

WABASH RIVER ONLY A PAST

Days as Highway for Trade by Steamboat and Pole Craft Ended. Stream Disappears.

ONCE A COMMERCE ARTERY
Vessels Piled From Lafayette, Ind., to New Orleans. Leader With Goods Up to 1870.

Mount Carmel, Ill.—In the early days of Eastern Illinois and Western Indiana the Wabash River played a very important part. It was for hundreds of miles, by flatboat, to New Orleans, and with each spring rise an immense fleet of these craft would go up to the Ohio on the long voyage to the far south.

Keel boats were used in upstream fighting and passenger traffic. They were model-boats, propelled by oar, pole and sail, or hauled by ropes, and would make the trip up from New Orleans in two to four months.

With the rapid growth of population and productiveness of the country steamboats soon followed. Keel boats rapidly declined, but the old-fashioned flatboat long held its own and was seen every season, though in slowly diminishing number, as late as 1875.

Since that time a flatboat has been a rarity on the Wabash. Navigation of the river in early days was a matter of vital interest. It was the only practicable outlet to the markets for products of the time, and up to the Civil War New Orleans held the bulk of trade from the Wabash valley.

Soon after 1830 steamboating rapidly grew to great proportions. For a time a great obstacle was the grand rapids just above this city, which soon led to the building of the dam here by navigation company. This left the Grand Chain and Little Chain Rocks the worst places below Terre Haute, though every bend was thronged with heavy rafts that were a constant menace and were often fatal to the steamer.

Large vessels of a heavy tonnage came from New Orleans, Louisville and Cincinnati in high water, and as far up as Lafayette, and a great trade was thus conducted for twenty years. A steamboat of 1848 loaded little like those of modern times, but the old boats were "palatial" in appearance, would carry great cargoes, and as long as they did not blow up or burn against a sawyer, made money.

As the country began to settle up the towing took more of the business of the river, however, and with the close of the war, railroads quickly absorbed the remainder of the traffic. By 1870 very little was left of the steamboat on the Wabash river, though ten years after there was a fair business carried on between Evansville, New Harmony, Grayville, Mount Carmel and way landings.

Excitement and glory of the old Wabash steamboat days are gone. The river has degenerated to a mere desert water course, nearly dry, ice blocked in its disastrous floods for nine or ten months of every year.

The lives of the early Wabash Valley people were strenuous, with few amusements, and almost no schools for years. An occasional house or barn was a real thing, and the people were content with widespread in their. Corn shucking and shooting matches were more frequent, but more local.

But nothing stirred the country as it did at a wedding. That was a momentous event which drew everyone for weeks, or thirty or forty miles, and even money and carnival would be set up several days and nights, terminating only with complete exhaustion and departure of the guests.

EGG SIGNAL FREES MAN LOCKED IN HEN COOP

Investor Is Rescued Through New Device That Tells When Fowl End Labors.

Tarrytown, N. Y.—An "egg signal" invented by Willis Odell came to his aid after he had been a prisoner for more than an hour in his chicken coop. Because of the fact that eggs were bringing high prices, Odell invented a scheme to keep track of his hens' laying. He placed an electrical circuit once in the coop, and as each hen stepped out of the nest a bell would ring in the house and Odell would be notified and get the egg.

With his son he was working a some repairs in the coop and sent the boy on an errand. As the youngster stepped out he allowed the door to close and the bell snapped. Odell found that he was a prisoner. He tried in vain to get out, then remembered his bell system and put it into operation to call his wife. Mrs. Odell was puzzled, but after the bell had been ringing steadily for a half hour she decided to investigate. She then saw her husband's face at the coop window.

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FRANZ JOSEPH FINDS BOZANOVITCH IS "MAN OF HOUR" WITH SERVIANS



Emperor Franz Joseph, on his charger, and Miles Bozanovich.

Emperor Franz Joseph has found that the real "man of the hour" opposing the moves in resistance to the Austrian troops dispatched against Serbia is not the infirm King Peter nor the crown prince, but Miles Bozanovich, the Servian war minister. He looms as the central figure in the Austro-Serb war.

DO NOT BE A LEANER. Power is in the world every where, ambition, and only weakness comes from imitation or dependence on others.

Power is in the world every where, ambition, and only weakness comes from imitation or dependence on others. Power is self-developed, self-grown. We cannot increase the strength of our muscles by sitting in a gymnasium and letting another exercise for us.

Nothing else so destroys the power to stand alone as the habit of leaning upon others. If you lean you will never be strong or original. Stand alone or bury your ambition to be somebody in the world.

