

sion which occupied a full hour, during which time the passengers got out and walked. There was a service of night boats, fitted with berths, but as these also carried freight the voyage would occupy ten or twelve hours.

Travelling by one of these night boats I had a fearful dream of a man struggling in the water, I saw him, as it were with my eyes opened, raise his hands imploringly above his head, but there was no one to help him, and he sank like a stone to the bottom of the canal. The whole thing was clearly impressed on my mind's eye and caused me no small perturbation. Imagine my surprise on reading next day in the morning newspaper, "A deplorable accident occurred last night, resulting in the death of a man by drowning in the Firth and Clyde Canal"! The recollection of this inexplicable psychological phenomena remains with me to this day as no other incident before nor since—explain it who can.

Sedan chairs stood at the street corners in Edinburgh in 1834. A few lumbering hackney coaches of singular appearance competed with the chairs, but the former were still the more popular, and were patronized largely by the gentry, especially by ladies doing their shopping or going to the theatres and parties in full dress. The Sedan chair was in the shape of a box say about 36 to 40 inches in width, and high enough to clear the head of the occupant. It had glass fronts and partially glass sides with curtains that could be drawn to secure privacy; they were carpeted and cushioned, comfortably and even elegantly in some instances. The carrying poles passed through the iron eyes on the sides of the chair and were withdrawn at pleasure. The bearers were usually stout Highland porters having leather slings over their shoulders terminating in a loop to receive the ends of the poles, the bearer's hands having thus little to do save to steady the machine. Before setting out on a trip these fellows would fortify themselves with a dram and a liberal dose of snuff, when they would trot off at a lively gait. Smoking was much less prevalent than now. Many ladies even carried their snuff box.

These chairs were regulated as to fares and equipment by the Town Council. They had official numbers. They must carry