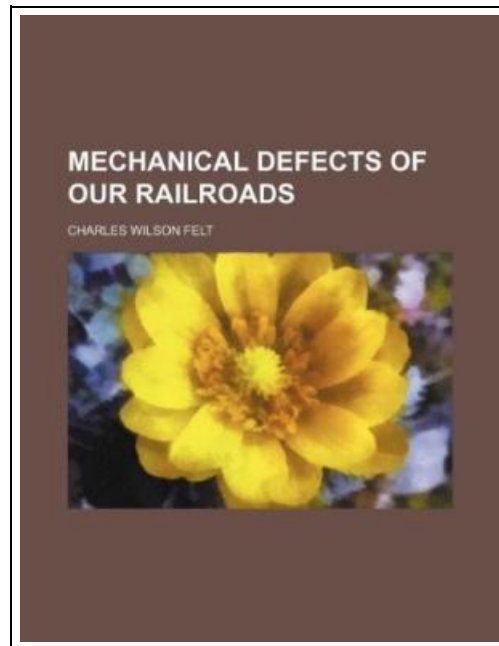


Mechanical Defects of Our Railroads



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Reviews

This is the best book i have read until now. It can be filled with knowledge and wisdom Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.




(Nadia Konopelski)

MECHANICAL DEFECTS OF OUR RAILROADS



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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1887 Excerpt: .children once asked me to guess what the railroad tracks were made of. I could only answer wood or stone, for I had only seen iron used in household utensils. But really, is it not a prime defect m our railway system that we use for every mile of single track about 120 tons of a metal that must first be mined and worked? The question arises, Is there iron enough to equip the whole world with railroads, and for all time? The fact that steam-carriages have never been successful on common roads, is most instructive evidence that a very different kind of highway is needed for steam-power than for using the power of animals. If the builders of the first railroads knew but little of steam-locomotives, or roads supplied with iron rails and cross-ties, they were informed in regard to the ancient art of road-making, and soon learned, that, while a solid road is demanded for common roads, the rails and ties and the upper portion of the railroad must be so constructed as to supply an elastic surface for the wheels to rest upon. This teaching of experience came too late for immediate remedy, and for fifty years we have been contending with the difficulty of running our steam equipment over imperfect surfaces on an elastic foundation. With these defects, it is surprising that over 70 miles an hour has been accomplished, though at high cost. It would be surprising, too, if we were...

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