

RAILWAY JOURNEY IN AFRICA.

Four Hundred Miles to the Province of Oran—Modernization of Northern Africa.

FROM Algiers to Oran the distance by railway is about four hundred miles in a southwesterly direction. You start from the station on the busy quay, taking one of the clean, well-appointed coaches—lately built in England—which are at first such a surprise to the traveler, who came to Africa prepared to "rough it" and would find it easier to reconcile him to the camel train of the Bedouins than modern luxuries in this far country. The railway system of Algeria has made astonishing progress during recent years. It is the aim of the administration to have a great central line all the way from Tunis to Morocco, passing through the most important points in the interior, with various subsidiary lines joining this with the sea. A good deal of it is already completed, and the time is not distant when one may travel all over northern Africa in as comfortable and common-place as any train in the United States. To lovers of the adventurous, this is a disappointment rather than an improvement—like the modern hotels that have usurped the place of the Yacoubi, the Garden of the Gods and the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, and the railways that now desecrate the Heart of the Andes and other of Nature's inner sanctuaries. Soon the globe-trotter in his quest for a novelty, will find himself in the hard luck of Noah's dove when first sent out to discover dry land, and will return sadly to his ark without the typical olive-branch.

Reverend a nos moutons! First the train passes slowly through Algiers—the manufacturing suburb of Algiers, where are shops and workshops of all variety, carriage and cart manufactures, corn and saw mills, iron works, gas works, potteries, the new female prison and the old lazaretto—a very inferno of heat, smoke and hubbub which you gladly leave behind. Then, running close to shore, you raise the window of your compartment to enjoy the breezes and gentle rippling of the Mediterranean. There is no dashing surf along this coast, but the great inland sea is tranquil as a frog-pond, with little rise and fall of the tide. At Hussein Dey—so called from a pacha who belonged to the last day of Algiers, but is now incorporated in the great government establishment for the purchase and sale of tobacco—you enter a region of market gardens, and might almost fancy yourself in the suburbs of Boston or Chicago. A little farther on, having passed the junction with the line to Constantine, the road makes an abrupt turn to the west, following a bend of the Harrach river, and enters the far-famed Metidja. This is a vast fertile plain, a hundred kilometers long by twenty-five broad, lying between the high lands of the Sahel and the foot hills of the Atlas mountains. It is said that fully thirty thousand Europeans, mostly small farmers, are now settled in the Metidja, and the number is constantly increasing. Several picturesque villages are passed—Bou Farik, Sidi-Moussa, Roule, Aumale. If time permits, it is well to break your journey for twenty-four hours by a stop at Roule. In order to visit the baths of Hammam Belouan. The village is beautifully situated on the first slopes of the Atlas, at the point where the deep wide river enters the plain. The stage road winds through delightful mountain scenery, the sides of the ravines covered with pines, thuyas and olives, and the river fringed with fragrant oleanders. The baths, which are in high repute all over Europe, because of their healing qualities in rheumatic and cutaneous affections—are situated in an open part of the valley, in the midst of many acres of park-like land, with fine old olive and lentick trees, which form an ideal camping ground. We found it full of tents, and they tell us that from the middle of May to the end of October, hundreds of Jews and Europeans are encamped here. The guardian of the place says that he takes in an average of 700 francs a month in fees from the baths; and as the charge is only five centimes a bath, it follows that 14,000 are taken during that time. No doubt there would be many more, were there better accommodations. As a rule, passing travelers cannot command camping outfits, and the little inn contains only three wretched bed rooms. There are two principal springs, one of which flows through a rude bath in the ancient Arab Koubba of St. Sulpice; and the other is in a wooden hut behind the auberge. Both are dirty and ill-cared for, and being only seven feet by four, it is difficult to understand how a large number of visitors who frequent them can be accommodated. It is my private opinion that more diseases are changed and carried away, than are cured. Yet, there is no doubt that the waters themselves have remarkable healing qualities. Hammam Belouan means "colored water," and the name is derived from the red deposits of a small quantity of iron in solution. The water has a temperature of 103 Fahr., and contains a large proportion of saline matter. Were it properly managed and all the sources collected into one decent bathing place, six hundred baths a day might be available. Here undoubtedly, is a golden opportunity for some rheumatic foreigner, not only to get rid of his physical ailment, but to benefit the world and make a fortune at the same time.

The town of Boufarik, forty miles from Algiers, near the iron mines of Soumah, has perhaps 4,000 inhabitants.

