

Cordova, Ill June 19 (18)95

The President of C.B. & Q. RR Co.

Chicago, Ill

My Dear Sir,

Pardon me for calling you attention to some things which I learned while along your lines a (few?) weeks since. Hoping to benefit the Company I freely and cheerfully offer some suggestions. I noticed a Company of men repairing your lines by putting in some new ties. I think there were about twenty men in charge of a foreman. I watched them as they worked for nearly 30 minutes and the thought came to me what an expense it must be to the RR Co. to furnish this for so many miles or RR. I was informed by the foreman the ties only lasted a short time. The ties which I saw those men put under the tracks were large and very smooth surface in face and I wondered why they should be so very short lived. When I noticed every man handled a sharp pointed pick which he sank into the tie at least four times and two inches deep with two men to a tie which would make 8 holes 2 inches deep when first rain comes those holes fill with water. And consequently the tie becomes water soaked and the result is decay I a very short time. I am sure if the men would handle the ties some other way from this which I have mentioned the ties would last longer and thus be a great saving to the Co. And I am quite sure that if the ties were dipped in boiling gas tar they would last twice as long as they do now.

Yours respectfully,

J.H. Buckley

Superintendant of B of SS

Cordon, Ill