



brandy into his (the decedent's) mouth, then will he speak before he dies."

"If brandy be poured into (the body of) the dead, the corpse will not putrefy, nor stink ever, whether on top of, or under the earth."

"Item: Whatever meat be rubbed with brandy, whether it be raw or cooked, that flesh will neither rot nor stink."

"Whatever person hath stone in the bladder, let him drink a little brandy of mornings, for that breaketh the stone which speedily cometh away and leaveth the man sound again."

"Whosoever drinketh brandy, though but one time in the month, regularly, the worm dyeth which grows in the heart, or lungs, or liver of mortals."

"Brandy be good, too, for that man whose head aetheth him, and he who batheth his head therewith remaineth handsome and long young, for it maketh a good memory and inciteth the spirit and wit."

"Item: He who hath a cold, let him drink brandy mixed with wine (gepranntwein mit anderm wein), and he will anon be well."

"Item: He who hath troubled and red eyes, let him rub a little brandy on the brows, and when he goeth to bed, put a droplet in the eyes, and anon he will be sound and well."

"Item: He who is hard of hearing hath but to drop a little brandy into the ears to recover his hearing."

"He who is drowsied hath only to drink brandy, and rub some of it over and around his belly when he cometh out of the bath, and goeth and standeth by the fire, he will soon be better."

Some time afterward (in 1529) Schrick's pamphlet, bound up with a lot of recipes accredited to the highly renowned and well-learned (hoch berumbten wolerfarnen) Hieronymus Brunswick, was published at Nuremberg, under the title "Apothek for the laity who cannot, on account of lack of property or otherwise, in cases of necessity, reach the doctors."

Still more original is a poem in praise of alcohol, which appeared in 1493, of unknown authorship. It is entitled: Those to whom brandy be of use or of harm, and how it (geprannt wein) may be correctly or falsely prepared. The title is cut in wood, and is illustrated with pictures of the uses of brandy. The text is printed in movable letters, and at the close (where "Finis" usually is placed nowadays) stand these words, "Gedruckt zu Bambergk Von marxem Ayrer. Und Hannsen Pernecker in dem Zincken werd Im LXXXXIII. Jar." (Printed in Bamberg by Marc Ayrer and Hans Pernecke. Put into the zincs (i. e., type) in the year '93.)

In the poem we are not only told the diseases and conditions for which brandy is useful as a remedy, but it describes the properties, tests for pureness, etc., of spirit of wine, its antiseptic qualities, and finally the phenomena superinduced by too great indulgence therein. We reproduce a few stanzas of the therapeutical properties ascribed to brandy (or "spirit of wine," as throughout, in all the prints referred to, the terms are used as identical). It commences by naming a lot of herbs to be put in the liquid to make a vulnerary wash, and proceeds thus (no attempt being made to preserve the meter):

"First lay these herbs in burned wine,  
And make the brew both strong and fine,  
Then wash the wounds therewith, and know  
That sooner than common they will better grow."

"If he, that fearful of the stroke (i. e., apoplexy),  
But drink the wine, his health will ne'er be broke."

"Whoso drinks it, whether or no he liveth long,  
While he doth live, liveth ever young and strong."

"If one but rubbeth brandy on the head,  
Lice and their nits will all be dead."

And so the "poem" continues—recommending "geprannt wein" as a panacea for sore eyes, toothache, headache, backache, and almost every other conceivable ill, as well as a prophylactic against them; provided it be but regularly and industriously "nipped." (We need not, however, pursue the translation further.—Translator.)

The poem is noteworthy in more respects than one. By word and picture, it shows us that as early as 1494 brandy had become a common drink among the masses, and that great scandals were publicly caused by its abuse. Even at this early date there were public houses devoted to the sale of spirits, and that these had an enormous and open patronage, to such an extent, in fact, that ordinances and laws became necessary to regulate the sale and use of the liquor. Our poet's description of the effects of too much brandy on the human system is quite comical, as are also his word sketches of toppers whom he claims to have known. As far as the manners and habits of these gentry, were it not for the quaint old German idiom, full of obsolete and long forgotten words, the sketches might have been written yesterday, so true to life are they.

As another proof that at the close of the fifteenth century the drinking of ardent spirits in public tap rooms had reached enormous proportions, we may cite a police ordinance of the city of Nuremberg, dated 1496, which commences: "Since many individuals of this city are addicted to the use of brandy, astonishing abuses have arisen in that trade, and it has been concluded to firmly and earnestly decree that from now henceforth, on Sundays and other holidays, no person shall offer for sale or sell brandy, either in their houses, groceries (Krämern), shops, on the Market Place, open streets, or elsewhere in this city."

