

STEEPEST RAILROAD

The Road Held by New Line in the Tyrolean Alps.

It Opens to the Tourist Wildly Beautiful and Picturesque Scenery Previously Inaccessible—Care Seem to Run Straight Up.

The famous cog railroad to Pike's peak has got to take a back seat, being crowded out of the place of honor and distinction by the railroad which has just been opened up in the Tyrolean Alps. It runs almost straight up the steep mountain side through hitherto almost inaccessible, but wildly beautiful and picturesque scenery. Thus is man by his ingenuity and push and hold daring gaining the heights which nature has piled up, crag upon crag, until it would seem as though its ambition was to touch the blue dome of



A TYPICAL STRETCH OF LINE

Heaven with its rocky spires and bid defiance to man to scale the dizzy elevations. And man has accepted the challenge and is surely leveling and contracting the surface of old Mother Earth, so that no placed is sacred from the transforming touch of twentieth century progress.

The new railroad holds the record in Europe for steepness. The swift upward shoot of the elevators in one of the tall office buildings in New York or Chicago may convey something of the sensation which is felt as the car on this new railroad climbs up, up, up, over 4,000 feet above sea level, in a steel shaft and the feeling that it may at any moment leap off into space, such as is experienced on this new Tyrolean line, is lost. The slope of the steepest portion of this line is 2,350 feet long and in its circling of the mountain it rises about 900 feet, the gradient being generally at the astonishing rate of about 64 feet in every 100. One of our illustrations shows a portion of the road over which the road was built which has a rise of 55 degrees, but the picture does not begin to convey the impression of steepness which rushes over one as his car reaches the bottom of the rise and the cable begins to pull you up toward the dizzy height.

The extraordinary climb of nearly half a mile is done by means of five curves of 1,200 feet semi-diameter, the utmost the irregular face of the mountain would allow. The road over this steepest section is a narrow gauge of three feet. The cars will accommodate 52 persons comfortably. The line is a



A GRADIENT OF FORTY-FIVE DEGREES.

continuation of the Brenner railway, and beginning near Bozen runs from Innsbruck, across the Brennerbad (with its warm spring and excellent mountain hotel) to Trento and Italy. From Bozen via Kaltra the railroad has been continued at the normal width to St. Anton by an electrically driven cable. From the latter place the rails are narrowed as already stated, and thence the train mounts up very steeply in a westerly direction till the top is reached. M. Emile Strub, a native of Clarens, has constructed this remarkable railroad, and the boldness of conception of the project and the energy and daring displayed in carrying it to completion would have done credit to the most enterprising of American engineers. Thus is made accessible to the traveler a portion of the Tyrolean Alps which only the determined mountain climber could reach by means of the winding road, which was long and dusty and seemingly endless.

GEORGE ELGIN.

Pink Pearls.
Pink pearls are found only off the Bahama islands.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA

Do the Government's Intentions Bode Its Actions in China?

All Evidence Points to a Permanent Occupation of the Country It Now Controls—What Will the End Be?

Is Russia to be believed? The situation in the far east depends altogether upon the veracity of the government of the czar. Judging from the unblushing mendacity which has characterized the statements made from time to time by successive representatives of Russia in Peking as to the policy to be pursued by that country in Manchuria, there is justification for the conclusion that the assurances recently given that that province will be evacuated are not to be relied upon. An occupation of forts one day, an evacuation the next, and a reoccupation on the third, which is diplomatically explained as being only of a "temporary" character, is hardly the sort of policy which conforms to the stipulations expressly laid down in the agreement between Russia and the other powers on the subject.

It may satisfy for a time the credulity of some but it cannot deceive all the powers who have accepted Russia's pledge that not only shall the principle of the "open door" be maintained, but that she shall clear out of the province "bag and baggage."

One of the most flagrant violations of treaties solemnly entered into which Russia is now committing is the collection of Chinese revenue at the open port of Niu-chwang. This she continues to do in defiance of a clear and unmistakable promise made by Count Muraviev, in a dispatch to the American ambassador on December 30, 1899. In the course of that document the Russian minister said: "The settlement of the question of customs duties belongs to China herself, and the imperial government has no intention whatever of claiming any privileges for its own subjects to the exclusion of other foreigners." To reconcile her present action with that distinct pledge will, we imagine, be a task which the most adroit juggler in the Russian foreign office will find extremely difficult.