At the same time of the French invasion it was a pestilential marsh, overrun with serpents and wild beasts. Just sixty years ago, Gen. d'Erion established a large entrenched camp there and Arab nomads, knowing that death would speedily claim the soldiers, without any waste of ammunition. Under the hot autumnal sun, the exhalations from the swamp became a virulent poison which no one could withstand. Young and old went down before it, and in a month the stricken camp acquired the name of "La Cimetiere." Years afterwards, the French government had the swamp drained; and now Boufarik is a healthy and flourishing market for cattle and agricultural products, with wide, clean, well shaded streets and large squares, through which flows a stream of clear water.

You might profitably spend a week at Blidah, the next city of account on the line, in the center of the orange groves whose products are sold in the markets of Algiers and exported to France in large quantities. The Atlas mountains over shadow the town, and on the other side stretches the beautiful Metidja plain. For miles around the air is perfumed with the scent of orange blossoms; every country road is shaded by trees and bordered with little streams of running water brought down from the hills. The Place d'Armes or principal square, is surrounded by arched houses, and planted with double rows of trees. Blidah is a fortified town, with military buildings on an extensive scale, large cavalry quarters and barracks, which accommodate three thousand men. The five gates in the walls, through which only ingress and egress is possible, are named "Portes Bab-el-Sabi, de Bab el Bab Zouah, de Bab el Rahah, d'Alger, and du Camp des Chasseurs. There are orange gardens to be visited in the vicinity and the Bois Sueri, ("Sacred woods"), a group of magnificent olive trees in the gardens of the Koubbas, (tombs, of Sidi Ahmed El-Kebir, who died in 1580, and his two sons. Interesting fables take place here every year on the prophet's birthday.

About a hundred miles beyond Algiers you come to the most celebrated baths of northern Africa; or rather, you stop at the station called Bou Medfa, and an omnibus, which meets the mail train from Algiers, conveys you on or six miles to Hammam Rirha. The road leads along the bank of the Oued (river) Djer, among fig and olive trees, and then by numerous zig-zags, mounts nearly two thousand feet to the springs. They occupy the site of the ancient Roman station known as Aquae Calidae, of which only some fragments remain to show that it was once a place of importance. These are several French hotels; the Etablissement des Baines, surrounded by a beautiful garden, the hot springs themselves, and another pension farther down the hill, being the property of M. Alfonse Arles-Dufour. There are several hospitals here, military and civil, and public houses of all classes, from the swellest and most expensive, to the modest pension at two francs per diem. The waters of Hammam Rirha are of two kinds—the hot saline, with temperature 158 degrees Fahr.; and the gaseous and slightly ferruginous, used for drinking. The latter is called by the Arabs An el-Kar, and is a part of the town, within an easy walk from the principal hotels. It has the usual taste and odor of added eggs, but with mixed with the French hot water, it is not so bad. The effect of half a dozen glasses a day, and as many more as one can swallow, is simply marvelous on persons affected with gout and rheumatism, and as this is the only place within convenient distance from Europe where baths can safely be taken. In the winter time, its hotels are crowded the year around.

The city of Oran—capital of the province of the same name, residence of the general-commandant, of the bishop, prefect, and commander of the intendant divisionnaire—is naturally of great importance in your journey. It is a port of entry, at the head of the Gulf of Oran, only 25 miles east of Gibraltar, lies Algiers, it is triangular in form, rising on the steep slope of the Djebel Moudjido. High above the town, on the summit of this ridge, stands the fort of Santa Cruz; and a little lower down that of St. Gregoire. Oran is not one of the Algerian towns which can claim a high antiquity, though some writers attempt to identify it with the Portus Magnus of the Romans. It appears to have been founded at the beginning of the tenth century, by two Arab merchants from Spain, who, coming to this coast for commercial purposes, obtained leave from the dominant tribe to establish a small settlement. They called it "Zahara," meaning a ravine, and until the Spanish conquest it remained a little village beside the stream, with an indifferent harbor and a fortification on the shore. After held in 1575, by the hands of the Almoravids, the Caliphs of Spain, the original founders were driven out. Subsequently it was several times burned and rebuilt by contending tribes, until it fell into the hands of the Almoravids about the middle of the twelfth century. These held it until their overthrow by the tribe of Ben-Zian, in 1270; after which it became part of the new kingdom of Tiemcen. But on account

TROPICAL HEAT WORSE THAN PLAGUE.



TREATING A HEAT VICIUM.