Landgrave William II. also ordered that "Whoever had brandy for sale in his house shall not allow credit, be it on holidays or work days. We order, moreover, that on the holy days no one shall expose for sale or sell brandy near to or in front of churches—this on penalty of the confiscation of his stock of brandy."

Landgrave Philip, in 1524, prohibited the sale of brandy, either by the dram or otherwise. In the "Amtsregister" of the House of Zelle, we find in 1578,

the following notice: "Hans Müller and Hans Günter have begun to distill brandy and to keep the same on tap, against the express command of our gracious sovereign." In Frankfort-on-the-Main, in 1582, brandy was entirely forbidden, the barbers (who were also surgeons) having reported that "in the present heavy mortality, the use of alcohol has very deleterious results." Again, in 1605, the order forbidding the use of alcohol was revived. In 1595, for the first time, the Magistrates of Berlin imposed a local tax on brandy, which tax was, just three-quarters of a century afterward, by the Great Churfürst, following the example of England, France and Russia, converted into a state revenue.

A NEW AUTO-TROLLEY FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

BESIDES the regular electric automobiles there exists a class of vehicles driven by electric energy obtained from an outside source, such as the trolley cars, some types of automobile buses, and various other road vehicles. With the trolley cars, the current returns through the rails, and a single wire only is employed, but with the omnibuses and other vehicles, a return wire is necessary.

The overhead trolley system for carriages is less

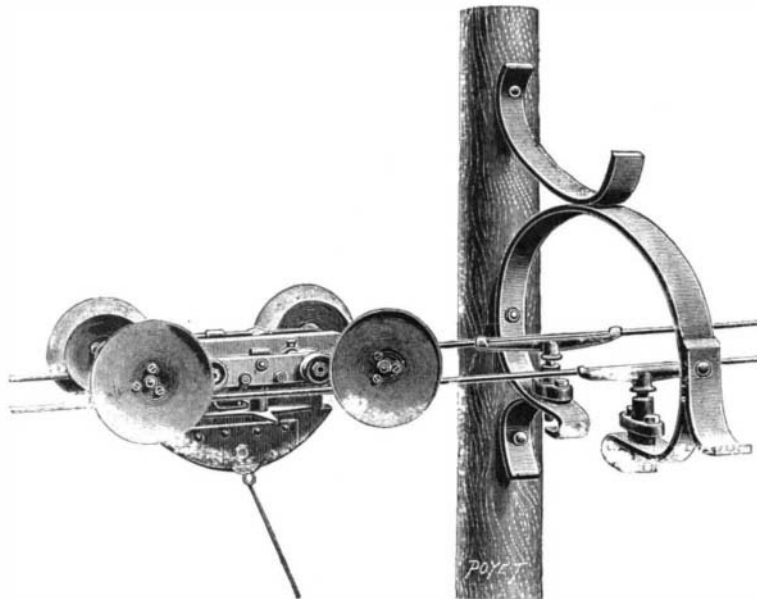
is constantly under the wire and keeps the wheels from jumping off. This guide piece is mounted on a vertical pivot, which allows it to turn and slip past the supports of the trolley wire, while a spring holds it in place afterward. Thus the trolley will always stay on the wires whatever the direction of the pull upon it.

A counterweight placed beneath the trolley counteracts the effect produced if there is a sudden pull on it along the wires, as when the carriage is starting. As long as the tractive pull of the carriage is less than the weight, the trolley remains stationary and the vehicle advances till the moment when the pull of gravity on the weight is exceeded by the effort of traction, in consequence of the obliquity of the line, which increases; the trolley begins to move at this moment.

The above described auto-trolley has the advantage of being simple, light, and cheap, which permits of the establishment of a line at an economical figure.—La Locomotion.

THE AUDIPHONE DIOCINESCOPE.

OUR readers will doubtless remember M. Clermont Huet's "diocinescope," a curious apparatus which made its debut at the Exposition of 1900, and of



THE AUTO-TROLLEY FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

in vogue at present than the storage battery automobile; nevertheless, there are some places where it is in successful use, one of them being at Fontainebleau, where it is being employed to run an omnibus line.

