

Electric Railways.

"It will be a revolution in railway travelling," says the London (Eng.) *Telegraph*, "was the natural ejaculation of more than one in the brilliant audience which filled the Royal Institution last night, to listen to Prof. Ayrton's discussion on electric railways. Since the electrical transmission of power began to exercise the minds of scientific men it has been foreseen that electricity must become the motive power on railways. Last year an electric railway on a small scale ran in the grounds of the Crystal Palace, and before that the Lighterfield Railway in Berlin was and is in regular service, carrying passengers day by day at from nine to twelve miles an hour. In these lines the real motive agency was a gas or a steam engine out of sight, the energy of which was converted into electricity, and carried along the rails which constituted a going and coming wire. Moreover, there were short lines, and the load was comparatively light. When, however, it is proposed to conduct the ordinary traffic of a railway with heavy loads and long distances a difficulty arises through the leakage of electricity by conduction to the earth and otherwise. It was the methods by which Profs. Ayrton and Perry proposed to surmount this obstacle which formed the charm of last night's address. It is well known that almost any amount of power may be converted into electrical energy and carried to any distance with comparatively small loss. Thus, a central station in one of, say, one thousand horse-power may be employed to propel several trains without the intervention of locomotives, the power being transmitted along the rails or by wires, always provided that leakage is avoided. To accomplish this object Mr. Ayrton and his colleague propose to divide the line into sections, each of which is put into connection with the leading wire only as the train passes over it. Thus there would be no loss except in that section, the rest of the wire being well insulated, and an absolute block system would thus be created, for no two trains could be in the same section. Sodden has the theatre of the Royal Institution been the scene of more enthusiastic cheering than when Professor Ayrton showed his model slow and express trains running around a model railway and stopping automatically when they came to a section on which another train was travelling. It will illustrate the idea of the lecture to imagine, for instance, the Metropolitan Railway working by electricity. In the first place, engines, which constitute one half of the dead weight of the trains, would be dispensed with. The line would be divided into quarter mile sections. A train on any section would be connected with a central steam engine—the gearing being such that if any other engine came on the same section the power would not propel, but stop it, becoming a self acting, continuous and automatic brake. Moreover, as the trains moved on, each one would, by means of a galvanometer, show at a station or signal box, exactly where it was, so that its motion could be followed and its time recorded any distance. There would be no smoke in the tunnels, because no fuel would be burnt there, and no reason exists why the speed should not be as great and the loads as heavy as at present. The public are apt to forget that electricity may be made to reproduce any amount of power. It begins with a current just strong enough to deflect a needle, but it is within the compass of modern engineering to produce a current powerful enough to drive a train weighing a hundred tons at the rate of 60 miles an hour. The obstacle which has stood in the way has been the difficulty of connecting the rapidly moving carriages with the electric current, and the warm cheers which greeted Prof. Ayrton's lecture and experiments show what progress has been made in overcoming the difficulty. The Professor calculates that electricity, by economizing power and the consumption of coal, will diminish expenses and increase safety."

Terrible Story of Sufferings and Death in Labrador.

Quebec, April 18.—The following are the particulars of the dreadful story received from the barren and inhospitable shores of Labrador. A letter received from Point Desmeules, several hundred miles below Quebec, dated 22nd March, advised L. F. Faillard, a steamer on account of violent storms which prevailed from the 25th of September to the end of autumn, fishermen were unable to lay in any supplies for winter, the entire means of subsistence of the poor people being thus cut off. To add to the horror of the situation, the establishment of Messrs. Goulette & Crotteau at Pointe-à-la-Croix containing a quantity of supplies, was burned with its contents in December. The winter hunting expeditions failed completely. Several people left at Pointe-à-la-Croix those who took to the woods have been found dead. Amongst them are two heads of families, Lawrence and Pierre Gagnier, and one each of their children. Their bodies were found dying of starvation. The sufferings of the survivors were increased by the descent of the Indians from the woods, whose means of subsistence had entirely given out. The poor natives had nothing to give them but some flesh and offal, while they savagely devoured. If navigation does not open early, scores of people will die of starvation before aid can possibly reach them. There is also fear that inhuman crimes may be committed in the terrible struggle for life. The same story comes from Iles aux Orflets, where the people have nothing but voracious insects and a few fish to live upon.

