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A SPLENDID RECORD. From the Original 60 Miles of Rail the System now has 5,000.

The extensive litigation now in the courts between the State of New Jersey and the Reading Railroad Company but enlarges public interest in the increasing magnitude of the colossal enterprise.

While the conflict is going on in the courts many persons are asking, "What is the Reading system? Where does it go? What points are reached by its lines? Is it an enterprise of benefit to the country?"

These and other questions may be answered by giving a sketch of the old Pennsylvania-Reading, out of which the present far-reaching system has grown.

In 1839 the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad built its first line of flat iron rails laid on wooden stringers running lengthwise of the track.

This high rate of speed is attained without danger or unusual wear of track or rolling stock, by reason of the exceptional solidity of the roadbed, which is firmly ballasted with stone and the perfectness of its heavy steel rails.

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Through its Lehigh Valley system the Reading operates from Buffalo a fleet of wooden and steel steamers sailing to and from the chief ports of Lake Erie, Huron, Michigan and Lake Superior, bringing to the road an enormous volume of freight from the grain-growing territory and mineral regions of the Northwest.

The Reading recently organized lines of transportation on steamers plying Philadelphia and Great Britain, thus enabling the company at a comparatively reduced cost to utilize its exceptionally great export facilities, at the same time securing a large importing traffic which had heretofore sought other channels of transportation.

Its North Atlantic trident lines to London regularly employ steamers of from 4,000 to 5,000 tons each. They are fully freighted on each trip from the Reading docks on the Delaware, and in return they bring cargoes of imported goods for Philadelphia and for shipment in bond, by Reading lines to the large cities of the South, North and West. So rapidly has the Reading's export business grown that extra steamers have been put in commission. Within three months it required twenty-one steamers to carry the freight from its Philadelphia docks to London. This large traffic has also induced the Reading to establish another line to Avonmouth and Bristol, England, the vessels stopping on the return voyage at Swansea for cargoes of tin to supply the large imports of that metal in Philadelphia.

the "hub," from which branch lines radiate in all directions. These branches reach nearly every section of importance in Pennsylvania, forming the most direct and, in many instances, the only outlet for the products of rich farming districts, as well as the great coal beds whose output is the chief fuel supply for the Atlantic coast cities, and the numerous manufacturing establishments of the seaboard states.

Among the points reached by the Reading in Pennsylvania are Pottsville, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Columbia, Carlisle, Shippensburg, Gettysburg, Pine Grove, Brookside, Allentown, Easton and Philadelphia.

At Allentown the East Pennsylvania branch connects with the Central Railroad of New Jersey and with the Lehigh Valley road for Mauch Chunk, Wilkes-Barre and Towanda and the important New York towns of Owego, Elmira, Geneva, Rochester and Buffalo.

At Shilington, Pa., the Reading connects with the Lehigh Valley and the Pennsylvania Poughkeepsie and Reading Railroad by way of the cantilever bridge over the Hudson at Poughkeepsie, making the run, without changing cars, from Philadelphia to Boston in the quick time of thirteen hours. This line traverses the most attractive sections of Connecticut and is the only route between the two termini without a change of cars.

Two important links of the Reading system are the lines running from Philadelphia to Bethlehem and from Philadelphia to Morristown. Each passes through many smaller towns, whose passenger traffic makes large additions to the business of the system.

By the acquisition of the Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburg line, the Reading has secured another connection with the Baltimore and Ohio road which will add greatly to its Western traffic both in passengers and freight.

The recent extension from Bound Brook to the sea, near Perth Amboy, gives the Reading a shipping port in New York harbor, with abundant facilities for the economical handling of any amount of coal and other heavy and bulky freight.

By the East Pennsylvania line, in conjunction with the Lebanon Valley branch, Reading has nearly an air line route from Allentown to Harrisburg, which will probably soon be used as a short line between New York and the West.

Among the many claims of the Reading system for public appreciation is that it runs regularly one of the fastest trains in the world. The Blue Line express makes the distance between New York and Philadelphia over the Bound Brook route in two hours, a fact which is fully appreciated by the business communities of the two cities, and which continues on through Baltimore, reaching Washington in five hours.

