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SOUL'S PARADISE.

All zones I searched—in pain—in glee—
For Paradise, sweet Paradise.
Its stately towers I ne'er could see:
Faint Paradise, far Paradise.

Still on I toiled courageously
Tow'rd Paradise, dear Paradise.
As I approached, its walls would flee:
Sad Paradise, fool Paradise.

I ceased my quest! It then found me!
Close Paradise, self-Paradise!
Now hourly, where I go or be
Is Paradise, soul's Paradise.

—JAMES H. WEST.

HISTORY OF THE STEAM ENGINE.

James Watt Not the Inventor but the Developer of this Great Power.

The invention of the steam engine marks a most important epoch in the history of mankind. Industry, and, in fact, almost the whole of civilized society, are widely different from what they were before it was invented and from what they would now be if it had not been invented.

James Watt was not the originator of the idea of using steam as power to drive machinery. A patent on a steam engine was taken out by Thomas Savery almost forty years before Watt was born. Thomas Newcomen also had invented such an engine which was in use for sixty years before that of Watt. The great merit of Watt was that he seized the crude suggestion offered by their crude machines and created out of it a machine so perfect that it speedily worked a mighty industrial and social revolution. Seldom in history has a man appeared who united in the same degree as Watt a capacity for philosophical speculation with the perseverance and the ingenuity requisite to the practical application of the conclusions of his philosophy.

Watt's father, at the time he was born, was a prosperous merchant and shipwright at Greenock, the port from which the merchandise of Glasgow was shipped. James was a sickly boy, but studious, industrious and precocious. When he was sent to a commercial school he was ridiculed and abused by his fellow students because of his lack of physical strength and agility. As a child he was troubled by those terrible headaches which later frequently all but prostrated him when he was engaged in the most arduous and important of his life's labors. He read widely, but from early youth concentrated his attention on chemistry and natural philosophy.

There is a story that when he was 14 years old he received a sharp rebuke from his aunt, Mrs. Muirhead, because, as the good woman said to him, "For the last hour you have not spoken one word, but have taken off the lid of that kettle and put it on again, holding now a cup and now a silver spoon over the steam, watching how it rises from the spout." He learned to use the tools in his father's shop with much dexterity, and the workingmen there said, "Little Jamie has got a fortune at his fingers' tips."

Business reverses suffered by his father made it necessary before he was 18 years old for James to begin to learn a trade. He chose that of a maker of philosophical instruments. He entered the service of an instrument maker in London, and in one year learned more about his trade than most apprentices did in seven. He was not a burgess in Glasgow, nor had he served an apprenticeship in the borough, so that when he went to that city to locate he was forbidden to open a shop. Fortunately he had friends among the professors of Glasgow college. Appreciating his abillity and skill, they allowed him to establish himself inside the college grounds and gave him the title, "Mathematical instrument maker to the university."

Business came slowly. As he had little work to occupy his time, he did much studying. He seems to have first turned his attention to the subject of improving the steam engine in the year 1759 or 1760. The engine was at that time applied chiefly to pumping water from mines, and it was so clumsy and wasteful of fuel as to be of little use. Watt's early experiments led to no result In the winter of 1763-'64 he got hold of a model of Newcomen's engine. From this time the improvement of the steam engine was the chief labor of his life.

The first feature of Newcomen's engine which struck him was its large waste of steam. With a view to remedying its defects he entered upon the most profound and searching scientific investigation of the properties of steam that ever had been made. He finally came to the conclusion that two conditions were essential to the economic use of steam in a condensing steam engine. First, the temperature of the condensed steam must be 100 degrees Fahrenheit or lower. Second, the cylinder must always be as hot as the steam which enters it. These two conditions were incompatible in Newcomen's engine, and for many months Watt could contrive no way to reconcile them. But one Sunday afternoon in 1765, when he was walking on the Glasgow green, the thought flashed upon him that if the steam were condensed in some vessel besides the cylinder the temperature of condensation could be kept low while the cylinder stayed hot. The moment when this flash of genius occurred may, without much exaggeration, be said to have been the one in which the invention of the modern condensing steam engine took place. When Watt tested his new idea he found the separate condenser acted as he had anticipated, and that by means of it he was able to get four times as much power from a given amount of steam as he had been able to get without it.

Nearly four years were to elapse before he could take out a patent. He was engaged meantime in trying to prove the merits of his engine by trials on a large scale. His early experiments got him in debt. He therefore made a contract with Dr. Roebuck, founder of the Corron Iron Works, whereby the latter was to have two-thirds of the profits of the invention for bearing the cost of it. Roebuck himself soon got into financial difficulties, and Watt had temporarily to abandon his experiments and take up the profession of civil engineer to get a living. Roebuck finally sold his interest in the engine to Matthew Boulton, proprietor of the Soho engineering works at Birmingham.

On the formation of the firm of Boulton & Watt, Watt removed to Birmingham, and in a short time his engine was on the market. He was to work at it ten years more, however, before he should approximate his own ideal of his invention In its invention and improvement he spent almost a quarter of a century. By 1784 Boulton & Watt's dues from their mining engines were $50,000 a year, and long before either died the invention had built large fortunes for both members of the firm.

Watt retired from business in 1800 and devoted the rest of his life to philosophical studies and mechanical pursuits. He was the discoverer of the composition of water. He also invented several minor machines, including one to copy sculpture and a letter copying press.

