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HEATING BY STEAM.

Visit to and Inspection of the
Works at Troy.

How a Dinner Tasted Cooked by Va-
porous Water.

Denver Notables in New York.

[Correspondence of The Tribune.]

NEW YORK CITY, February 4, 1880.—So much has already been published on the combination system of heating that it is almost impossible to give any new points. That all know it is a success beyond doubt there is no question, and of all mediums used for heating all classes of buildings steam is the most healthful and desirable, consequently the least objectionable, and as Denver will soon be blessed with the Holly system a few facts upon the subject may not go amiss. Since writing from London I have visited Lockport and Troy, where every convenience was afforded me for ascertaining the exact loss from condensation and radiation of the mains. The results obtained in every instance were most flattering, indeed, but as the public generally cares only for actual results, and what steam is accomplishing, I will give you the benefit of the popular and well-deserved opinions of co-operative heating. While in Troy I visited more particularly the dwelling houses, and examined the manner of piping, cast, etc., and in no instance did I hear a complaint of any kind; on the contrary, all expressed themselves as delighted and very much pleased with it, and say that it is by far the most effective heat.

The heat obtained from steam is, as anyone will readily perceive, more moist, consequently more agreeable than the dry, burning heat obtained from a furnace or stove. It is very easily regulated, and the temperature is always even in all parts of the room; this alone is enough to condemn the other methods of direct or indirect heating.

Heretofore steam heating has been regarded as a luxury and beyond the reach of the masses on account of its great costliness, but Mr. Holly has perpetuated his name as the great public benefactor of the age in placing at the command of all the most desired artificial heat, not only putting it upon the same basis of cost, but in a majority of cases at a large reduction, not taking into account its hygienic qualities, which in itself is a boon not to be dispensed with when once enjoyed. When this can be said when the system is in its infancy, what cannot be looked for as it approaches perfection? The principal difficulty—steam returning to its original state—though has been overcome in transmission through long lines of large pipes. To bring this long desired effect about the pipes are very efficaciously protected by a very costly coating of non-conducting materials, heretofore given to the readers of THE TRIBUNE.

Of all the places which I have visited, Troy is the nearest to perfection and is obtaining better results from consumption of coal than even the Lockport company is. Everything is systematized, a record of every pound of coal consumed and of every pound of water evapo-

was in the best of spirits, and when asked how old she was, she replied: "Just eighteen; but I look a little older."

Mr. and Mrs. Hill, parents of Mrs. H. H. King, of Denver, are also here.

Last night I went to Booth's Theater, to hear Mr. Abbey's impersonation of Humpty Dumpty and the Spanish Students (fifteen). The Humpty Dumpty part was quite tiring, but when the students appeared all gloom disappeared, and long and continuous was the applause. The music produced on their guitars and mandolins is most wonderful and sweet, and of such a character as to leave a lasting impression on the audience. The style of music is quite novel and new on this side of the water, and is bound to be popular. They are claimed to be the original troubadours who appeared in Paris during the World's Exposition, and created such a wonder. I would give you a description of them, but will not impose on good nature, so good bye till I get home.

CHARLES H. SMITH.

NEW MEXICO.

The Approach of the Santa Fe
Railroad.

What is Thought of the Agreement Be-
tween the Santa Fe and
the Rio Grande.

Legislative and Social Matters.

[Correspondence of The Tribune.]

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, February 7, 1880.—The oldest town in the United States, for the first time, last Wednesday, heard the scream of a locomotive. The track is within four miles of the city, and ere the reader takes up this number of THE TRIBUNE it will have reached the outer door of this historic city. The floating class that always appear in front of a railroad have gone to the front. The rush for business hands, in a measure has subsided, and a superabundance of grab has been diminished from some cause. As yet we have not sufficient competition to reduce the price of many things that ought to have been reduced long ago, if the railroad is at our door.