The man who tries to give his children a start in the world by giving them a start in his own life, he will not have any time as he is busy, is unknowingly bringing disaster upon them. What he calls giving them a start will probably give them a setback in the world. Young people need all the motive power they can get. They are naturally leaners, imitators, copyers, and it is easy for them to develop into echoes, imitations. They will not walk alone while you furnish the way, they will lean upon you just as long as you will let them.

REFRESHMENT. When we reach the place where a measure of happiness is, we must not overpass it, thinking we shall some day return in fuller leisure.

When we reach the place where a measure of happiness is, we must not overpass it, thinking we shall some day return in fuller leisure. We shall not pass this way again, and if we did we could not find that hidden place. Nor must we hasten on with hot desire, deeming we shall reach some other spot of more satisfying happiness further down the way. We may reach that place at the beginning of the journey, while we are still keen for the quest, or it may be after tollsome years. But whenever he comes, it behooves us to pause and consider well the spot. One finds contentment and refreshment in quiet retirement, or in the quietude of an art or research, ill-rewarded, unacknowledged in perfecting knowledge; in achieving beauty. Another finds it in one woman. Happiness is found in the home. The turbulence of the world is the individual life, wherever there is space for the heart to overpread other lives. There is refreshment in the majesty and tenderness of the natural world of the forest, or in the calm of the rapid light touching the waves, in the plenty of autumnal harvests, in the calm of infantile hills.—Collier's.

ANIMAL BAROMETERS. The tortoise is not an animal who would naturally fit upon as likely to be afraid of rain, but it is singularly rain-fall. Twenty-four hours or more before rain falls the Galapagos tortoise makes for some convenient shelter.

The tortoise is not an animal who would naturally fit upon as likely to be afraid of rain, but it is singularly rain-fall. Twenty-four hours or more before rain falls the Galapagos tortoise makes for some convenient shelter. On a bright, clear morning, when not a cloud is to be seen, the tortoise may be seen sometimes heading for the nearest overhanging rocks.

When that happens the proprietor knows that rain will come during the day, and as a rule it comes down in torrents. The sign never fails.

This presentation, to coin a word, which exists in many birds and beasts, may be explained partly from the increasing weight of the atmosphere when rain is forming, partly by habits of living and partly from the need of moisture which is shared by all.

The catbird will come to give an approaching thunder storm by sitting on the low branches of a tree, uttering curious notes. Other birds, including the familiar robin, will give an indication of an impending change in the weather, by an impending change.

OUR FUTURE RAILWAY RIVAL. It Will Be Russia, Which Now Is Second to Us in Mileage.

It is a question merely of bigness the Russian railway system is far and away the first in Europe. There are already many more miles of railway in this vast empire than in any other country in the world excepting the United States, and Russian railways are still only in their infancy.

But in taking these large views, says Moody's Magazine, we have forgotten that Russia is two and a half times as large as all the United States put together with a population more than half as large again as our own, that in territorial extent it is more than twice as large as all Europe; that it stretches across the world for 170 degrees of longitude—nearly half way around the globe—and that it includes one-sixth of the land surface of the planet.

It is not surprising that in such a country railways should have had a large development, that already there is a considerable mileage and that the prospects in this direction seem to have no limit. In the future Russia and the United States are likely to divide the railway empire of the world between them.

An Old Fable. "Metaphysics," said Bishop Castle in a subject that always makes one think of the cat and the owl.

"A cat, you know, once set forth in quest of happiness. She wandered up, she wandered down, she questioned this animal and she questioned that. Finally, wrapped in meditation in a tree, she perceived an owl. "Owl!" said the cat, "tell me, most wise bird, where happiness is to be found!" "In meditation," the owl replied. "Meditation alone is the true secret of happiness."

"But," said the cat, "on what subject am I to meditate?" "On the subject," the owl answered, "which has occupied the race of owls since the beginning of time—namely, what will come of the egg; for, while the owl comes from the egg so also does the egg come from the owl!"

Famous Golf Match. The projected golf match between two well known amateurs and a leading member of the London Stock Exchange for a stake of £500 recalls the famous foursome in which the Duke of York, afterward James II., took a prominent part on the Leth Links in the year 1682.

It was really the Duke, with John Paterson, a golfing shoe-maker of great repute, championed Scotland against two noblemen of England, a heavy wager depending on the issue. The Duke and the cobbler had an easy victory, thanks largely to the man of the club, and John Paterson's share of the stakes was so substantial that he was able to build a goodly house in the Canongate, in a wall of which the Duke caused a stone to be placed bearing the Patersons arms with the motto "Far and sure," a tribute to the cobbler's driving powers. Paterson's house, we understand, survives to-day.

