

water tanks, and an engineer is required to run the pumping plant, an American is always in charge, with a Mexican for fireman. For him, and for the station agents, who are nearly all Americans, larger houses are built, and more attention is paid to decoration and to neatness.

At Durango, which is a city of nearly 40,000, the commercial agent of the road lives above the station, which is a well built and picturesque structure, of cottage style, and evidently a comfortable as well as a pretty home.

Here, as elsewhere along the line, the section hands have their homes furnished by the company, rent free. But for the higher employes another arrangement is in effect which seems to be satisfactory in its workings and best for both parties involved. Any of the higher employes, station agents, mechanics, etc, may have a house built for him by the company, at any cost that he may choose, and it will be leased to him at a yearly rental of about 10 per cent of the cost of the house.

Section hands are paid 50 cents a day, and, measured by the amount of work they accomplish, the effectiveness of their labor, are dear at the price. Mr. Gregory declares that one good Irish section hand on an American railway will do the work of half a