"I look upon him, considering both the magnitude and the universality of his genius, as perhaps the most extraordinary man this country has ever produced," says Wordsworth. He will always take undisputed rank among the greatest benefactors of mankind.—S. O. D. in Baltimore Herald.

BAD FOR UNRULY BOYS.

A Probability that the Rod will again be Used in New York Schools.

It is claimed that there is marked growth of the sentiment in New York city in favor of the use of of the rod in schools. The New ark, N. J., News says: "For several years past the discussion over corporal punishment in the New York board of education has grown more and more heated, and the rod party has become more and more aggressive. At the board's last meeting the committee on elementary schools presented a majority and a minority report, the latter recommending the restoration of corporal punishment. Four of the committee favored it, and five were opposed to it. After a lively discussion in the board the vote taken on the minority report showed fifteen in favor to twenty-two against This is a comparatively close vote. The conversion of only four more members to the corporal punishment rule would restore it to every school in New York city, and this would unquestionably exert a powerful influence in many cities and states in which moral suasion does not meet all requirements. Ninety per cent, it is formally stated, of all the principals of the New York schools for boys favor the rod. They argue that only four boys out of every 100 are bad enough to deserve corporal punishment, but that the 96 others are entitled to protection from the example set and the disorder caused by those who are incorrigible without the use of the rod. The strongest argument against the use of the rod in schools is the one least considered; its effect upon the good children who are never in danger of it. They think it may be their turn next. They are in constant dread, and in their mental unrest and distress they sometimes incur the very penalties they strive to avoid."

Anger Cost Him $40.

In some men anger and impatience are veritable tyrants of the inner kingdom. A scientific gentleman in Washington, exasperated by the stupidity of a negro servant, seized the nearest book at hand and threw it at him. The servant dodged and the book went out of the window. The servant was sent for it, but some passer-by had taken it and disappeared. On looking about, he found that it was one of his rarest books that he had thrown away. Some weeks afterward he got an opportunity to replace the book at $40. On examination he found it was the very same. His moment of anger had cost him $40

Origin of the Name Ann Arbor.

Ann Arbor, Mich., gets its name from Ann Allen, the wife of the first settler in that region, the pioneers being in the habit of referring to that particular little hamlet as Ann's Arbor.

LORD CURZON'S PROPHECY.

"Great Britain's Work in India is Just and shall Endure."

Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, writes in World's Work a brilliant forecast of "The Future of British India." After a profound review of India's strategic importance to the British Empire, of the vast difficulties and responsibilities of her administration, and the progress made in improving the conditions of life there, Lord Curzon sums up the destiny of Britain in India in these prophetic words:

It is seventeen years since I first visited India; it is fourteen years since I first had the honor of being connected with its administration. India was the first love, and throughout all that time it has been the main love of my political life. I have given it some of my best years. Perhaps I may be privileged to give it yet more. But no man could do this unless he saw before India a larger vision or were himself inspired with a fuller hope. If our empire were to end tomorrow I do not think we need be ashamed of its epitaph It would have done its duty by India and justified its mission to mankind. But it is not going to end. It is not a moribund organism. It is still in its youth, and has in it the unexhausted purpose. I am not with the pessimists in the matter. I am not of those who think that we have built a mere fragile plank between the east and west which the roaring tides of Asia will presently sweep away. I do not think our work is over or that it is drawing to an end. On the contrary, as the years roll by the call seems to me more clear, the duty more imperative, the work more majestic, the goal more sublime. I believe that we have in our power to weld the people of India to a unity greater than any they have ever heretofore dreamed of, and to give them blessings greater than any they now enjoy. Let no man admit the craven fear that those who have won India cannot hold it or that we have only made India to our own to its unmaking. That is not the true reading of history. That is not my forecast of the future. To me the message is carved in granite, it is hewn out of the rock of doom—our work is righteous and it shall endure.

It is of interest to note that Lord Curzon married a Maryland lady, Miss Mary Leiter, of the widely known Washington county family.

A Remarkable Brain.

After Prof. Taguchi of the Imperial university, Tokyo, died, his brain was weighed and found to stand second in the list of 107 brains of eminent men throughout the world whose brain capacity had been recorded. Taguchi's weighed 1,920 grams. The weight of the human brain ranges between 300 grams for the imbecile to 2,000 grams for the man of genius.

CURES STOMACH TROUBLES

THE body gets its life from food properly digested. Healthy digestion means pure blood for the body, but stomach troubles arise from carelessness in eating and stomach disorders upset the entire system. Improperly masticated food sours on the stomach, causing distressing pains, belching and nausea. When over-eating is persisted in the stomach becomes weakened and worn out and dyspepsia claims the victim.

Thedford's Black-Draught cures dyspepsia. It frees the stomach and bowels of congested matter and gives the stomach new life. The stomach is quickly invigorated and the natural stimulation results in a good appetite, with the power to thoroughly digest food.

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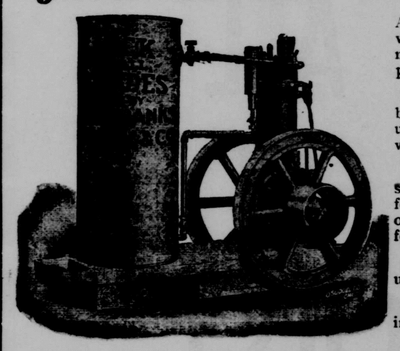
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