United States Court is in full blast in Santa Fe, also the United States Grand Jury and much business is before them.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Here it is different, with the members from most of the counties, from that of Legislative bodies we have written up in the States. A member comes here from Silver City, 425 miles away. He comes to stay his forty days. He arranges matters before coming, for well he knows that there are no iron rails laid to his home, with Horton's reclining cars gliding over them; and the same might be said of many others—in fact, three-fourths of the counties of the Territory. Consequently the absentee list is very small when either branch of our Legislature convenes twice per day. The "exhausted energies" of our Down East statesmen is not exhibited here. There may be a rush of business toward the closing scenes, but it cannot be attributed to the emptiness of benches day after day, as we have seen nearer sunrise. Bills are not read and passed here with only a half-dozen of the

Of all the places which I have visited, Troy is the nearest to perfection and is obtaining better results from consumption of coal than even the Lockport company is. Everything is systematized, a record of every pound of coal consumed and of every pound of water evaporated is known to the fraction, and great credit is due to Mr. Babcock, the Superintendent and Engineer of the Troy company, for the excellence in the construction of plant, pipes, etc. One noticeable feature of the Troy plant is that, the steam is taken from the boilers, not through domes as is generally the case, but through perforated pipes with closed end, running along the inside top of boilers. The perforations are three-eighths of an inch in diameter, and whose aggregate area is twice that of the diameter of the steam pipe. The boilers are totally inclosed in brickwork, and strong hot blast used.

Mr. Babcock is quite a genius, and original in his appliances. He has already stolen a march on Mr. Holly by securing a patent on an improved double stuffing junction box, which he claims will eventually supersede the present boxes.

Although the laying of pipes at Troy was not completed till last November, and when most all had laid in their winter's supply of coal, there are now over one hundred consumers, and enough to pay the expenses for the year. For the season of 1880-81 they have promised them over two hundred additional consumers. At this rate steam heating is an assured success financially, both for the consumer and the company. With this assurance of facts Denver will only take hold of the enterprise the more willingly, and rapidly adopt this method of heating. The first cost of fitting up is much less than is generally known, so that it is really no barrier to its introduction.

The steam, on being brought into a house, is reduced in pressure, generally forty pounds, by an automatic regulator, to four and five pounds, though it can be adjusted to deliver at a higher pressure, if desired, but five pounds is the accepted pressure for heating purposes. The reduced pressure is strong enough to force itself to any part of the house, where it is received into radiators, or where furnaces have been used coils of pipes in an enclosed space may be substituted, the heated air passing to the rooms through the tin pipes and regulators above. Where separate steam systems are now used no changes are necessary other than disconnecting the boiler.

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While at Lockport I partook of an excellent dinner at Mr. Holly's, all of which was cooked by steam at thirty pounds pressure, and I must confess that I was surprised at the short duration of time required for the cooking of meats and vegetables, all of which were more palatable and deliciously flavored than that cooked by old method. The roast beef particularly was nicely browned, juicy, finely flavored and done just enough. Roast turkey very well done, not too much, quite tender, with an excellent flavor. Some ham was broiled in a few minutes, and I must say it was the sweetest I've ever eaten, was well done, nicely browned and soft. Boiled potatoes nicely done and very mealy. Tomatoes, corn, rice and beans nicely done and very sweet. The pudding and pie were far above the average and so very delicious. On the whole I'm in favor of steam dinners.

Quite a number of Coloradans are here. Among whom are D. H. Moffat, T. W. Moffat, W. S. Cheesman, J. B. Chaffee, H. A. W. Tabor, E. C. Kavanaugh, etc.; in fact, not a day passes but what I meet some familiar faces, and they are all so jolly while in New York. Tommy Moffatt and I are beautifully ensconced in room 3 at the St. James, and, by the way, the boy is just coining money. He deserves it, for no more generous and noble-hearted fellow lives.

Mrs. D. H. Moffatt, accompanied by Mrs. Frank Hall, left for Florida, Sunday, for the benefit of her health. Her very many friends will hope for her speedy recovery. Mrs. Hall