

gain admission there while they were fainting for the food which they had deferred taking : I had seen their look of suffering as the bell rang while they were still detained outside the door ; and I had heard some expostulate angrily with the guard and dare him to move the train, while they and the many around them were excluded from the still closed door and overcrowded precincts :—they would start again without refreshment, but the other, they said, they would not forego ! And this is English delicacy ! And I shall be reproached for describing on paper what every man who travels on an English railway witnesses with his own eyes ; what every woman suffers from and blushes for. Faugh !

Each of the cars I now inspected contained from ten to twenty seats on each side of the passage ; giving, therefore, accommodation to from forty to eighty travellers. Not half of the places were engaged. The occupants were of every class above that of labourers ; for a division of classes in a railway train, would be incompatible with American feelings : they have, indeed, express trains and mail trains,

but the fares on all are the same : and their only way of enabling the poorer citizens to avail themselves of railroads without shocking their own and the public sense of decorous equality, has been by the invention of what they call "emigrant trains". These are cheaper and slower, and perform, for example, in twenty-six hours the three hundred and twenty-eight miles which we, in the express train, were now doing in ten hours. Emigrants do not pretend, as yet, to an equality with other citizens ; and public feeling does not think them insulted by having a cheaper, a distinct train provided for them. If citizens please to avail themselves of it, that is their own affair : they are supposed to do so for their own convenience, not as acknowledging any inferiority !

And yet, from the motley assemblage we met in these railway cars, we never experienced the slightest annoyance. When there was other space, no one intruded into a sofa which had already one occupant. Americans are cleaner in their linen and clothes than Europeans ; and though their sentiments of independence and common citizenship, give them a manner and

tone of equality, yet they also give them a sentiment of self-respect which prevents them doing what would lower them in public opinion. During all this day's journey, I saw, besides the person who collected fares and tickets in the carriages, no railway official in apparent authority, no policeman:—every American seems to consider himself interested in the preservation of order. A moral Lynch law governs the intercourse of all: for all being, more or less, dependent upon the public opinion of all, no class can afford to despise the public opinion of another class. As one proof of this general sentiment, I record that a rope passes from each car communicating with a bell beside the driver, so that any passenger may ring it in case of illness or accident. When such a contrivance has been suggested for English railway carriages, the objection has always been that the train would be constantly stopped by the whim or the malice of silly or mischievous travellers.

But, meanwhile, our cars are rattling forwards, with no great motion, and at a fair pace; for although our average speed for the

three hundred and twenty-eight miles does not exceed twenty-eight miles an hour, yet that speed, when moving, is, in reality, much greater, because our train makes so many stoppages to take in passengers and for refreshment. Leaving the glorious Hudson River at Albany, we had soon crossed over to the banks of the romantic Mohawk ; and, for miles, the railway and the great Erie canal followed all its windings amid those picturesque pine-covered rocks. The inhabited country might be a mere track through a desert : but yet the track was all alive. Railroad, canal, aqueducts, saw-mills, and smiling villages, connected together by log-houses and châteaux, gave the whole a look of perhaps greater animation, than can be found in many an old settled country ; as a spot of ground, in which bricklayers and carpenters are building a house, swarms with activity much more than the same space when the quietly inhabited house is secluded in its own flower garden. About Little Falls, a rising village of some three thousand souls, the scenery is quite Swiss : homely Swiss scenery without the Alps.

Indeed, the whole of this line on the banks of the Mohawk river, for about one hundred miles, would be considered beautiful or very pleasing in any country. What, then, must it have seemed to us to whom everything around had the additional charm of novelty!

We passed through Frankfort, through Utica; we passed through Rome even; and thought its streets and squares so wide, and laid out and rising with so much regularity, as to shame its crumbling historic prototype; we passed Oneida, with a classical sound of its own, far dearer, to the European traveller in America, than any sham reminiscence of ancient Europe; and we came on to Syracuse. The train dashed, as usual, into the middle of the town, and stopped there. Waiters, in front of half-a-dozen hotels, were ringing their dinner bells in the crowded street; we went into that which we deemed most inviting, and found an excellent dinner, which we were allowed ample time to eat, and for which I was charged four dollars and twenty-five cents, or about eighteen pence a head.

At Syracuse, another canal and railroad