

A JOURNEY TO VENUS.

Dr. C. Robertson in St. Nicholas gives some interesting facts touching the extent of space, as illustrative of which he supposes certain railways to be built; one round the world in a perfect circle, others to various points in the solar system. And we will further suppose that the trains on these railways could be kept going at the rate of 60 miles an hour for any required length of time; that their passengers could do without food or could be supplied with an abundance of it; that the bodies of such passengers could be made capable of enduring the various changes of air, temperature, and other climatic conditions, to which they would be exposed.

And on our world this kind of travel would be comparatively easy, and would take next to no time. In 24 hours the passenger could travel 1440 miles, or considerably farther than from New York to Chicago. In 48 hours he could travel as far as from Boston to Liverpool; and in less than 17 days he could go round the world. But, as regards the journeys in space, a difficulty in most cases insuperable would stand in the way. In order to visit any but a very few of the nearest bodies in space, the travelers on our celestial railways would need to have their lives very greatly prolonged. Were they to set out for any distant part of the system, they all would die before they had fairly begun their journey. A voyage to the moon, to Venus, or to Mars would, under the above conditions, be possible; to any other body in the system it would be impossible.

The journey to the moon would be comparatively short. Our companion is distant about 240,000 miles; or, in round numbers, its distance contains ten times as many miles as are contained in the earth's circumference.

Traveling at the rate of 60 miles an hour, and never stopping, it would take between 166 and 167 days to reach the journey's end. Compared with other heavenly distances, this is a mere nothing; but compared with the distances actually traversed by the average man, it is very great indeed. Few ever travel at 60 miles an hour, and then only for short periods, and at considerable intervals. Many, probably the majority, of those who live to a good old age cover less than 240,000 miles during their whole lives. A great traveler might do it in, say, 15 years. For even a conductor or engineer of an express train, it would require several years.

Let us now take a trip to the planet Venus, our next nearest neighbor. This will be a much more formidable undertaking. We have seen that a succession of the longest journeys over this earth would form but short and passing episodes in a lifetime. We have seen that, on one of our imaginary railways, the traveler could circle the world in less than three weeks. We have seen, not only that a journey to the moon is quite possible to the passengers by our celestial railway, but that equal and even greater distances are often traveled on earth. But a trip to Venus would be a very different matter. Venus, as already stated, is about 26,000,000 miles away; or, at 60 miles an hour, without stopping, she is distant a journey not of three weeks or six months, but of some 50 years. On the imaginary railway, such a journey would be possible, for a great many persons live longer than 50 years. But in real life no one has ever traveled, and no one ever will travel, anything like so far. No human being ever has traveled 5,000,000 miles; and it is safe to say that no one ever will. To complete this measure of journeying would require an average of 100,000 miles a year for 50 years. Some few, perhaps, in all their lives, may have traveled 1,000,000 miles, but these are probably very rare exceptions. So we see that no one ever has lived who has traveled more than a small part of the distance to Venus. Yet, compared with other bodies in the system, this star may be said to be almost a next-door neighbor.

A Boston inventor claims to have perfected a process by which ice may be manufactured in an ordinary refrigerator. He has exhibited his invention to a gathering of capitalists. In the room was a refrigerator. There was a stove, and the temperature of the room was 72 degrees, Fahrenheit. In the locked and sealed department of the ice-chest was a small tin case filled with the "mixtures." There was no ice in the chest. The temperature of the rest of the chest was 25 degrees. All was clean and dry. A gentleman placed a tumbler of partly melted ice in the chest, and in fifteen minutes it was frozen solid. The inventor claims by his process to be able to produce cold from any degree down to zero. The annual cost to an ordinary household would be about \$7.

For food and harness go to E. L. Power

DEPOSITS IN MEXICO EXCELLING ANY EVER KNOWN BEFORE.

Although it has always been known that gold existed in the state of Guanajuato, where there has for many years been a small, but regular, production of the yellow metal, the stories that now come from that state regarding the great gold discovery are exciting much attention in mining circles here. A company of Cleveland, O., capitalists and a syndicate of London bankers have been investigating for some time the resources of the region, where gold was suspected to exist, and their labors have, according to reports made by American miners, resulted in the discovery of enough gold-bearing quartz to keep an army of miners busy for a century to come. The ore exists, it is averred, in such quantities as to make up a large part of several mountains, and it crops out on the cliffs and in the canons in such a manner as to convince experienced miners that this is the biggest gold field ever struck. The country in which this find has been made is well watered and contains many ranches. The National railway runs within 12 miles of the gold regions. It is averred that mining experts who have gone there skeptical have come away astonished at the immense extent of the deposits, which appear inexhaustible; in fact, reports that have reached here remind one of Sinbad's valley of diamonds. If half that is told turns out true, Mexico has the biggest gold deposits ever known on this globe. The Cleveland company will put up a big stamp mill.

