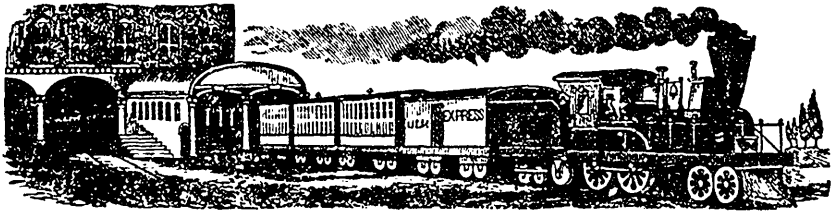


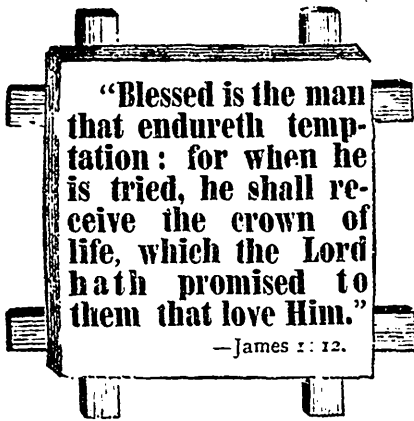
# OUR "SPECIAL."



PUBLISHED BY THE RAILWAY COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
**TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.**

No. 2.

AUGUST, 1881.



## PERSONALS.

**M**R. Alexander Munro, Ticket agent of G. W. R., at the Union Depot, one of our most earnest workers, who has "been a succourer of many and of myself also" has been at Niagara Falls on duty for the past month, and is now at London. We shall be glad to see him back again at the "Union" uniting with us for the salvation of men. The "special", wishes him every blessing, and would be glad to hear from him.

Mr. John Harvie, who for 28 years served the Corporation of the Northern Railway of Canada, on retiring from their service was presented with a life pass in the shape of a beautiful golden locket (with an inscription on ivory) which he wears on his guard. Mr. Harvie is one of the oldest friends of our work, and we hope that God's richest blessing may secure him a most pleasant pass through the life which is, as it has secured for him into that life which is to come.

Richard Robinson fireman on the G. T. R., is convinced that conventions are the things to fire up Christians. He certainly got fired up, at the international convention of Y. M. C. A., at Cleveland.

Mr. Jos. Greene, the Northern Railway station agent at Davenport, has for years attended the Union Depot, on the first "Lord's day" of each month, and for a long time past he has attended the Nipissing on the last of the month. On the first Sunday of July he addressed an assembly at Collingwood, on Temperance. The Collingwood paper speaks in high terms of Bro Greene's address, and those acquainted with him, can easily understand that his earnest practical manner of presenting truths could not fail to command attention.

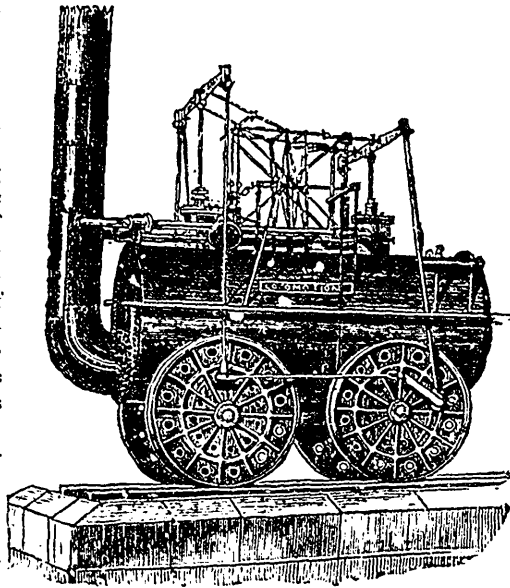
## GEORGE STEPHENSON, THE RAILWAY PIONEER.



EVERY person interested in Railways, would be largely benefited by enquiring into the particulars of the career of George Stephenson, father of Railways—inventor of the Locomotive—and one of the greatest engineers the world has known.

Geo. Stephenson was born on June 9, 1781, at Wylaud, Netherthumberland, Eng. He was the second son of a poor man who had six children to support on 12 shillings (less than three dollars) per week.

We call attention to him as one of the foremost specimens of self-made men. "For the first fifty years of his life" says Dr. Smiles (his biographer), "he had everything against him, he owed nothing to luck, to patronage, to the advantages of education. He owed everything to bravery, intense conviction, and prolonged perseverance. He had to teach himself everything from the A, B, C, to the principles of mechanics. He had to conquer every inch of the ground on which he stood." When he was a boy he was employed as a cow-herd at two-pence per day, afterwards he was engaged at six-pence per day, at the colliery where his father worked, and at 16 years of age he was appointed fireman at the same colliery, and on account of his industry, sobriety, and perseverance, was soon appointed to drive the engine, which was the desire of his heart, for when he tended the cows, he was often found diverting himself by erecting mud engines, "fitted with steam



THE FIRST LOCOMOTIVE.

pipes of hemlock stems, little wheels obtaining imaginary power from neighboring streams, which early and clearly indicated the bent of his mind," and when he arrived at the position he desired, his spare time was always used in the most profitable way, for, while other men were spending their time chiefly at cock-fights, and dog fights, and at the "yellhouse," George was accustomed to employ himself in taking to pieces his en-

gine, and cleaning all its parts, and putting it back together again, thus becoming acquainted with its construction, the result being that he was not long before he acquired considerable local reputation, from his ingenuity in overcoming difficulties arising from the imperfect machinery used in the mines..