All over the country the hospitals and morgues have been worked this summer as never before, on account of the appalling list of dead and suffering, victims of the terrific tropical heat which now affects this country. In the big cities especially unfortunates have died in the streets by the hundreds. The above halftone shows how a heat victim is treated at the hospital. Stripped nude he is laid amid chunks of ice while an icy stream is played upon his motionless form. When consciousness is restored he is put to bed amid icy cold sheets.

of its valuable commerce with Italy, established by the Almoravids, it retained considerable independence, being allowed to appoint its own governor and simply paying tribute to Tiemcen. Being one of the nearest ports to Spain, Oran always maintained an intimate connection with the Moors of that country, and today it seems as much Spanish as Moorish, and decidedly more Moorish than French. When the Mohammedans of Spain retreated before the conquest of the Christians, they sought refuge in Oran. Moulay Ben-Hassan, one of the last of the Moorish kings of Granada, fled to this place when driven from his kingdom by reverses in the wars with Castile, and in the year 1509, on the final triumph of the Cross over the Crescent in the nearby peninsula, the Moors flocked here in great numbers. Under their influence, the former considerable export trade of the town gave place to the pursuit of piracy. Then Ferdinand, the Catholic, turned his attention to the extirpation of these dangerous neighbors. The king himself was at sea as a king could be, but Cardinal Ximenes supplied the cash, and also most of the soldiers by giving out that it was a "holy war," and all who engaged in it should have indulgence from certain fasts for the remainder of their lives. Under the "Crusade de Ximenes" the port was soon overcome, and the doughty cardinal sailed with the second fleet, which took possession of Oran. The Spaniards had now a firm footing. They fortified Oran, converted its mosques into Roman churches, massacred its citizens, appropriated its treasures, and set up the inquisition in the name of the Holy Father. The waters of Hammam Rirha are of two kinds—the hot saline, with temperature 158 degrees Fahr.; and the gaseous and slightly ferruginous, used for drinking. The latter is called by the Arabs An el-Kar, and is a part of the town, within an easy walk from the principal hotels. It has the usual taste and odor of added eggs, but with mixed with the French hot water, it is not so bad. The effect of half a dozen glasses a day, and as many more as one can swallow, is simply marvelous on persons affected with gout and rheumatism, and as this is the only place within convenient distance from Europe where baths can safely be taken. In the winter time, its hotels are crowded the year around.

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QUEER DEVICE.

The proprietor of a toy shop in a popular watering place recently hit upon an ingenious way of advertising his wares. He noticed that strangers who came there invariably amused themselves by walking along the beach and picking up the shells. At a trifling outlay he procured a wagon load of mussel shells, and upon their white interiors stamped in red ink an advertisement of his business. Every morning he sent out a boy with a basketful of these unique circulars to distribute along the beach. The visitors eagerly picked them up, and the toy dealer's business is said to have reaped reward from this ingenuity.

GOVERNOR ODELL DELIVERS ICE.



The above picture represents Governor Benjamin B. Odell in a new light. While in Newburg, N. Y., recently on his vacation the chief executive of the Empire state was to be seen going around in his father's ice delivery wagon and weighing ice. The governor was formerly an ice man himself and is not too proud or dignified to remember the old days.

Railway Magnate's Busy Day

Interests, Great and Small, of Transportation Companies Absorb the Time of President and Manager.

A practical railroad man, Charles De Lano Hine, is the author of an account in the Century of the way a railroad president passes a representative day: After being for a few hours with a railroad president, one has a better conception of the magnitude of the Chinese treatise on all things. The president, perhaps, has just returned from a trip to New York, where he has attended a conference of presidents of allied lines. He has been on the road all night, but, thanks to that business-like institution, the private car, often erroneously considered a luxury, he appears in his office fresher for work than the suburbanite who has just come in on the commuters' train. While the president is looking over his personal mail, word spreads about the big building that "the old man is back." Gradually the private secretaries of the different chiefs drop into the outer office to learn from the president's private secretary what business is most likely to come up first, and what chance there is for action on some pet measure. The bell rings, and for a few minutes the private secretary is closeted with the president. Daily telegraphic reports have kept the president informed of events on the line, but in a surprisingly brief time he learns of smaller happenings, of messages left by prominent callers, and of the general behavior of his child, the railroad. Then the president sends for his chief assistant, the general manager, and learns officially some of the things the private secretary has told him as gossip, and many others of greater moment, but perhaps of less real interest. The half-hour with the general manager may mean decisions involving the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars. It may mean happiness or disappointment to hundreds of homes. For example, if he is decided to move the company's shops from Dan to Beersheba, a breaking of home-ties, and perhaps disappointment to engaged lovers. Again, it may be decided to extend the tropic branch, which means a fortune to investors in land beyond Utopia and ruin to some in the old terminus. The president may tell the general manager that the demand for a dividend on the preferred stock is becoming more

