single track, while the New York and New England operated 385 miles, and owned 451 miles, if measured as single track. The relative mileage this year has not greatly changed. Thus from the above statistics one man out of 31 of the New York and New England employés was killed or injured, while one out of 33 of the Boston and Albany suffered. It will be seen, therefore, that the New York and New England, though frequently denounced as poorly managed, makes an excellent showing by the side of the Boston and Albany, which is universally regarded as a model road in every respect. The former is very largely a single-track road, while the Boston and Albany is almost wholly double track.

The Boston and Providence makes the best showing, with one casualty to 436 of its employés, but then it operates only 68 miles of road.

A Summer Episode.

UPON a shelving beach, the shore of a remote inlet of the New England coast, stands a hotel that has for fifty years or more been the resort of persons afflicted with throat and lung troubles. Around the cove, and for a mile or two back from the sea, are continuous pine woods; and the aroma from these forests, mingled with the bracing sea air, is supposed to be beneficial to such invalids. The spot is singularly adapted to those requiring rest; for it is far from any great travelling centre, and is unfrequented by the fashionable world, while everything is at hand which an invalid's heart could desire. In front of the hotel is a broad cove or harbor, shut in by high, bare rocks, save in one place, a couple of miles or so from the landing, where a rather narrow passage leads to the sea without.

It is seldom that the guests of the hotel are aught but invalids, and the house is thus a sort of exceedingly comfortable private hospital. Occasionally, however, a stranger wanders, or is directed here, who has some other object in coming than the preservation of his health. These persons are of course of meagre interest to the usual guests, since they are wont not to be deeply interested in the guests' ailments. When strangers come, therefore, they are naturally thrown into each other's company much more than would-be the case at an ordinary summer resort.

In a small boudoir at the angle of the building, looking westward to the pine woods and the sunset, and southward to the sea, stands a young woman. She is a stranger to the place, as you see at a glance, and is looking out into the darkening evening. In the west, masses of opal-tinted clouds are flung carelessly over a green expanse of sky, while golden gleams of light shoot from below the horizon, striking up through the rifts. The girl is talking to herself.

"Yes, this is the place, of all the world, where I can escape from the tiresome hurry of society. Here I shall have no calls from people for whom I care nothing; here I need do no shopping,—positively it will be refreshing to go without something I need. With my water colors and my reading, I can charm away dull moments, and—there is no good in denying it—I can be lazy to my heart's content. Ah! my dear little own self, you were infinitely wise when you hit upon this plan of getting an opportunity to be lazy. No one here will know anything about the rich Miss Isabel Clay, and if they do, no harm is done. I am safe from all german-dancing young men. Thank heaven! I shall not hear the word 'german' for a month,—that is, till I go back to Bar Harbor. How vexed Nettie will be when she finds I have come off, no one knows whither, and left all my trunks there at the hotel. Heigho! One must have some recreation. By the way, that was a queer specimen of humanity I saw as I came up from dinner. I was startled at first at seeing what seemed to be a healthy young man in this out-of-the-way place. But I need not have feared, for as soon as he turned his face to me I saw at once he was only a naturalist, with weak eyes, and such a queer, lanky beard. I shall count on his aid for amusement. I will get him to explain the Bacteria theory of disease, and so set him at his ease at once. He will have a delightful laboratory, and all his specimens of disease alive."