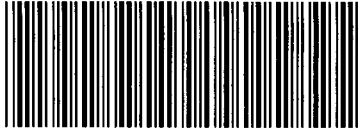


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flowing bowl. They should also have one or more policies in our insurance, that when through the silent hours of the night death claims us, our families will be provided for, and will not be thrown upon the cold charities of a colder world. Paula Hardy was, indeed, a heroine, whose whole life, as given in the story, is worthy of emulation.

G. A. H.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I am of the opinion that a brief report from me, as one of the oldest surviving locomotive engineers of the day, may not be amiss, and I hope the readers of your very valuable JOURNAL, may be interested in the same. I had the honor of handling as engineer, one of the first locomotives built in this country. The first locomotive built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works was for the Schenectady & Utica Railroad. When that road was completed to Syracuse, in 1839, this company gave an order to the Baldwin works for twelve locomotives and four, the 9, 10, 11 and 12, were used on the division out of Syracuse. The first train was run on this system July 4, 1839, and created quite a wonderful excitement throughout the country. Thomas Mathews was Master Mechanic of the Utica division. Locomotive No. 12 was in the winter of 1839 and 1840 used as snow plow and was in my charge, and no doubt the first snow plow locomotive in regular work handled in America. In 1841, or 1842, I had constructed a sand box after my own ideas. I am nearly positive that the first sand box lever I had adopted was one similar to that now in vogue. Mr. David Beggs, then Master Mechanic of a part of the road, had a sand box placed on locomotive No. 11. I was engaged at the time in handling her, and whenever I would wish to use the sand and would pull the lever the sand would run down through a faucet outside of the box and would fly over the machinery and oft-times cut the guides and machinery. I thought the problem o'er and o'er and finally persuaded the company to adopt my suggestion, which was to have valves inside the box connected with a rod from the cab. There were also connected with the valves, as now, pipes carrying sand down to the track. As I wander over the space of time I can not help wondering at the rapid and magnificent strides made by railway companies in the perfecting of locomotion of the day, and especially so since I manipulated the throttle. No doubt many, very many, who sit by the hearth perusing the B. of L. E. JOURNAL, could give reminiscences of their railroad life which would form very interesting reading. I believe their experience on

the old strap rail with the all-powerful 8 and 10-ton mogul, with its starting bars, the then pride of many good men, would form a very interesting theme.

JOHN VEDDER.

### Guide Our Footsteps.

Loving Father, guide our footsteps,  
Guide us through this world of care,  
On our heavenly home above us  
Let our thoughts be centered there.

In this world of sin and sorrow  
What are all the joys we find?  
Earthly pleasure will not linger,  
With purer joys, then, fill our mind.

In this world the Blessed Virgin  
Her holy mission did perform,  
And in Bethlehem's humble stable  
Her infant Son for us was born.

Help us then, to trust in Jesus  
Who for us died on the cross,  
Lest in this world of sore temptation  
Our souls in darkness may be lost.

Help us then, oh loving Father,  
Guide us through this world of sin,  
That when we reach the gates of heaven  
We with the blest may enter in.

J. C. SCHREIBER, ONT., Jan. 22, 1893.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Feb. 14, 1893.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Will you kindly permit me the space in our valuable JOURNAL, to air my views concerning legislative boards, and also to give your readers some idea of the work being accomplished by the board in Minnesota. To my mind, one of the most important questions confronting the B. of L. E. at this time is in utilizing and developing what, in my opinion, is the most important factor in our future progress and prosperity. It is the work and organization of legislative boards in all States, territories and provinces within the jurisdiction of the B. of L. E. Even the least interested lay member must, by this time, be aware of the fact that the benefits to accrue to labor organizations through our legislative boards and like agencies are only limited by the amount of united effort put forth to secure what to us are legitimate ends. In Minnesota we are pushing rapidly forward toward success, and hope ere the present session closes to have on the statutes of this great and growing commonwealth several laws that cannot help being of great benefit to our kind. Our plan has been to call the board together in the beginning of the session, thoroughly discuss all the measures in our interests, draw up some well-defined plan of action, select some member of the B. of L. E. to

