

CUYAHOGA VALLEY.

ONE OF THE MOST PICTURESQUE IN THE WEST.

WHAT MAY BE SEEN BY A TRIP UP THE VALLEY RAILROAD.

The advent of the iron horse in the Cuyahoga Valley will open up to the traveling public some of the most beautiful and romantic scenery in the broad State of Ohio, if not in the West. For years, it is true, its beauties have been open in a measure to the slow-plodding boatman or the occasional horseman, but so far as any general knowledge of its wild picturesqueness is concerned, the valley will be a revelation to hundreds and thousands, when once the road is open for travel.

The ride of a *TRACON* representative over that portion of the Valley Railroad between Akron and Boston, yesterday, a distance of 75 1/2 miles, furnished ample evidence upon this point. And as no description of the road for this distance has ever been in print, a hurried account may not be out of place.

Leaving the Akron depot grounds the train crosses the North Howard street bridge and the cut beyond, and immediately emerges upon the high trestle just south of Schumacher's German Mills and over the canal and adjoining flats. Looking down from this height of 60 feet or more, the view is somewhat trying to weak nerves, but the strength of the trestle soon disarms all fear. The road at once curves to the north and passing through two or three deep cuts strikes boldly into the valley. Here the view, partially hidden yesterday morning by a fog, opens out in all its attractiveness. The railroad closely hugs the sides of the hills, which, crowned with noble forest trees, still tower many feet upward. Below is the canal, winding in and out to conform to the sinuities of the valley, and still below, the Cuyahoga itself, most picturesque of rivers, flowing carelessly on, apparently at its own sweet pleasure. Now it creeps cosily up under the shadows of the overhanging boughs, anon it sweeps out into the valley, becoming more sluggish as it widens its channel.

Nothing can equal the richness of these bottom-lands. Corn springs up almost spontaneously and grows thick, strong and healthy. Potato fields of mammoth proportions greet the eye at every turn. Land here brings \$160 an acre easily now; what shall we predict for it when the citizens of Akron push out up the valley with their fine residences within 20 minutes or half an hour of business? Until then, however, the Howes, Botzums Smiths and Sewtarts will hold undisputed sway as the farm kings of the Cuyahoga Valley.