FAIR WOMAN AS A BEAT

RAILROAD COMPANIES AND RESTAURANTS HER CHIEF PREY.

Strange, But Even Honest Women Do Not Think It Amiss to Beat These Particular Public and Private Industries—Can Any One Explain It?

The readiness and enthusiasm with which fair woman will beat the restaurant keepers, soda water dispensatories, railroad companies and all other institutions of civilization for the collection of ten cent pieces or other small change is one of the strangest phenomena of these fast striding days.

I was discussing a lunch the other day with a very charming girl. The first thing she said after removing her gloves and arranging her rings so that they would show to the very best advantage to the other women present was:—

"Well, my ride down town didn't cost me a cent. That stupid conductor never came around for my fare."

Here she held up the five cent piece exultantly and laughed in an almost fiendish glee.

At the moment a pretty blonde girl passed our table and saluted my companion. The sight of the coin upheld seemed to inspire pleasant thoughts. She stopped and began to giggle. Then they giggled togetner and winked at each other.

"That reminds me of something funny, Susie," laughed the blonde girl, whose costume must have cost her husband quite a penny. "I have ridden in five horse cars to-day and it hasn't cost me a cent."

My companion instantly grew serious and knitted her pretty brows.

"How did you manage it?" she inquired eagerly.

"Easily enough," retorted the blonde beauty. "In two cases the impudent conductor never even asked me for my fare, and of course I didn't call him and beg to be taxed. Three of the cars I rode on were crowded, and when I boarded them others did so at the same time. The conductor was way up in front. He didn't know who or how many got on.

"Finally he came around with his eternal cry of 'Fare, please.' I looked straight ahead of me, for I wanted to see what he would do. He passed and repassed collecting fares from idiotic women, who were fumbling in their purses. Each time he looked suspiciously at me. At last he said, snappishly. Have I got your fare, ma'am?' I looked over his head as haughtily as I could. He became humble. 'Did I get your fare, lady?' he lisped. 'How many fares do you want?' I replied sternly. At that the poor man faded away to the back platform, thoroughly crestfallen. Several good looking fellows glared as if they had a mind to throw him out of the window."

The girls laughed long over this experience, but when the blonde charmer was gone I remarked savagely that I thought such tactics dishonest.

"Nonsense," observed my lady, laconically, and refused any further discussion.

In due time the waiter brought me my check.

"Let me see it," said my beautiful philanthropist. Of course she got it. She studied it for a moment seriously, then an amused expression crept around the tempting mouth, and finally she burst into a peal of laughter.

"See," she said eagerly, bending across the table. "He has cheated himself out of fifty cents. Now, don't be a simpleton and have him correct it. It's none of your business, anyway."

But I thought it a first rate opportunity for a lesson in morals. I called the waiter and showed him where he had erred, and you may believe he was profoundly grateful.

As I collected my change and rose to go I noticed an ominous frown settling over her lovely brow, and I am sure the word "fool" issued between her set teeth.

She did not speak to me for ten blocks, and when she did at last unbend it was in such a frigid fashion that I began to fear I had lost her forever.

10 MILES ABOVE EARTH.

ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING BALLOON EXPERIMENTS.

What Scientists Suppose Caused the Results Noted in This Article—The Record of the Instruments for Men Themselves Could Not Exist at That Altitude.

One of the most interesting experiments with balloons that has ever been undertaken was that of Messrs. Hermite and Besancon, at Paris-Vaugirard. They succeeded in sending a balloon to the unprecedented elevation of 16,000 metres, or about ten miles. There were no people in the balloon, but it carried a variety of self-registering instruments designed to record the temperature, the atmospheric pressure, etc. The little balloon was started on its lofty trip about noon, when the air was remarkably still and clear. It rose rapidly, and in three-quarters of an hour had attained an elevation of ten miles, at which height it remained for several hours.

It was there subjected to an atmospheric pressure of about one-eight as great as that at the surface of the earth, and M. Hermite explains its floating for so long a time at a constant height by supposing that the temperature does not vary sensibly with the elevation of the floating body after the latter has attained an altitude where seven-eights of the atmospheric pressure is lacking and where there remains no trace of water vapor.

But toward 6 o'clock, when with the decline of day the temperature began rapidly to fall, the balloon started back toward the earth, arriving with a gentle motion which did not disturb the instruments it carried, at 7.11, at Chanvres, near Paris-Vaugirard, from which it had started.

The balloon was visible with a telescope during the entire time. It shone like the planet Venus seen by day. By means of a micrometer attached to an astronomical telescope the apparent diameter of the balloon could easily have been measured, and this would have furnished a means of calculating its altitude independent of the record of the barometer which it carried.

The barometer and thermometer were furnished with automatic pens driven by clockwork, by means of which diagrams of the changes of pressure and temperature that the balloon experienced were obtained. At the height of about 7 3-4 miles the thermometer marked a temperature of about 60 degrees Fahrenheit below zero. Then the ink in the registering pens of both the thermometer and the barometer became frozen and the records were interrupted.

But, as the balloon continued to rise, the ink thawed again, and at the ten-mile level the automatic records were renewed. The temperature registered there was only si degrees below zero. The increase of tem perature is ascribed to the effect of the un clouded sun heating the air in the baske that contained the instruments. The low est record of the barometer was 1034 milli metres, or a trifle more than four inches.

M. Hermite calls attention to the fact tha the density of the air at the height of te miles, where the balloon remained durin most of the afternoon, is less than existin upon the plains of the moon, on the as sumption that the atmospheric density o the moon is proportional to the force o gravity at the surface of that orb.

If this is correct, then the instrument would have behaved about the same it M Hermite had been able to place them o the moon as they did when he sent them only ten miles above the earth.—Youth' Companion.

The Salmon's Annual Migration.

Every year, as the summer season ap proaches, the salmon of the Atlantic Ocea leave their feeding-grounds in the northern seas and enter the clear, cool rivers of th extreme eastern United States and th Canadian provinces. Impelled by a singu lar instinct, this noble fish, day after day week after week, works its way towar the heads of the streams, up the swiftes rapids and through the quiet pools, leap ing every obstruction. During the whol summer this great army pushes onward dividing at the forks of a river and break ing up into still smaller bands where tribu taries enter. Of the great multitude tha left the ocean, every fish has reached th very spot, the very pool where it was born and lived the first eight months of its life —except the many that never passed th cruel nets, and those that jumped at th beautiful flies which are tied to long silken lines, or else, dazzled by the gleam o torches, were pulled into canoes by men with spears.

At length the object of their weary march is attained, and so the army disbands. The long journey has been conducted in a leisurely way, only a few miles each day, but with wonderful persistence. Enemies in the water, fishermen with rods and reels, and poachers with spears thin their ranks, but those that reach their homes at the heads of the rivers are protected by a wise law, which prohibits their capture from the time when they begin to lay their eggs until the anchor-ice, choking the streams, drives back to the sea the fish, now lean and hungry with long fasting; for the salmon is a dainty feeder in its summer home, touching the most tempting and alluring flies only occasionally. Yet a tiny young salmon, called a "parr," having attained the first six or eight inches of its length in fresh water, returns the following year a year-old salmon, or "grilse," of four pounds weight.

He Had the "Giftie."

"Oh," she cried, "if I could only see myself as others see me!"

"It wouldn't do," said he. "It would make you too conceited."

And then she smiled upon him all the rest of the evening.