

New-York Omnibus Drivers.—The special correspondent of the London Times, in this country, in giving a description of our omnibuses and city railroads, thus describes the New-York omnibus driver, with the feeling of a philanthropist:

"To pass again to the rival vehicle, no philanthropist ought to withhold his pity from the driver of a New-York omnibus; he would gain considerably by being included in the act that protects his animals. It may be doubted whether any negro in the hardest worked gang of a southern plantation has to undergo such toil. There is no conductor; he has to look out for hailing passengers, to stop at the will of twelve inches to open and shut the door for them, to take the fares and give change, sometimes for dollar notes, seldom to be accepted without inspection, for they may be real notes of a defunct bank or the counterfeits of one existing, in either case worthless. He has to do all this, driving the while up and down a street, three miles of which are as crowded as Ludgate hill at noon. He has some ingenious arrangements to aid him ; he is connected with the door by a strap, and holds it closed; by the same strap he is pulled or tugged as a signal to stop; and behind him is a hole in the roof, like a miniature prompter's box, through which he receives the money; he has to manage whip, reins, and horses with one hand, give and take cash with the other, control the door with his leg, and thus, with hardly a limb unemployed, has to reckon cents, divide, subtract, and work perpetual sums in arithmetic. There are many busy avocations, but that of the omnibus driver must be the most harassing of out-door employments. Mrs. Stowe might give him a niche in her next tale without digressing from the theme of slavery."

The Country Gentleman, Volume 8, 1856, 357.