

A RAILWAY ROMANCE.

From the window of a carriage on the North London Railway, as the train rambles over strolling little City streets...

The other evening, I turned into the squeezed-up passage which gives ingress to the Highbury Railway Station. My immediate processors were an elderly woman in neat but rusty widow's weeds...

"Two second returns to Hackney," said the old lady, laying down her shilling. My journey chanced to be a similar one, and I determined if possible to get into the same carriage with my psychological curiosity.

For once, however, I did not weary of waiting at Highbury, as I walked up and down its platform, glancing as often as I could, without downright staring, at my puzzling fellow-traveller.

mentous, either, in the object of their journey; since, from a paper-bag which the old lady was very anxious to save from crushing, and a remark or two exchanged between the pair, I was able to gather that they were simply going to drink tea at a friend's.

"To illustrate: a man buys a homestead, as I did here, 'in the rough'—a little farm of stumps, brushwood and timber. It must be cleared up and made tillable. There is hard work in it—the hardest kind.

Then when you come to put out fruit trees and plants on this redeemed patch of wilderness, these same rascals attend your work. You want straight rows, and your trees to stand up straight, and to 'range' well, if there is an orchard in every direction.

Here, too, we plant trees on the roadside—the law requires and enforces it. It is part of the system which has built up and peopled the land so rapidly.

Some of these hedges are to form screens, as wind-breakers for partial shelter to orchards, gardens and dwellings, and in that form, thirty or forty feet high (not extraordinary for the Norway spruce) will give variety and attractiveness to the landscape.

Farmers miss more than they realize by neglect of these homestead adornments. They really cost little in money, while as a matter of business they add largely to the selling value.

The iron bridge at Dixon, Ill., fell with a terrible crash, while crowded with people to witness a baptism. Thirty-two bodies have been recovered and many more are supposed to be under the wreck.

Children whose brain development is unusually large in comparison with the body, are most frequently singled out for a premature final resting place. Why is this?

AGRICULTURAL. ADORNING THE HOMESTEAD. Farming is hard, toilsome, slavish work indeed, when you cannot unite with it some pleasurable incentives.

Working merely that you may earn money by it is tolerable, and often necessary; but the true, the noble way, is to have your work, in addition, return you a dividend of pleasure as you go along, with added dividends of the same sort day by day.

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TO HOTEL KEEPERS. TO BE DISPOSED OF—THE BUSINESS of this desirable Hotel, known as the 'ALBION HOUSE,' corner James and Murray Streets, Hamilton. It has recently been re-fitted, renovated and furnished in good style.

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THE effect of preparations containing Alcohol is to stimulate the circulation of the blood and secondarily the brain, and to create a feeling of temporary improvement, but eventually followed by a collapse and breaking down of the general health from degeneration of the tissues.

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