

#154

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Stanley
My Earl Insects - Adm
and

1867

As for your correspondent, he had a most excellent breakfast on the boarding car of General Casement, who, with his two brothers, has the contract for laying down the rails. Before he undertook the work it had progressed very slowly on the old system, but bringing to bear on it all his energy and ability for organization, and the discipline of military life, he quickly revolutionised affairs. By running his boarding cars to the end of the tract he is able to keep his 240 men close to their work. Behind them are cars laden with a certain number of rails, all of the same length, with the exact number of chairs and spikes to secure them.

The boarding cars having been pushed as far as possible toward the end of the track, the material is thrown off behind them; then the boarding cars are shoved back, and the smaller cars loaded with the rails are brought up. The small loaded car is drawn forward to the end of the track by horse power. A couple of feet from the end of the rails checks are placed under the wheels. Before it has stopped, four men on each side grasp a rail, run it beyond the cars, lay it down in its chairs, gauge it, and, ere its clang has ceased to reverberate, the car is run over it, and another pair of rails laid down. This process is continued as rapidly as man can walk. Behind the car follow two boys on each side, who drop the spikes, others set the ties well under the ends of the rails, then come thirty or forty men driving in the spikes and stamping the earth under the ties. All this work/p.195/ is executed with great rapidity and with mechanical regularity, and Captain D. B. Clayton, superintendent of laying the track, showed your reporter a specimen of what could be done. He gave his men the hint, and in the space of exactly five minutes, as timed by the watch, they laid down the rails and spiked them, for the distance of seven hundred feet. The rails are for the distance of seven hundred feet. The rails are twenty-eight feet in length. There were fifty rails laid down, of course one on each side of the track. At that rate sixteen miles and a

Medicine Lodge Treaty - 1867