

THEY WERE ALL DEAD.

'One of the best stories I ever heard,' said John Thomas to the St. Louis 'Globe-Democrat's' corridor man, 'is vouched for by Captain Rivers, of the Fort Worth and Denver Railway. A Russian Hobrow came to this country and established a dry goods and notion business. He was so successful that he sent for his younger brother and started to educate him in the business. The boy was slower to learn the ways of the world than his brothers had been, and the latter sometimes grow impatient. One day he said:—

'Now, shust wait und see how I do. Dere vas a lady.'

'The lady asked to see some silk, which was shown, a piece at \$2 a yard.

'But I saw some like it a few days ago for \$1.50,' she said.

'I do. I don't id, madam; but dot vas some days ago. I vas selling dese goods at dot price until yesterday, ven ve got vord dat all do silkvorms in China vas dead, und dot goods vill cost us more as two dollars now.'

The lady was satisfied and purchased the silk.

'Now, you see how dot vas done. Dere vas a lady now; you wait on her,' he said to his brother.

The lady entered and asked for tape. The young man was all attention, and the desired article was speedily produced.

'How much?' the lady asked.

'Ten cents a yard.'

'Why, I saw some for eight cents.'

'I don't doubt id, madam, but dot vas some dime ago. Shust to day ve heard all de tape worms vas dead, und dere would be no more tape less as twenty cents a yard.'

There are 965 street railway companies in the United States, representing a capital of \$648,330,755. This sum is divided among the various systems as follows: Six hundred and six electric railways, \$423,493,210; 359 horse, steam and cable railways, \$224,837,536.

The Ticket Seller's Trick.

He "worked off" a Canadian Dime and some Pennies on a Man who was a Kicker.

"Well, well! that's the slickest trick of making a passenger take pennies for change I've seen the ticket agents resort to!" said a man at the Park elevated station, as he ruefully surveyed a Canadian dime which had just been handed him by the ticket seller.

"Those fellows are obliged to work off their pennies on the public as best they can, and resort to all kinds of dodges to do this, but this is the cutest scheme yet."

"A passenger who hands the agent a dime for a single ticket is almost sure to receive the change in copper cents. Every man knows what a nuisance pennies are in his pocket."

"If he wants a dime or a nickel he is sure to fish out a penny, unless he brings up a handful of change at once. When I have a pile of coppers shoved through the little hole at the ticket window I always shove it back and demand another ticket."

"Of course the agent has to give me the ticket and 'ake the pennies back, usually with a half subdued grunt of resentment at the failure of his ruse. I usually feel tickled with myself for getting the better of the

agent, but I was floored this time.

"I gave him an American dime and demanded a ticket. I got it and the five pennies besides. I poked the copper pile back and asked for another ticket. I didn't get it, but instead this Canadian dime shot through the hole in the window, accompanied by a remark that the road did not take foreign money."

"I have been in the habit for years of looking at the date of coins, for I was once an ardent collector of rare pieces of money, and did not forget to examine the American 10-cent piece which I handed the ticket man."

"It was the only dime I had, and I watched him shove it to his right, while I also watched him reach over to his left hand and get the Canadian piece which he insisted was the one I had given him."

"What could I say? His word was as good as mine, and I could stand and argue the matter all day and have my labor for my pains, so I had to take the disputed dime and hand over a quarter in payment for my ticket and two piles of pennies to boot. But I'll get square with some other agent or my name isn't—"

The reporter will never know what the man's name is, for the roar of the approaching train drowned the speaker's voice as its owner disappeared through the iron gate. — (New York Tribune.)

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