clamorous, and that they must get along another year without the 5,000 new box cars that are badly needed and the building of which would affect many idle men. The president likely calls the attention of the general manager to the auditor's estimate of last week's earnings, and asks why expenses cannot be reduced just a little more. The president reminds the general manager that the contract for hauling Chicago dressed beef is conditional upon a second morning delivery transportation on a bluff and locating the freight yards near a busy river instead of climbing into the town. The trained eye of the president catches the salient points, and he tells the general manager whether or not funds are likely to be available, whether or not it is politic to antagonize municipal or other interests. The general manager diplomatically shows the president that the New Orleans cotton traffic is suffering

Lost Hair

"My hair came out badly, and was fast turning gray. I tried Ayer's Hair Vigor. It stopped the hair from coming out and restored the color."—Mrs. M. D. Gray, No. Salem, Mass.

St. Al. druggists. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

because of the president's order to consider Minnesota four as rush freight. He asks authority to increase the pay of a superintendent who has a better offer from another road. From the bundle of condensed reports he shows a saving of 100 tons of coal the previous week by reason of better fuel furnished from the new mines. He tells of a new gasoline engine at Pumpum which will cut in two the monthly bills for water supply for locomotives. He reports a conference with the mayor of a big city about the smoke nuisance near the freight yards. He opines that the president's last visit to the state capital has killed the Populist legislature's bill for granger rates. He suggests that it would be well for the passenger department to stop promising dollar excursionists a two-hour schedule for a hard three-hour run. He urges conciliatory measures toward the city council of Bucktown, which will repeat the speed ordinance as soon as the old morning accommodation train is restored, and "Number Six" (the St. Louis express) can then get through the town on time. In the most nonchalant manner he asks to be excused, that he may catch a train leaving in five minutes, as he has an appointment for the next morning some 600 miles away.

Before the general manager has finished the private secretary is entertaining two or three reporters of afternoon papers. The president sees them, comes out, shakes hands, and tells them rates are to be stiffer than ever; that the stockholders are tired of hunting snipe for the job of holding empty bags. He then jocosely asks them for news about his road, as he has been in New York helping his wife do her shopping.

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READING THE HAND.

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DESERET NEWS.

THE NEW STATE GEN. CLERK. A CORPORATION organized under the laws of the state of Utah. Location of principal place of business, Salt Lake City, State of Utah. Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the stockholders and board of directors, held on the 15th day of June, 1901, an assessment of one cent per share was levied on the shares of the corporation, payable on or before July 15, 1901, to the secretary and treasurer, at the office of the corporation, 200 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Any stock upon which the assessment has not been paid on or before July 15, 1901, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before, so many of the shares represented by each certificate of the stock so delinquent as may be necessary, will be sold on the 30th day of August, 1901, at 100 D. F. Walker Building, Salt Lake City, State of Utah, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., to pay the delinquent assessment, together with the cost of advertising and expense of sale.

The transfer books will be closed for the transfer of stock on the evening of July 15, 1901.

By order of the board of directors, THOMAS E. TAYLOR, Secretary.

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT. Name of Corporation, West Argent Mining Company. Location of principal place of business, Salt Lake City, Utah. Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the board of directors, held on the 15th day of July, 1901, an assessment of one cent per share was levied on the shares of the corporation, payable on or before July 15, 1901, to the secretary and treasurer, at the office of the corporation, 200 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Any stock upon which the assessment has not been paid on or before July 15, 1901, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before, so many of the shares represented by each certificate of the stock so delinquent as may be necessary, will be sold on the 30th day of August, 1901, at 100 D. F. Walker Building, Salt Lake City, State of Utah, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., to pay the delinquent assessment, together with the cost of advertising and expense of sale.

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BRESCI CHOSEN INSTRUMENT OF DESPERATE GANG.



Through the clever work of Detective Segura, now in Italy, the Italian government has obtained information of the existence of a desperate gang of anarchists who planned and carried out the assassination of King Humbert, Brescia being their chosen instrument. The clever detective is now in conference with the Italian police and efforts will be made to entrap and capture all the conspirators.