At 18 years of age he was unacquainted even with A, B, C, but, a man of his composition could not—would not, remain in such ignorance. By attending night school, and properly using every leisure moment at his command, the patient pupil ere long outstripped his teacher, and where the desire to learn was so strong, rapid transit from darkness to light was certain. Let every man employed on Railways tread in his footsteps, and good to more than self will be the result. Against every disadvantage of circumstance and fortune, he struggled upward, by sheer force of will, and the determination to succeed. He confessed his ignorance, and set about to remove it with all his might, and succeeded till at length he reached the summit of eminence.

At 30 years of age he was appointed engineer at Killingsworth colliery, at a salary of £100 a year, and went on from stage to stage, until all difficulties were overcome, and his services were in such demand, that in the mania for Railway building, he might have made fabulous sums by allowing the mere use of his name. But for this he was too honest, as he was for everything his judgement disapproved of, and he would never allow himself to be used as a tool.

In everything he undertook he never thought of failure; he never dreamed of impossibilities, but by patient, unwearied, self-reliant industry, he rose from obscurity to world wide renown, and emphatically proved, that *perseverance* is power. At present there are nearly 225,000 miles, of railroad representing \$17,000,000,000, of value over-running every continent, and many of the islands of the globe, and yet, sixty years ago, the man to whose ingenuity, indomitable perseverance and foresight all this is due, was denounced as a lunatic, ridiculed, sneered at. Everything he proposed was urged by his opponents to be an impossibility, but he proved a man whom neither high sounding praise (harder to bear that mockery) nor dissatisfaction could in no way influence. He was never elated by the one, nor by the other cast down, but he persevered and won, and verified the saying of the wisest man that ever lived, "seest thou a man diligent in his business, he shall stand before kings" for on one occasion he said: "I have dined with princes and sat with kings, peers, and commoners—with persons of all classes, from the highest to the humblest. I have made my dinner of a red herring in a hedge bottom, and done the meanest drudgery. I have seen mankind in all its phases, and the conclusion I have arrived at is—that if we were all stripped there is not much difference (except in quantity) between us."

"If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him." 2 Tim. ii. 12.

## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL MEETINGS-



ARE held in the waiting rooms of the Union Depot at the foot of York and Simcoe Streets, and the Toronto and Nipissing Station at the foot of Berkeley St. at 3 p.m., every "Lord's day," and to these all are cordially invited. The singing at the "Union" is conducted by the choir formed for the purpose, and any who can sing, are most cordially invited to come and help at either place, as there are at that hour thousands strolling listlessly around, who by the singing of gospel hymns may be attracted to come in, and by the Divine blessing be delivered from the power of Darkness, and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son.

### READ THIS BOYS.



IF you want to be strong, do not touch intoxicating liquor. "The famous athlete Tom Sayers was once asked by a gentleman, "Well, Thomas, I suppose that when you are training you use plenty of beefsteaks, and London porter, and pale ale?" The boxer replied: "In my time I have done more of that than was good for me; but when I have *business* to do, there's nothing like *water* and the dumb-bells." After retiring from business he took to drink, and died a sot. Cold *water* made him a Samson; alcohol laid him in his grave. As a matter of personal health and long life "it is good *not* to drink wine!" —*The Preacher's Monthly*.

### Can a Railroad Man Amidst all his Peculiar Trials be a Christian?

We read in Ps. 105, 23-25, "Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham, and He increased *His people* greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies."

Ham was the cursed of the Lord, and Shem the blessed; Ham was the vulture, and Israel the progeny of Shem the dove; Ham the lion; Israel the lamb; and here we have the dove thriving in the vulture's nest, and becoming superior in strength, —the lamb prospering in the lion's den

and becoming mightier than the king of the forest, and by referring to the history of the event, we find that the hungry vulture vainly used all its power to overcome the dove, and the lion with all his might strove to destroy the lamb in vain, for we read in Exodus 1: 12, "But the more they afflicted them the more they multiplied and grew."

Now trials are exceedingly beneficial to all those "who love the Lord in sincerity and in truth," and God assures us that he has delivered. will deliver, and delivers now (2 Cor. 1. 10). God's grace has

the best place to be triumphant in the case of those who are exposed to so many privations and temptations. You know men who are Christians working by your side, enquire of them the way of life and walk in it; for if Israel thus prospered in Egypt; Joseph, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Peter, Paul, Silas, and a host of martyrs in prison, Daniel in the lion's den and the three Hebrew children in the fiery furnace in Babylon, you may trust the Lord obtaining that "precious faith" that pleases God and baffles the devil in all his vicious machinations.



## PROGRAMME FOR AUGUST.



### COTTAGE MEETINGS.

Every Thursday at 8 p.m. .... No. 18 Portland Street.

The International Sunday School lessons for the following Sunday are the Subjects.

### SUNDAY GOSPEL AND SONG SERVICE.

3 P.M.

#### UNION DEPOT.

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| SUNDAY Aug. 7..... | Jos. Greene, W. E. Burford.            |
| " " 14.....        | W. Garside, Alf. Sandham.              |
| " " 21.....        | W. Marks, Rev. H. Melville.            |
| " " 28.....        | Hon. Jno. McMurrich, Rev. Jno. Salmon. |

#### NIPISSING STATION.

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| SUNDAY Aug. 7..... | John McGregor.                |
| " " 14.....        | Bible Reading. W. E. Burford. |
| " " 21.....        | Wm. Marks.                    |
| " " 28.....        | Jos. Greene, W. E. Burford.   |

Noon Meeting every Wednesday from 12 30 to 1.00, at T. G. & B. Shops. All men are welcome.

### RAILWAY COMMITTEE OF THE TORONTO Y.M.C.A.

W. H. HOWLAND, *Chairman.*

W. GOODERHAM, JR.  
J. HARVIE.

J. B. GRIFFITH.  
J. O. BENNETT.

J. EARLS.  
A. MUNRO.

RAILWAY SECRETARY:

W. E. BURFORD.