No one who has watched on the spot for any length of time the tortuous



BUILDING A BRIDGE NEAR KAICHEN.

workings of Russian diplomacy in Peking can help coming to the conclusion that the sum and substance of Russia's ambition is: "We must get Manchuria, honestly if we can, but get it we must." This is perfectly understood by the emissaries of Russia in China, and they regard it as an imperial mandate perpetually in force. Troubles in the near east may for a time compel Russia to pursue the achievement of this ambition in a less ostentatious fashion than has recently characterized her action, but pursued it will be relentlessly, unwaveringly, in season and out of season. There are manifest signs of a recrudescence of the Boxer trouble in the northern provinces. No power would welcome this more than Russia. Indeed, it is asserted in quarters usually reliable that she is actually fostering the outbreak. Russia unquestionably will be the greatest gainer by any fresh organized attack upon foreigners. It would materially strengthen her hold upon her pet province, and give her ample excuses for the maintenance of a large force there to keep order. There is every evidence that Russia is increasing the strength of her feet in Chinese waters. This has only one object in view, viz., the widening of the area of her control up to the confines of Corea.

What is to be the outcome of it all as far as the other nations are concerned? China, of course, is absolutely incapable of resisting Russian aggression. You might as well ask a Swiss local authority to prevent an Alpine avalanche. Indeed, there are numbers of Chinese officials only too ready to be bribed into acquiescence in Russian projects. There was a distinct agreement between the late Li Hung Chang and the Russian embassy that in consideration for protection from the violence of his enemies, at court, he would do his utmost to favor the extension of Russian control in Manchuria. Chinese officials are always ready to put purse before patriotism, and the extent of their opposition can always be regulated by the Russo-Chinese bank, which, as Lord Salisbury once truthfully remarked, is "tantamount to the Russian government." Japan is ever on the watch for an opportunity to protest. Will she carry her protestations to the point of war? There is every indication that she will. If there is one national cry in Japan more popular than another, it is resistance to the Muscovite control of Manchuria. The Japanese, according to latest advices, have actually resuscitated a society with this end in view. When Russia bound herself to evacuate the eastern provinces this society was disbanded, and the fact that it has been reorganized points eloquently to the feeling in Japan on the subject.

ALFRED EDMONDS

AFRAID OF THE REPORTER.

People in Various Walks of Life Fear the Visits of the Gatherer of News.

One of the sad features of civil and military life is the unpreparedness of men in the presence of the newspaper reporter. Without the reporter there, might be papers, but not newspapers, says the New York Press. He is a necessary evil if he be any kind of evil. Those who fight hardest against him and oppose his mission are the very ones who at some future day need him most, and it is they who will work most strenuously to use him for their purposes. It gives me pleasure to say that we of the fourth estate are gradually educating the public in the art of receiving newspaper men and treating them with that courtesy and frankness which the exigencies of the hour demand. We are here to stay. We are friends of all good and enemies of all evil.

One of the leading reporters in this city was introduced to a Wall street broker, a man of no considerable consequence, but much puffed up with his success as an eighth-and-quarters go-between. The introduced had neglected to mention that he was a reporter and the conversation was general. Later on the identity of the gentleman was exposed, whereupon the broker threw up his hands, exclaiming: "Good God! A reporter? I'm ruined. Why didn't you say so before you introduced him?" The situation was slightly strained. The reporter said quietly: "Don't let that worry you. In the first place, I am not here for news, ideas or suggestions. In the second, what you know is not worth publishing. In the third, nobody outside of this office ever heard of you; therefore, what you might say would be of no newspaper interest. In the fourth I carry more Wall street secrets in my memory than you ever dreamed of—secrets of big men and great institutions. You are perfectly safe. Good morning."