LIVED 14 YEARS WITH PYGMY RACE

Mrs. Powell Cotton Tells British Audience of Habits of African Dwarfs.

GIRLS NOT MUCH IN FAVOR
Birth of a Baby Boy, However, Is Looked Upon With Pleasure.

London—Probably few people would entertain the idea of spending their honeymoon in the belt of African Pygmy land, yet, judging from the remarks made by Mrs. Powell Cotton in the course of a lecture at the Halycon Club the place has its advantages, and she spoke from personal experience, as she journeyed to Africa to marry her husband and spend the first fourteen months of her married life in and near the Turi forest. The life at least is simple. The housewife, is freed from the domestic worries which prevail in civilized countries, and is totally independent of the trappings of fashion. A uniform case holds sufficient outfit to last for over a year, a small tent illuminated with a single candle (unless the supply runs short) serves as a dwelling, which is shared with enormous rats and powerful mosquitoes.

In the course of her lecture Mrs. Cotton gave an interesting account of the lives of the pygmies, who are mighty hunters, vindictive enemies and steadfast friends. Conditions are simple and clothes at a discount. A string of beads and a circlet or two of iron are regarded as the height of sartorial opulence in the case of a baby, and even in the case of an adult never go much beyond an apron of barkcloth with a bunch of leaves by way of ornament.

The birth of a girl is received with resignation; that of a boy with favor. It is satisfactory to learn that on her later life girls are looked on as of some importance. It takes a prospective bridegroom quite a long time to collect the five hoes, the sickles, three spears, thirty arrows and a bow of good price for a wife. The process is rather simpler if he should happen to have a sister, in which case he merely exchanges her for the bride.

All pygmies have a habit in a primitive shape of life, a beehive, four feet high built of plant saplings driven into the soil and thatched with leaves. After a time, however, they are placed in the form of a hut, but in childhood they are singularly free from the restrictions implied by the words "don't" and "must" and as they grow older their favorite recreation is dancing. The tango is not to be compared with the dance of the Hurl pygmies, which the lecturer prophesied might shortly find its way to London ball-rooms.

CHURCH SAVES LAST OF GANG After Spending Four Two Years of His Life in "Primitives" Style Is a Convert.

Los Angeles, Cal.—A little mission here has saved the last of the famous James gang from the life of an outlaw, robber and burglar. "Slim" Styles, who had been in recent boys in many of their raids and was one of three robbers to escape from the attempt to loot the bank at Northfield, Minn., in 1881, is now working with the mission here in attempts to convert others.

It was given out that Styles was killed in the Northfield robbery, but in 1890 he was arrested in New York and it became known that the dead robber was another man. From New York he was convicted of manslaughter and was given a long sentence at Sing Sing, but was pardoned March 17, 1913, on account of good behavior. A man interested in him brought him West. He was given a position where he could enjoy a good living and for a time things went well enough, but some one got track of him and informed his employer who the man was and he was discharged. Not knowing what else to do he came to Los Angeles with the determination to go back to the old trade of robbery.

One night while passing a mission here Styles heard singing inside and stopped to listen. At that moment the voice of his better manhood spoke. He hesitated, then cautiously entered. He listened to the testimonies of other men who had led lives of crime, or who had been redeemed from drunkenness and gambling, and who declared that their lives had been changed through the power of God. He sat there and sized up his own criminal career, deciding for himself that it was too tough a job for even the Almighty, but finally he was spotted by the mission workers and they induced him to go to the altar. Before the evening was over he professed a changed life.

Since that time Styles has been helping with the mission work and those working with him at Los Angeles there is no doubt but that his conversion is complete, despite the fact that forty-two of the total fifty-seven years of his life have been spent in prison.

He never saw an automobile until last March, when he walked to freedom, and he never drove in an elevator until a few days ago.

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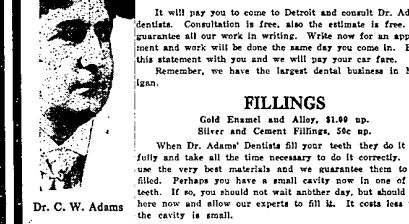
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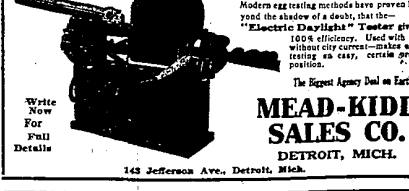
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