

A HUMBLE HERO.

The quaintest class of people in the West are the railroad men. Not the millionaire monopolists of Wall street, who manipulate stock boards and mortgages, but the hard-worked, poorly-paid and big-hearted men who drive our Western locomotives, feed the roaring fires and risk their necks, limbs and lives in clambering up and down, between and over the cars.

DAVE DRIGGS.

Dave Driggs he was a railroad man, A common kind o' chap; He didn't go a cent on style, He wouldn't give a rap. Fur them as put on dudy clo's An' hifalutin' ar's, An' tho' 'emselves some higher up Than Him upon the sta'r's.

HILDA'S STORY.

I have a friend who lives in Dakota, and raises in that remarkable territory some of the finest wheat that is raised in the world. Part of the winter of 1882 he spent in the East, and often came to my rooms, where we enjoyed many a pleasant hour together. During these interviews I learned many interesting facts connected with the everyday experiences of settlers in the West.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

In the White mountains, wherever the timber has been cut it has been allowed to grow up again. The rainfall in the Merrimac valley has been nearly the same every year since 1820. No forest destruction is going on thereabouts.

THE WISE BELLS.

On a sunny Sabbath morning, Forth two messengers were sped, That the bells be set a-ringing; One to say, in chime and singing, A fair maiden is to wed;

WISE WORDS.

In order to deserve a good friend you must first learn to be one. A man may talk continually and not be eloquent, sound and substance are not twins.

"Stonewall" Jackson's Climb After Persimmons.

A Pittsburg (Penn.) Chronicle writes: While in Lexington, Va., last June, at the unveiling of Valentine's Recumbent statue of General R. E. Lee, material for sketches of the career of Stonewall Jackson was sought after among his co-laborers prior to and during the war.

Animated Frozen Fish.

The American Angler vouches for the following fish story: A fish dealer in Salineville, Ohio, received a box of frozen fish from Cleveland, during one of the recent blizzards.

Curious Growth of a Boy's Ears.

A colored boy from Virginia, fifteen years of age, presented himself yesterday at the Maryland University hospital to have an operation performed for a curious formation on his ears.

A Queer Character.

Mangin, the celebrated black-lead pencil maker of Paris, is dead. He drove every day in an open carriage, attended by a servant, to his stands either by the Place Vendome or on the Place de la Bourse.

Hugh J. Jewitt is a director in twenty railroad companies, Samuel Sloan in twenty-three, Jay Gould in twenty-four, George B. Roberts in twenty-six, Augustus Schell in twenty-eight, Sidney Dillon in thirty-six and Frederick L. Ames in fifty-two.