THE STAYTON MAIL

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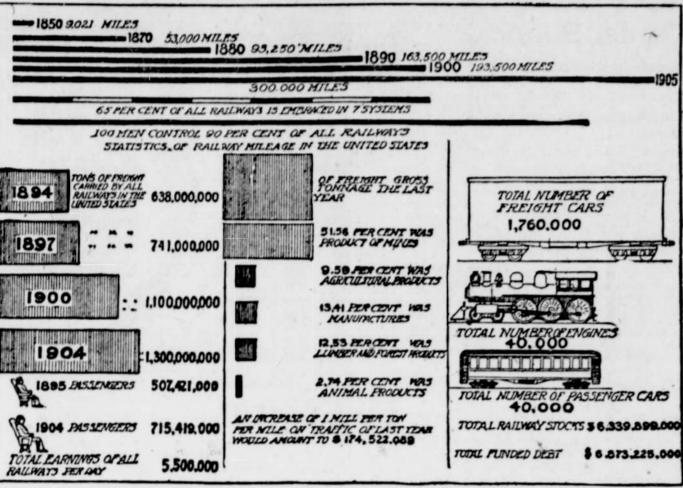
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Keep it in your mind that The Mail prints

Note Heads, Bill Heads, Letter Heads, Envelopes

Or Anything Else You May plied Hancock. "He didn't play him-Want at Very Low Prices self-never could make out to learn

AMAZING RAILROAD FIGURES.



Figures which describe the railways of the United States in their organization and operations are so enormous as to be almost beyond comprehension and belief. Seventy-five years only have elapsed since the first steam railway was constructed and placed in successful operation. To-day there are 215,000 miles of track in the United States, not including second tracks or sidings. The methods of transportation which existed when Stephenson experimented with his locomotive in England were practically the same as they had been since the dawn of history.

How wonderful has been the transformation worked by this mighty force in the world's civilization, how great and inestimable the benefits it has wrought, how vast the wealth it has created! It has added to the pleasures as well as to the comforts of life. Distance has been annihilated. Through the ease and rapidity of communication thus provided, those far apart in distance are brought near; the people of a given section are enabled to enjoy the products of all other sections, however remote, and regions formerly inaccessible and uninhabited have become great centers of population and rich production. To trace the course of development of the railway system of the United States from its beginning down to the present time is to trace the history and growth of the nation's commercial and industrial progress.

Of the mileage now forming a vast network over the

TO HER.

When hoar frost decks the trees, and all

And when spring comes with all its flow-

She is ensurined in my heart,

A treasured memory.

In all I am she has a part,

Is purest white below,

Upon her name I softly call-

She dearly loved the snow.

And birds for gladness sing.

And joyous are the sunny hours

I sigh, "She loved the spring."

Tis sweet to be remembered so-

And where this memory will go

When my life here shall close.

It is thy power that death defies,

And through all time survives.

FOND OF MUSIC.

UB," said Washington Hancock to the boy with the voluminous

proached the stove twanging on a

jewsharp, "ask Rufe over there to let

"To tie that blame thing to your

leg," answered Hancock. "Fasten it

good an' strong an' then take the leg

"Wash don't like music," observed

Sol Baker to Marvin Parsons, with a

grin. "That's what makes him play

"He's fit fer treason, spoils an' strat-

agems," said Squire Burkholder in his

lyceum basso profundo. "There's

what the immortal bard of Avon says:

The man that hath no music in his

"I'm fond o' music," said Hancock,

tilting his chair back against the sait

barrel, "but I ain't plum crazy over it,

like Bert Walkiss uster be. I c'n

spare a jewsharp 'most any time an'

git along jest about as well. What

are you talkin' about music fer'

squire? You don't know 'The Old

Hundredth' from 'Sam Hill to Pay an'

"What was that about Bert Wal-

"Bert was crazy about music," re-

kiss, Wash?" asked Marvin Parsons.

out doors an' exercise it."

the fiddle so much."

No Pitch Hot."

soul-

you have a piece of good stout string."

"What fer?" inquired the boy.

woolen comforter, who had ap-

I wonder if she knows,

O holy love! that sanctifies

Westminster Gazette.

Our common earthly lives.

And will have till I die.

entire country, north and south, east and west, 80 per cent, or 170,000 of the 215,000 miles, has been constructed since the close of the Civil War. In 1830 there were but 23 miles of railway in operation in the United States; in 1850 the mileage had grown only to 9,021 miles. In 1870 there were 53,000 miles. In 1880 this had increased to 93,250 miles, in 1889 to 163,500 miles, and in 1900 it had reached 193,500 miles.

To-day, if second, third and fourth tracks and yards and sidings be included, there are 300,000 miles of track.

Competition between carriers by rail, which formerly prevailed and acted as a check or restraint against unreasonable rates, has been to a great extent suppressed and destroyed.

About one hundred persons control the boards of directors of railroads whose commercial value exceeds 90 per cent of the total, and whose earnings amount to 00 per cent of the total gross earnings of the railways of the United States.