25,000 volunteers and 6,000 regulars took part in the recent British volunteer review at Fort-montreal.

Public opinion has forced the French Government to look with favor upon the resumption of negotiations for a commercial treaty with England.

The enormous mass of artillery already in her possession Germany is constantly adding more. Since 1871 France has added 2,000 guns to her stock.

Housing Advertisements.

The time never has been and never will be when the people of this or any other country can buy a gold dollar in seventy-five cents. Neither can you, dear reader, purchase an organ worth three or four hundred dollars for \$60. This is all nonsense. Still we have no objection to other people doing their business just as they see fit. We do not care if a good honest Organist at from \$165 to \$275, and a good honest Organ (not all stop) for from \$45 to \$275. All our goods are made upon honor, and we send to any part of the world on test trial, and if no pleasure is derived as the Chinese we will refund. For the past ten years we have sold both Pianos and Organs to every part of the world, and our instruments give the most universal satisfaction. If you wish a good instrument, one that will last you, we shall be pleased to send you our catalogues, and if you purchase one of the Thomas Brother's Silver Tone Instruments you will get what you require, and one instrument sold in a neighborhood always sells us more. Address for prices, etc.

J. H. HUNTER,
Successor to J. H. THOMAS,
Castrol, N. Y., U. S. A.
2212

MISCELLANEOUS

Some 9,000 soldiers are expected to arrive at Victoria, B. C., from China before Aug. At Cincinnati smallpox is increasing alarmingly. Thirty to forty new cases are reported daily.

The persecution of the Jews continues. In Southern Russia whole villages have been laid waste, and 17,000 Jews are homeless.

Another terribly violent cyclone occurred near Peoria, Ill., on Thursday night. Numerous lives were lost and a great amount of property destroyed.

A cyclone at Brownsville, Mo., on Tuesday destroyed a large amount of property, caused the death of seven persons, and seriously injured many others. The cyclone was of almost unparallel violence.

Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Kidney, Liver or Uremic Disease.

Have no fear of any of these diseases if you use **Blood Bitters**, as they will prevent and cure the worst cases, even when you have been made worse by some great pulled up tendency.

De Lapeyre, at a banquet at Marseilles last Wednesday night, intimated that the Panama Canal would be opened in the year 1885.

Worse than War.

The threat has destroyed more than the sword, by dependence in rank and temperature in dry heat. From the health becomes impaired and the minor skin disease may be easily cured in Bandack. **Blood Bitters**.

It regulates the bowels, acts upon the liver and kidneys, purifies the blood, and stimulates all the excretions to a healthy action.

There is a rumour in England that the Princess Beatrice is to be married to the Earl of Fife, who is a handsome, clever and unusually agreeable young man.

A Cure for Bright's Disease.

What plan has ever done more for headache? Edna answers none. But **Blood Bitters** by their purifying, invigorating, nerve properties afford a cure in nearly every case. The health giving principles of these remedies are unequalled by any similar preparation in the world.—*b. 114.*

The information elicited at the recent Nullibet trials has enabled the authorities to unearth a nest of Nullibets, and about five hundred persons have been arrested.

LENT & COMFORT IN THE SUFFERING

Woman's Household Panacea" has no equal for reliving pain, both internal and external, for bringing relief to aches and pains. Sold at the Chemist, Tinted Wednesdays, Liniment, Salve, Salve, Liniment, Tincture, Liniment, and a salve of Pain or Ache. "It is in my power to make a man well again." "It is in my power to make a woman well again." "It is in my power to make a child well again." "It is in my power to make a dog well again." "It is in my power to make a horse well again." "It is in my power to make a mule well again." "It is in my power to make a cow well again." "It is in my power to make a sheep well again." "It is in my power to make a lamb well again." "It is in my power to make a hen well again." "It is in my power to make a cock well again." "It is in my power to make a dog well again." "It is in my power to make a horse well again." "It is in my power to make a mule well again." "It is in my power to make a cow well again." 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