

the same direction, or at how high a rate of speed they may be run. The complete double track, with ample third track for waiting freight or slow trains, avoids all danger of collision. As an additional safeguard, all passenger trains on the road are equipped with the Westinghouse Automatic Air Brake, by which the engineer himself can bring his train to a standstill within the distance of its own length.

In leaving the city of Philadelphia, we pass through the famous Fairmount Park, the largest in America, and one which is surpassed in extent and in natural beauty by few in the world. It extends a distance of five miles along the Schuylkill River, and six miles along its romantic tributary, the Wissahickon, and embraces an area of two thousand nine hundred and ninety-one acres. "Within this area," remarks Mr. Sipes, in his elegant description, "are rocky precipices and grassy plains—wooded hills and secluded dales—meandering rivulets and murmuring waterfalls—extended prospects over city and country—the placid Schuylkill and the picturesque legend-haunted Wissahickon—combining a variety and beauty of scenery that can nowhere else be found. The park is under the charge of a number of distinguished gentlemen, known as the Park Commission, who serve without remuneration, and devote much time and taste and skill to its improvement. From year to year the drives, bridle-paths, and walks are extended, and the ruggedness of nature toned to please the eye and add to the enjoyment of the people."

The view from Belmont House, an old historic mansion, in the park, is one of the finest landscapes in America. Under the mellow glow of an afternoon sunlight, as we first beheld it, the broad expanse of flood and field and forest, the soft shadows creeping over glen and vale and glassy river, and the level rays turning to gleaming emerald and topaz the rich foliage of the trees, and in the distance the snowy peristyle of the American Parthenon, Gerard College, and the far-flashing spires and stately towers of the fair City of Brotherly Love, made up a picture of surpassing loveliness, whose memory is a perpetual delight. This beautiful view is well shown in the frontispiece.

The sail up the winding Schuylkill, in the quaint little stern-wheel steamers, presents a succession of delightful surprises, as