

MILEAGE OF A LOCOMOTIVE

(Columbus Dispatch, September 17, 1886)

But few people outside of those specially interested in railroad matters, have an idea of the number of miles made by an engine in one day or a month. The record of Class "N" passenger engine No. 998 on the Pennsylvania road, probably stands at the head of the list. On the first day of July [1886], officials of that company arranged to run the engine between Altoona and Harrisburg, a distance of 132 miles, making two round trips per day or a total of 528 miles. It left Altoona at 7 a.m., arriving at Harrisburg at 11:40 a.m.; leaving Harrisburg at 2 p.m., arriving at Altoona at 5:15 p.m.; leaving Altoona at 6:45 p.m., arriving at Harrisburg at 11:15 p.m.; leaving Harrisburg at 1:30 a.m., arriving at Altoona at 5:30 a.m.

During the month of July the engine made thirty and one-half days of 528 miles each, losing the half day by detention behind a wreck. During the month of August the full thirty-one days of 528 miles each was made, so that the actual running mileage of the engine for July and August was 32,472 miles, which, it is believed, has never been excelled.

Four engineers and four firemen are employed on the engine, each engineer and fireman running a round trip from Harrisburg to Altoona and return, and then being off duty until the other three have run the same trip.
