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Letters relating to advertisements, job work and other business affairs, to be directed to Wm. J. HERDER,

All communications intended for publication or containing intelligence, must be addressed to ALEX. A. PARSONS, Editor.

TRAVELS OF BOB BURDETTE.

Bane of all banes in this transitory baggage. I have had griefs to stir a mutiny in the blood of age, all on the account of a valise weighing not more than forty pounds. I have had sorrow and vexation of spirit, days of anxiety and nights of waking, because of trunks, not lost, but gove before or left behind.

"But," says Mr. Newtraveler, "there is no necessity for having any trouble with baggage in this country. You can check your trunks from your hotel in New York and find them at vour hotel in San Francisco when there you

So you can. So you can. If they are there. I will admit at the outset that I am somewhat absent-minded, and hence unfit to be trusted with the care of my own baggage. Once I went away from Oberlin, Ohio, leaving all my worldly belongings on the station platform, and for three days thereafter I wandered up and down the land without a check on my baggage or conduct; but the agent at Oberlin, assisted by the express company, overtook me with my lecture, night robe and dress suit, and all was well. In ten years of wandering I never lost a pound of baggage. But oh, the times the baggage has lost me. We always meet again; but even with the hope, or even the certainty, of meeting by and by, parting with one's baggage is a pang, and the hours waiting are long and heavy.

Sometimes it gets " carried by." This feat is deftly accomplished by the baggageman on the train. It consists in carrying a trunk checked for Kankakee on to Chicago, then taking it back to Cincinnati on the return train, and bringing it back to Kankakee two days after you have gone to Denver. A good baggageman, who understands his business, can keep a trunk going up and down the road for ballast until the train gets wrecked or the owner of the trunk dies and his heirs pay the railway company something for extra baggage.

Then sometimes the checks get crossed. One piercing winter afternoon I stepped from the train out in Minnesota, and handed the 'bus man my check-good for four figures-I went to the hotel. About twenty minutes before lecture time a tin trunk came into my room bearing the marks of 4,000 miles of travel, and exhaling the balmy breath of the steerage. It was locked with a harp and a wooden peg. It contained some strange-looking roomy articles of raiment which the landlord assured me were woollen shirts, a pair of leather breeches, double thick at the dome, a dozen vests. None of these things had I any desire to wear, especially as the hardy Viking to whom they belonged had been cast in a mould big enough to turn me out in sets of half a dozen. It was two days before I got my valise. I wouldn't have got it so soon, because I never make much of a row about these things, but the Scandinavian to whom belonged the tin trunk had made Walhalla howl when the baggageman delivered to him my poor valiee with its tawdry trinkets. "By the bjammer if thor!" he roared. "Jwfhat use jhavj I, a grownj jman, fjor these baby clothes?" And he cast it away from him and would have none of it."

There is one ministering presence that hovers over the wanderer like a guardian spirit and never abandons him so long as there remains even the faint hope of a sale. 'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam, there is nothing so constant as the train boy. It were folly to talk of abolishing him, for he s almost indispensable. But frequently he needs regulating. I admired a lady whom I saw the other day on a train running out of Indianapolis. The boy threw into her lap, as he did into the laps of all the patient passengers, a bound book, a box of figs, and a rollingpin full of candy. She calmly swept the assortment off upon the floor. On his return trip the indignant boy remonstrated. "Lady." he said, "I didn't bring these things into the car to have them thrown on the floor." "And tient waiting for her. - Judge.

I," said the lady sweetly, "didn't bring my lap into the car for a table."

I hold that, under the inner-state law, passengers should be allowed full control of their own laps, and the railway company have no right to use them. A man doesn't pay full fare for the privilege of being used as a sample-room of the railway news company. The train-boy should know who does and who does not want certain of his wares. Of course he can't know everything, but sometimes he doesn't seem to know anything. Now, in the case of the kiln-dried figs sold on the trains. The boy throws a box of them into every lap on the train. Yet I could tell on a dark, stormy night, at a distance of three hundred miles, the three men in a train of five hundred passengers who would buy those figs. Of the three, one is blind and easily deceived, the second is drunk and will buy anything, and the third man really buys them to eat, knowing

Ah, here comes a gentleman and a lady. The gentleman carries a little hand bag slung from his shoulder, a leather hat-box, two umbrellas and two canes. The lady carries a hand-bag, a shawl-strap, a band-box, a paper parcel, a lunch-basket, a baby, and musters a squad of four children. It is an Englishman

The gentleman in the seat just in front of you is from Metropolis City. Metropolis City s a thriving metropolis four miles south of the junction. It contains a saloon, a site for a school-house, a place for a church, and some inhabitants. Whenever you hear a station called with "city" at the tail end of its name, hold your nose and look out for the smallest, nastiest little hole along the line. The smaller the town the bigger the name. This gentleman is going to see the country as he goes along. Can he not see as you do, through the window? Oh, no. You couldn't persuade him to believe that glass is transparent. He knows better than that. Whenever you meet on the train a man the windows of whose home are so coated with grime and dirt the year around that he can't see through them with a telescope, you will see him raise the car win dow when he wants to look out. You see, he has formed the erroneous idea that all glass i opaque. See! he doesn't look out with his feb17 eyes. He leans far out and looks with his

Watch the lady leave the car. She has her basket, her bag, her bird-cage and her umbrella. With her basket she can push a man clear over the back of a car seat. With her bag she can slap his hat over his eyes without looking at him. With her bird-cage she can muss the hair of any woman whom she passes. And with her umbrella she can stab people in the back and put out the eyes of people behind her. She sets out to leave the car by the front door. But only one or two people seems to be going that way, and turning her head she sees a lot of people crowding into the car by the rear door. Instantly it occurs to her that a route so popular must certainly be the best. She turns and charges down the aisle. The incoming passengers, coveting earnestly the best seats, struggle fiercely to reach them. The old lady, fixing her piercing eyes upon the rear door, makes way for liberty and egress. People cry out, "The other way!" And the old lady wonders why they don't go that way themselves then. It flashes upon her with the light of a revelation. It is a plot to get her out of the lonely end of the car, where four masked men with blackened faces are waiting to rob and murder her, and then whisk her off into a private lunatic asylum. She remembers now seeing the conductor go out at that door, and beckon her to follow him. He is in league with the robbers. She will gain the rear door or die! She crashes and plunges through the incoming procession, leaving a chaotic wreck of raiment and baggage in her wake, and reaches the door at last, herself a wreck. With a triumphant glare at the baffled conductor, who has come into the car to look for her, the dear old soul backs down the car steps, hangs on to the hand rail, and reaching down and out with one foot, feels around for the planet we inhabit. Finding the globe at last, she taps it cautiously with her foot once or twice, to make sure that it is there, and will not suddenly shoot away into space as she comes down, and so descends, stands safely on the platform, and in her blessed old heart gives grateful thanks for safe deliverance, and carries her sweet old face, her many bundles and her capricious pockets up to some home that will lose three-fifths of its sunshine when grandma makes her last journey and is received without a bundle or package, a trouble or fear, by the

angels who must sometimes grow a little impa-

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