represent us at the capital during the session, and have such bills introduced as are in the interest of organized labor. Furthermore, its duty is to keep a record of the progress of the measures presented, appear before the different committees in their behalf, and explain as well as can be, why we ask the relief afforded in the bills presented, and in addition, by personally interviewing the members of both the House and Senate, try to create a sentiment favorable to the legislation proposed. At the close of the session, a report is made to each Division in the State, of the work accomplished, together with a personal record of each individual member of both the House and Senate, as to his attitude and vote on our measures. During the last campaign in Minnesota this record was an important factor, and was used with decided effect. We issued for the guidance of our members, just previous to the last election, a pamphlet circular which, in the shape of a moral persuader, could not have been excelled. The effect was, indeed, wonderful, and put us in touch with the thinking people of this State, and greatly increased our prestige. So much for organized effort.

My plan would be to have all State boards thoroughly organized and then have committees from said boards interview every candidate for the State Legislature and for Congress, and find his views of labor legislation; keep a record of their ante-election promises, and then send a representative to the sessions to keep a record of their attitude and vote on such questions. When the end is reached and the record is made, it ought to be considered the duty of all Brothers in the State who desire to perpetuate the good work of the board and to make their future work more effective, to see to it that those who befriend us and support our cause are in turn befriended by us. This can be done by using every honorable means in our power as voters to have our friends either returned or else promoted to higher political honors. In doing this it should be the special duty of all members of the B. of L. E. to make it a point to attend all caucuses and nominating conventions, and see that our friends are provided for, and then make a special canvass among our friends (the voters) in their behalf, and in all honorable ways aid them in securing election. In this way each and every member of the B. of L. E. would be able to serve those who deserve it at our hands, without resorting to personal or purely partisan feeling. I look to this movement to in time relieve our General Boards of Adjustment of the greater portion of their work, for the simple reason that all, or nearly all, of the ills that human economic conditions

are heir to can be remedied, if not entirely cured, under the head of "Be it enacted," and in support of above proposition I desire to say that the fact is patent to any one, especially to those who have studied the question, that little or nothing is to be gained by strikes, and the general proposition is advanced that one dollar spent for legislation will accomplish more good than ten dollars spent for a strike. Brothers, seek redress from your law-makers and through the ballot.

WM. C. HAYES.

## Our Mother.

TO NORAH O'NEIL,  
In appreciation of the womanly article written  
by her for February JOURNAL.

Some sing of the heroes of olden time,  
Some of those of a later day,  
Of brave deeds done in every clime  
Since man was first made from clay;  
Of those who face death in every form  
And are ready to dare and do,  
In the battle shock or the ocean storm,  
They are always loyal and true.

Some die for a bauble which men call fame,  
And some for their country's good;  
Some will boldly face the scorching flame  
Or contend with the raging flood;  
That their deeds are great I will not deny,  
But I sing the praise of another,  
Who from danger's path will never fly,  
But will always be true—our mother.

In our childhood's days, with what loving care  
And gentle words she will guide us,  
Our every ill she will gladly share,  
Though a bitter world may chide us,  
When sick and in pain we lie on our bed,  
One touch that pain will smother,  
When we feel a hand laid on our head  
And know 'tis the hand of our mother.

No duty too great for her to perform,  
Or dangers but she will meet them,  
We are safe in her love through every storm;  
All labors—she'll gladly greet them.  
If our body lies mouldering beneath the sod,  
And we are parted from each other,  
Till we meet at the judgment throne of God  
Will we live in the heart of our mother.

Though our faults are many and sins are great,  
Though the scaffold is standing before us,  
She is at our side in every fate  
With her sheltering arms held o'er us.  
If in prison cell we should be cast,  
Forsaken by father and brother,  
While life remains her love will last,  
We will always be dear to our mother.

God's blessing on her old gray head,  
And peace to her evening of life;  
She will soon be numbered with the dead,  
Far removed from care and strife;  
Yet still she watches each beck and nod,  
And strives to do what she can;  
She was worthy to be the mother of God,  
Too good for unworthy man.

—Mickey Free, Div. 359.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

MESSRS. EDITORS: In the JOURNAL of June, 1889, I gave an account of the formation of the Franklin Institute, in 1824, its