In less than two months that broker, frightened so badly, sent a friend to the reporter begging him to mention an affair in which he personally was deeply interested. He is one of a numerous class affecting to be holier than reporters until needing a write-up, then groveling. Successful men in public life, almost without exception, rely upon the reporter as a stepping stone to high office. They will take him into their confidence, steer him safely between the devil and the deep sea, help him to earn his salary by loading him up with news and incidentally prosper their own cause. A combination of reporters could ruin any man in this country. Owners of papers, editors in chief, managing editors and city editors cannot possibly get in so close touch with the average man as can the reporters, the office representatives, whom they send out to hunt for facts in the market place, the palace, the hotel, the prison, the church, the wide, wide world.

BARGAINS IN LIFE MATES.

Although Marriage Is a Lottery, Some People Offer Choice Inducements.

A writer in an eastern journal advises socialists and sentimentalists with predilection for marrying and giving in marriage to turn their attention to the department stores, because there is a big lot of that kind of business going on.

Men clerks and women clerks have the matrimonial habit. They do not say so when they accept a situation, and they go into a shop for the ostensible purpose of selling ribbons and lace and notions, instead of getting married, but they are pretty sure to do the latter thing before they get out. Romance is in the air, and they cannot help themselves. Long hours, carping customers and hurried orders cannot dispel it; in fact, they thicken it. What young man with real blood in his veins can look up from a box of suspenders and see the young woman who sells gloves across the way shrinking under the sharp criticism of an irate purchaser, without yearning to protect her? Nine times out of ten he does so yearn, and the consequence is he marries her. That does not mean that he quits selling suspenders or that she quits selling gloves. They do not quit. They keep right on at the same occupation, and then by and by they are promoted, and live happily ever after.

All things considered, the matrimonial counter of a big store is the most interesting institution in the establishment. Rare bargains are found there, but nothing has ever been marked down below cost price. Such a thing as a reduction of 25 per cent. because of uncertain hair, false teeth or a perishable complexion, is unheard of. Everything on that counter is genuine, and the joys accruing to those who select bargains therefrom are immeasurable.

Not Responsible.

She—No, sir; it is impossible. I am sorry, indeed, but I can never marry you.

He—And yet the encouragement you gave me last night in the waltz!

"O, that mustn't be counted—what I said under pressure, so to speak."—Stray Stories.

A Big Catch.

Fishing in the mouth of the Susquehanna at this season of the year is done with nets operated from floats by steam engines. The record catch is 1,000 barrels of herring and shad at one haul.—N. Y. Sun.

WILLING TO REPEAT.

Young Hunter Captures Something More Than Game on One of His Expeditions.

On the Kronsprins Wilhelm, one moonlight May night, a young man and a girl were discovered making love. The news of this discovery spread among the passengers, and many a joke was cracked, says the Kansas City Journal. But Senator N. B. Scott, of West Virginia, while in the smoking-room, said: "There is nothing to laugh at here. Innocent love-making is natural in the young. This fact was well brought out by an adventure that happened to a friend of mine, years ago, in the mountains of West Virginia."

"The young man was hunting. He came to a lonely cabin, and, being thirsty, he knocked at the door for a drink. The drink was handed to him by a girl, so charming that, with a smile, he said: "Would you be angry if I should offer you a dollar for a kiss?"

"No, sir," the girl answered, with a little blush.

"So my friend took the kiss, and then he gave the maiden the dollar. She balanced it in her hand a moment. She knitted her pretty brows in perplexity.

"What," she asked, "shall I do with all this money?"

"Why, anything you please, my dear," said my friend.

"Then," she murmured, "I think I'll give it back to you, and take another kiss."

STARTING IT RIGHT.

This Woman Was Superstitious About Having Thirteen Stamps on Her Package.

"How much postage will this package require?" asked a woman at the window of the Ravenwood postal station, relates the Chicago Daily News.

"Thirteen cents," was the answer. "Just exactly 13?"

"Yes." "Think it would go all right?"

"Sure." "Wouldn't it go for 12 cents?"

"No, madam." "Hadn't I better put 14 cents on it?"

"What for?" "Thirteen is unlucky, you know. We didn't get lost?"

"Scarcely." "Wouldn't it be sure to fetch up at the dead-letter office?"

"Hardly." "Some pilfering clerk would steal it?"

"Uncle Sam's clerks are honest." "Well, that may be, but I'm not going to start that stuff away from here with a hoodoo amount of postage sticking to it. The address would rub off, it would get smashed in the mail, even if it didn't roll out of the car and get under the wheels. That's not all. If the woman to whom it is addressed discovered that it came to her home for 13 cents, she'd find fault with the goods, be cross for a week, and finally throw the whole thing into the fire. Here's another cent; make it 14 and start it right."