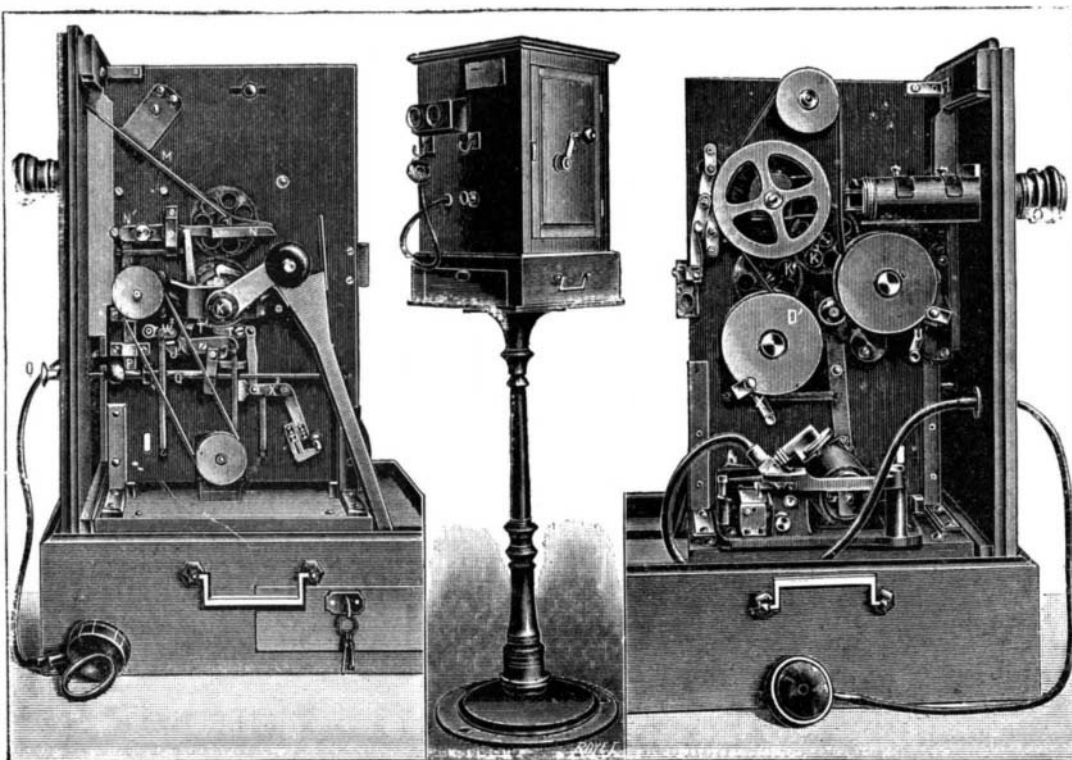
Various difficulties were met with when this system was first introduced by the Americans Cafrey and Marson and the Frenchmen Nave and Galliot. The problem is by no means the same as with street cars, which follow a fixed track. The electric vehicle must be able to move about on the road and not be obliged to remain on one side only, which, of course, necessitates an altogether flexible cable to connect it to the overhead trolley. Otherwise, the pull of the cable on the trolley might come at such an angle as to derail it, a thing that sometimes happens also if too great speeds are indulged in.

These difficulties have been overcome in some measure by the Lombard-Gerin auto-trolley, which was on exhibition at the Exposition of Vincennes, and which is the one in use at Fontainebleau. The chief fault of this auto-trolley is its weight, which necessitates a carefully constructed line with poles near together, making, on the whole, a rather costly installation.

The General Electric Construction Company has devised an auto-trolley which consists of a light frame supported on four grooved wheels patterned somewhat after the usual trolley wheel and adapted to fit on the two wires that conduct the current. Fastened on the frame is a metallic piece in the form of a star, which

which we gave a detailed description at the time.

The diocinescope consists of the following essential parts: (1) A drum carrying on its periphery a number of juxtaposed divergent lenses; (2) a second drum connected with the first and on the same axis with it, which carries along the successive negatives of the band of film; (3) a reflecting system (prism with parallel faces) interposed between the two drums and designed to send the images in the direction of the corresponding lenses; (4) a convergent lens forming part of the reflecting system and correcting the aberrations of sphericity of the divergent lenses; (5) an arrangement of prisms with parallel faces and a lens, interposed between the image and the observer's eyes, so as to produce two images at a proper distance apart to fit the eyes and thus assure binocular vision; and (6) a mechanical method of controlling the drums and film spools and permitting of easily winding the film from one spool to another without changing the direction of rotation of the winding handle. This instrument, which is nothing more than a cinematoscope permitting of a direct view of the images, is capable of being so arranged as to operate automatically after the manner of the coin-in-the-slot apparatus that are now so numerous. In fact, such a transformation has recently been made by M. Huet, who has completed his apparatus by combining a graphophone therewith, so as to permit the spectator while witnessing the different phases of the scene



THE AUDIPHONE DIOCINESCOPE; GENERAL VIEW AND DETAILS OF MECHANISM.

<sup>7</sup>In the rhymes which follow, as in the text of Schrick, *h* and *e*, *a*:*i* *h*, and *t* and *d*, are used for each other indiscriminately, as though identical in sound and value.