Accounts. Liberal Accommodations Extended According to Balances and Responsibility. 3 Per Cent. Interest Allowed on Interest Deposits. Capital, \$200,000. Surplus, \$310,000. Undivided Profits, \$70,000. WM. CONNELL, President. HENRY BELIN, Jr., Vice Pres. WILLIAM H. PECK, Cashier.

The Bradford Coal. (A High Grade Hat.) \$3.00. Fully Guaranteed. Three Colors. Sold Only by CONRAD COAL. AT RETAIL. Coal of the best quality for domestic use and all sizes, including Buckwheat and Burdette, delivered to any part of the city at the lowest price. Inquire at the Office, First Street, Commonwealth building, room No. 3; telephone No. 224 or at the mine, telephone No. 22. Will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine. "Where did you get them, uncle?" I asked. The old man looked at us quizzically for a moment and then said with a chuckle, "Of common are from the north, ain't they?" "Well, yes," I replied, "but what has that to do with it?" "Because, sah," he said, "no southern gentleman ever asks a nigger what he gets anything."

Spring Tools For the Lawn and Garden. Garden Barrows, Garden Rakes, Lawn Shears, Trimming Shears, Lawn Seed, Fertilizer. FOR THE HOUSE. Carpet Sweepers, Carpet Whips, Floor Brooms, Feather Dusters, Scrub Brushes, Furniture Polish, Brass Polish. Foote & Shear Co.

Monarch Polish. Preserves the new, restores the old. For Sale by Prothrope & Co., Hill & Conwell and A. L. Strong.

IS A MUCH TRAVELLED MAN.

One Railroad Officer Who Has Journeaved 3,300,000 Miles. William Wilhelm, of Philadelphia, a baggage agent on the Pennsylvania railroad, now seventy years old, has been in continuous service on the road since 1850. Five years ago he summed up his travels, and was much surprised to find the total be 3,224,332 miles. He has just about three months since then, but has probably traveled 175,000 miles additional, making a grand total of 3,399,666.

HAS SHE FORGOTTEN?

Has she forgotten? On this very May We were to meet her with the birds and bees, As on that Sabbath, underneath the trees, We strayed among the toombs, and there, Stripped away The vines from these old granites, cold and grey, And yet, indeed, not grim enough were they To stay our kisses, smiles, and caresses, Has she forgotten me—forgotten me? Her promise?—that the bird-song from the trees, Are sprayed above the grasses, as the sun Might lay the dazzling dew down showery, shining? Has she forgotten life—love—every one— Has she forgotten me—forgotten me?

OPERATIVES UNPROTECTED.

No American railway man who visits Europe can help feeling great sympathy for the engineers and firemen everywhere, as he sees them stand on the foot-boards of their locomotives, with only a screen in front to protect them from rain, snow, and the cold wind. European railways do not provide protection for the engineers and firemen in the form of the cab, so common on the American locomotives; and not only do these faithful servants of the traveling public suffer from the practice mentioned, but the train conductor is compelled to walk along a narrow board on the outside of the train, in collecting tickets, and hang on as best he can when receiving, munching, and re-delivering them through the open window, the train in the meantime rushing along at full speed, exposing him not only to all sorts of weather but to the constant danger of being thrown from his uncertain footing to the earth, and perhaps to his death.

When on the continent, I have often been asked, why are the railroad companies so opposed to the ownership of railroads by the government, ownership of railroads and to their management and operation by employees with power only possessed by government officers? To this inquiry I have answered that my objection is largely to its non-progressive character, and to the unavoidable influence it exerts against the adoption of every improvement which can possibly mean greater comfort and safety to the traveler. The cabinet minister in charge of the railroads does not build branches, run switches into villages, houses, or side-tracks to undeveloped mines and new manufactures, establish connection with water power where business is to be developed, or adopt, or even experiment with, any new appliances involving the putting aside of present methods, because of the opposition which is ever alert to charge him with mismanagement, incompetence, or extravagance. He must show, by the strongest bulwark of the government and of monarchy, I need not picture the result in this country where the seven hundred thousand or more employees of our railroads to be suddenly, or in ever so deliberate a way, transformed into government officials. They would become at once an all-

SKINS ON FIRE. Itchy, burning, bleeding, scaly, and pimply eruptions, instantly relieved by a warm bath with CUTICURA. CUTICURA. Baby's Skin. Itch, Pimples, Rash, and other eruptions. CUTICURA. Baby's Skin. Itch, Pimples, Rash, and other eruptions.