They are laughing in Washington over a rebuke that a sentry of one of the departments administered recently to the Russian ambassador's coachman.

The coachman it appears, wished to drive his master's carriage along a roadway that for some reason was barred. When the sentry refused to let the carriage pass, the coachman remonstrated: "Drive," he said, "ze Russian minister."

"I can't help it," returned the sentry. "Let me 'rough," persisted the coachman. "You are an extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of ze czar of all ze Russians."

"Frenchy," said the sentry, "I wouldn't let you through even if your master was a free-born American citizen."—Boston Post.

New Wheat Fields in Southwest.
What would you think if told that the unirrigated sections of Western Kansas, Eastern Colorado and Pan-handle of Texas can be counted on to produce 50,000,000 bushels of wheat annually? Yet that is what a government official predicts with reference to a new variety of that cereal imported from Russia, known as macaroni wheat. Recent experiments, as reported to the industrial department of the Santa Fe, show that this plant flourishes best where the rainfall is less than 15 inches a year. The yield per acre is equal to that of ordinary wheat, and the price received is about the same.

The Change.
"He used to kiss me every time we passed through a tunnel before our marriage," said the little woman, with sad reflections.

"And does he do so now?" asked the bosom friend.

"No, he takes a drink."—Chicago Daily News.

Summer Tours.
If you have not decided where to go, or how to go, don't fail to get a copy. It is certainly worth sending for, and reading carefully after you get it. It tells all about the pleasant places on the Michigan Central, as well as the New York and New England resorts. Send two red stamps. Address O. W. Ruggles, G. P. & T. A., Dept. Adv'g, Chicago.

Precious Girls.
Beryl—Yes, I know the count is very sincere in his attentions to me. How can you say he is a trifler?

Sibyl—I know that he loves you, dear, and that is why I say he pays undue attention to trifles.—Baltimore Herald.

A Bore.
Mrs. Letto—How did Mrs. Bilkins ever get the reputation for being such a bore?

Mrs. Barkey—She tried the experiment of making it point north to say anything but good about anyone behind their back.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Not Dangerous.
Test—it seems she was taken with Mr. Cadleigh's intelligence.

Jessie—Well, that's all she's taken with it isn't a very severe attack.—Philadelphia Press.

No Need of Impatience.
It is only 97 more years until we start another century, and if they slip along as fast as those that are just gone it will be here before we know it.—Pittsburgh Times.

And It's Inevitable.
Judge—What is your profession?

Witness—I'm a poet, your honor.

"Huh! That's not a profession; it's a disease."—Chicago Daily News.

Fair Warning—He (nervously)—"Who is that tramping around overhead?" She—"That's papa. He always gets restless toward morning."—Town and Country.

Whenever a good grammarian finds a good idea, he endeavors to find a grammatical error in its construction.—Academy Globe.

The essence of knowledge is, having it, to apply it, not having it, to confess it.—Confucius.

The Four Track News for July, best yet. Sold by newsdealers. Five cents a copy.

One pugilist seldom strikes another favorably.—Philadelphia Record.

Don't Get Footsore! Get Foot-Pain.

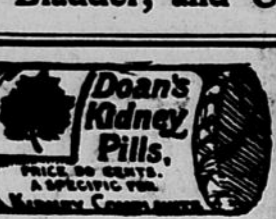
A wonderful powder that cures tired, hot, aching feet and makes new or tight shoes easy. Ask to-day for Allen's Foot-Pain. It's a new discovery. Price 25c. Sold everywhere. Address: A. S. Otis, 100 N. Y. St., N. Y.

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This people who want to appear stouter have been known to lie in wait.—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Let this Coupon be your Messenger of Deliverance from Kidney, Bladder, and Urinary Troubles.

It's the people who doubt and become cured who they doubt. The reason you can get this trial free is because they cure kidney pills and will prove it to you.



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Whoever are least disturbed in mind by calamities, and in act struggle against them, these are the best men in states and in private life.—Epictetus.

Dr. SLOCUM



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