A few days ago Senator Blair, of New Hampshire, was caught without an umbrella by a severe rain storm in Washington. He took refuge from the shower in the nearest friendly doorway. People passing were amused to observe that the "Prohibition or death" Senator was seeking shelter from one of the most notorious rum-shops in the capital.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Monday, Jan. 28th.

Irvine introduced a memorial asking that veterans of Indian wars in Oregon be allowed same privileges as those of Mexican war; Hiltun that the land grant of the N. P. Portland to Wallula be declared forfeited. Numerous House bills were read first time in Senate, among others the Halsey charter bill; relating to survey of public lands; asking government to purchase locks at Oregon City, Dawson bill in reference to execution of deeds; Portland's Bull Run water bill. In the House reports from committees were heard. They were favorable on bill for satisfaction of mortgages by affidavit; on bill providing for Court reporters; on repeal of vagrancy law; on bill creating Harvey county; on bill providing for payment of stock killed by cars, and others. Several bills were introduced, one providing for buying land for Agricultural College, one for bounties on scalps, etc.

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Strong's old corner, opposite Stewart & Sox, First Street, Albany, Or.

A full line of FRESH GROCERIES, CANNED GOODS, DRIED FRUITS, ETC.

"Quick sales and small profits," "Live and let live," is our motto. Please call and examine our goods and get prices. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Produce Taken in Exchange, Very Respectfully, BARDUE & UNDERWOOD.

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L. E. BLAIN'S.

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OIL CLOTHING,

OVERCOATS,--Fine Assortment,

Pea Jackets--Chinchilla. Astrachan

Full Line of Duck Suitings,

ALL GRADES WOOLEN OVER SHIRTS

Big Stock Cardigan Jackets,

HEAVY MERINO AND ALL WOOL UNDERWEAR.

Winter Gloves and Mittens

ALL WEIGHTS LEATHER BOOTS AND SHOES.

UMBRELLAS, HATS, ETC.

Last but not least a large stock of CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS

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NEW SMYRNA RUGS AND PORTIERRES. NEW TABLE COVERS. LINEN TABLE SETS, NAPKINS TO MATCH, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF LINEN AND SILK HANDKERCHIEFS. FINE LACE HANDKERCHIEFS. TRUNKS AND VALISES. SILK DRESS PATTERNS. COLORED AND SILK WARP HENRIETTAS. SILK UMBRELLAS,

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LADIES AND GENTS FANCY SLIPPERS. GENTS FINE SHOES. MISSES AND CHILDRENS FINE SHOES AND SLIPPERS, FELT SLIPPERS OF ALL KINDS.

CROCKERY DEPARTMENT

CHOICE NOVELTIES IN DECORATED CHINA. TEA SETS. FRUIT PLATES AND SAUCERS. DECORATED BEDROOM SETS LAMPS. SALAD BOWLS. FANCY PITCHERS. FANCY CUSPADORES. CAKE DISHES. AND A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF NOVELTIES IN CHINA

Samuel E. Young. Albany, Oregon

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Golden Rule Bazaar.

His stock has been enlarged so that it equals any on the Coast, and consists of

Roger Bros. Silverware, French China and Crystalware, Boys' Wagons, Doll Carriages, Fancy Goods, and a general assortment of Crockery and Toys.

He buys direct and carries the largest stock in the Willamette Valley, to which has been added a complete line of

FAMILY GROCERIES.

Is Agent for insurance companies with a capital aggregating \$75,000,000.

Parle on parle Français. Hier wird deutsch gesprochen.

D. R. N. BLACKBURN, Attorney at Law Office, Odd Fellow's Temple, ALBANY, OREGON.

J. K. WEATHERFORD, (NOTARY PUBLIC,) ATTORNEY AT LAW, ALBANY, OREGON. WILL PRACTICE IN ALL THE COURTS OF State. Special attention given to collecting

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