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Some of the leading items of freight delivered by the Reading in Philadelphia during 1891 were:

Table listing freight items and amounts: Wheat 3,075,924 bushels, Coal 2,229,000 tons, Cotton 325,775 bales, etc.

In the same year it shipped a total of 4,308,432 bushels of grain. Its coal receipts at Philadelphia were 3,442,356 tons. As a factor in the coal production the Reading stands at the head of the list.

Royal Baking Powder. Highest of all in Leavening Power. Latest U. S. Gov't Report. ABSOLUTELY PURE.

RAINDROPS. Some Curious Facts Brought Out by Scientific Study. How large is a drop of rain? Probably most people have a notion that raindrops are nearly all of one size, although it is a matter of common observation that in what is called a misty rain, or a drizzle, the individual drops are very small.

Every reader has probably noted that raindrops preceding a thunderstorm frequently assume gigantic proportions, though he may not have suspected that they could ever attain so great a size as Mr. Lowe has discovered that they do.

HOW WE FALL ASLEEP.

Some of the Senses Drop Off More Easily Than Others. Scientific investigators assert that in beginning to sleep the senses do not unitesly fall into slumber, but drop off one after another. The sight ceases in consequence of the protection of the eyelids to receive impressions first, while all the other senses preserve their sensibility entire.

CURIOS FACTS.

Origins of Some of Our Most Common Mathematical Signs. The sign of addition is derived from the initial letter of the word "plus."

Division was formerly indicated by placing the dividend above a horizontal line and the divisor below. In order to save space in printing the dividend was placed to the left and the divisor to the right.

Nature's Fluid. The scarcity of water in Paris is indicated cleverly by a Parisian journalist, who represents a scene in a restaurant; time, the year 1895. A diner calls for a bottle of pure water.

Reportorial Stewardship. A certain newspaper reporter assigned to investigate the case of a young woman at a hotel said to be in a trance represented himself to be a doctor so that he would be allowed to see the victim.

\$3 COULD HAVE SAVED \$475. "It's Our Family Doctor Now." Mr. Cook found health, happiness and economy in the use of a simple remedy.

PHILADELPHIA & READING R. R. TIME TABLE IN EFFECT MAY 15, 1892. Trains leave Shenandoah as follows:

VOTE FOR JOHN J. COLE FOR THE LEGISLATURE. "Honesty in Public Office."

VOTE FOR JAMES B. LESSIG, DIRECTOR OF THE POOR.

VOTE FOR WILLIAM DERR, DIRECTOR OF THE POOR.

VOTE FOR JAMES PATTERSON, LEGISLATURE. (FIRST DISTRICT.)

Pennyroyal Pills. Chittenden's English Diamond Brand. Original Family Medicine.

READING R. R. SYSTEM. Lehigh Valley Division. ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS IN EFFECT MAY 15, 1892.

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First National BANK. THEATRE BUILDING, Shenandoah, Penna. CAPITAL, \$100,000.00. A. W. LEISENRING, President.

MANHOOD RESTORED. "SANTALIN" the Wonderful Spanish Remedy. Before & After Use. Photographed from life.

ABRAM HEEBNER CO. PORT CARBON, PA. Society & Goods! OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. Flags, Baoges, Caps, Regainas, &c.

LEWIS' 98% LYE. (PATENTED) The strongest and purest Lye made. Write for catalogue.

FOLMER'S Saloon & Restaurant. 115 N. WHITE STREET. First-class Lager Beer, Ale, Porter and Temperance Drinks and Cigars.

DOCTOR. 538 North Fourth Street, below Green, Philadelphia. The only physician able to cure what the world's best medical authorities declare incurable.

THEEL CURE. All forms of mental and nervous debility, such as, Headache, Dizziness, Neuritis, Epilepsy, Paralysis, Swellings, Pimples, Four Humors, Indigestion, etc.

COFFEE HOUSE. 82 North Main Street. For a Good, Cheap Meal! MRS. CONNICK IN CHARGE. FIRE INSURANCE. Largest and oldest reliable purely cash company represented by DAVID FAUST, 120 S. JARVIS ST., SHENANDOAH, PA.