In the short period of seven years the freight traffic has doubled, while the passenger traffic has increased by about 75 per cent.

How gigantic is the business can be readily seen from the fact that an increase of one mill per ton on the traffic of last year would have produced \$174,522,-089.-Toledo Blade.

anythin' - didn't know enough to pound a tin wash boller with a blacksmith's rasp at a shivaree—but he had a right smart o' admiration fer any one that could. He'd come around to my house while I was practicin' sometimes an' set an' listen to me by the hour with tears standin' in his eyes. He got licked more times when he wus that. He jest nachally tried to stomp a young one fer follerin' the band a hole in the floor, until she come agin around than he had fingers an' toes ten times over. He'd go to meetin', even, to hear the music. He couldn't play, as I said, but he wus allus tryin' to. He'd buy a jewsharp, like Clem here, an' work at it till he got his own teeth all loose an' everybody else's set on aidge. Then he'd save up fer a mouth organ an' rub blisters on his lips. When he seen he couldn't do nothin' with the mouth organ he gave it away an' bought him a guitar an' a

"That wasn't no good, either, an' he traded that to Pete Simpson, the barber. Pete got it down fine in about a month. He could play the 'Spanish fandango' an' 'Napoleon's March' an' pick out the chords fer 'most any kind o' song. Then Bert 'ud come to town an' forget all about his tradin', settin' around in the barber shop listenin' to Pete. It uster make old man Walkiss hoppin' mad. He allus' 'lowed Bert 'ud never be wuth the powder to blow him to blazes as a farmer.

instruction book.

"He wus mistaken about that, though. Bert wus a good boy to work when there wasn't no music around an' he knew more about raisin' corn an' hogs than the old man did himself. When the old man fin'ly died an' Bert got the place he raised bigger crops than anybody in the township an' his stock took prizes ag'in an ag'in at the fairs. Bert got tol'able well fixed an' the girls begun makin' a set at him. Still, he don't pay no p'tickler attention to 'em. All his spare time he put in at Pete's shop or he'd come around an' ast me to give him a tune on the ol' fiddle. Wunst in a while he'd send off an' buy him a horn or suthin', but he never made out to do anythin' with 'em in the way of playin' 'em.

"Fin'ly one night he went to the lyceum at Willow Bend schoolhouse an' If on'y I'd have waited!" there was a gal there from Fairfax, over in Atchison County, that was visitin' Lew Meakin's folks, She'd took lessons on the planner an' Meakin' hauled over his planner to the schoolhouse so's't she could play. I was there that night an' I'll never fergit how Bert whistled and stomped when she pounded out 'Silvery Waves' on that ol' square of Lew's. I saw she was a gal, but she wasn't no

good deal like a white oak fence rail -about as long an' with corners 'most any way you turned her. Her face wouldn't have been considered so blame homely if there had been any homelier ones around, but there wasn't.

"But Bert didn't care nothin' about an' give 'em 'The Maiden's Prayer.' Then he raised the roof an' conducted himself disorderly until he got 'The Beautiful Blue Danube."

"Next mornin' he went over to Lew Meakin's after seed potatoes. He wore his best clothes an' the gal played 'Silvry Waves' for him.

"A night or two after that Bert says to me: 'You can talk about your horns an' your fiddles an' guitars, but to my notion the planner beats 'em all.'

"Two months after that he married the gal an' you could drive past the house 'most any time o' day or night after that an' you could hear 'Silvery Waves' or 'The Maiden's Prayer,' or 'Blue Danube.' Judas! That woman was homely."

"I calculate Bert was satisfied," said the storekeeper.

"I reckon he wus," said Hancock "The only thing ever made me doubt it wus one time about a year after I seen him at the county fair standin' an' watchin' a feller that had one o' these dewdads you hitch on to a pianner an' it plays it for you. First time I'd ever seen one, too. Bert's eyes just stuck out of his head when the feller showed him how it worked an'

"'Any piece you want,' says the feller, pawin' over a passle o' rolls o' paper that he'd been feedin' into the machine. 'Here's "The Maiden's Prayer." Try that.'

let him run it himself. 'Gosh!' he says.

"Not by a jugful,' says Bert. 'Nor yet "Silvery Waves," ner "The Blue Danube Waltz." Anythin' but them.'

"An' when he'd played suthin' else the feller handed him he let out a long breath an' looked over at Mis' Walkiss, who was standin' by the pickle booth an' seemed like part of the exhibit. 'Only to think!' he says. 'If on'y I'd have waited! Blame my cats!

"What made you doubt whether Bert was satisfied?" asked Baker, after a little pause.-Chicago Daily News.

Discovered.

"Why is this cheese so full of holes?" "That's all right. It needs all the fresh air it can get." — Cleveland

A diet of pleasure is apt to result spring chicken, an' she was built a in a bad case of moral dyspepsia.

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Arrives Albany 12:15 P M No. 3 for Albany-Detroit No. 4, from Detroit:-Leaves Detroit 12:35
Arrives Albany 5:15
Lv. Albany for Corvallis 7:15
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