

= Railroad Gazette =

Railroad Gazette was a trade journal first published in April 1856 that focused on railroad , transportation and engineering topics . Master mechanics read and used the publication to share information about railway matters with one @-@ another . An article in the publication documented what was purported to be the first locomotive run in the United States on a railroad , which was stated as performed by the author of the article . It also reported about the Erie Railroad 's Rochester Division 's electrification and about the opening of the Thebes Bridge . Railroad Gazette editors included Arthur Mellen Wellington and Matthias Nace Forney , and Horace Cleveland was an article contributor .

Another publication of the same name Railroad Gazette was established in 1843 in Rogersville , Tennessee . It focused exclusively upon " internal improvement " .

= = Overview = =

Railroad Gazette was a trade journal published in the United States that focused on railroad news , transportation and engineering . The journal also published editorial content . It was established and first published in April 1856 . Master train mechanics were among the journal 's readership , who used it to share in technological information about railway matters . The publication served as a forum for readers to discuss railroad management and technology .

= = Content = =

In February ? June 1872 , Railroad Gazette published a series of articles written by a person using the pen name " Hindoo " , and reader comments in response to the articles . Hindoo was a British colonial official who was visiting the United States , who stated that the Indian railway system very rarely had problems with head @-@ on and rear @-@ end collisions , which were more frequent in the United States . Hindoo proposed that this was due to the manner in which Indian train stations dispatched trains using telegraphs , in which a system was used whereby each train station acted as a " blocking point . " This blocking point system was originally devised by the British railroad industry , and forbade trains from leaving a station until a telegraph was received from the next station stating that the line was clear , upon which a clearance card was issued to the train operator . Hindoo felt that the U.S. system placed too much responsibility upon a single dispatcher , who would " oversee all freight and passenger train movements on a division . "

Hindoo 's articles provided a comparison of safety matters between Indian and American railway systems , comparisons of management systems and styles and comparisons in train dispatching methods . A main contributor to the ongoing discussion was a reader using the pen name " X " , and several other readers also responded . In a response , X stated that the U.S. system was less expensive and more efficient compared to British and Indian methods , and posited whether another system could be used that is both cost effective and safe . Additional reader responses generally concurred with X 's opinion , but did not provide solid suggestions about how to remedy such problems . One respondent stated that some of the comparisons were faulty as being based upon U.S. railway lines that did not use telegraphic dispatching . This discourse in Railroad Gazette during this time also covered various aspects of problems and flaws in the American railroad system , and potential reforms to remedy these problems .

An article published on April 18 , 1884 in Railroad Gazette , written by railroad engineer Horatio Allen and titled " The First Railroad in America " , states that the author ( Allen ) was the operator of the first locomotive run in the United States on a railroad . Allen stated that on August 9 , 1829 , he ran a locomotive named Stourbridge Lion in Pennsylvania " three miles and back over rails of wood upon which bar iron 2 ¼ inches wide and 1 ½ inch thick was spiked down " .

Railroad Gazette reported about the electrification of the Erie Railroad 's Rochester Division . It also reported about the Thebes Bridge at the time the bridge was opened in Illinois .

= = Personnel = =

Arthur Mellen Wellington was one of the editors of Railroad Gazette from 1884 to early 1887 . Wellington 's work The Economic Theory of the Location of Railroads was first published in a series of Railroad Gazette articles in 1876 . A book of the same content was published in 1877 by Railroad Gazette . Matthias Nace Forney was editor of the publication in the ( circa ) 1870s . In 1866 , Forney patented a concept for urban elevated railways which " later became the de facto standard for elevated railway service " . Articles written by the noted American landscape architect Horace Cleveland that focused upon tree planting efforts in the western United States were published in Railroad Gazette .

= = Selected works = =

Armstrong , Henry E. ( September 16 , 1904 ) . " Early Transportation in New York " . Railroad Gazette , Volume 37 , No. 14 .

A list of accessible Railroad Gazette issues may be accessed at Railroad gazette , published by the Hathi Trust Digital Library .