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SUMMER EXCURSION.

On August 2nd the members of the Ohio Institute of Mining Engineers left Columbus on a special car furnished them through the kindness of Mr. J. M. Graham, superintendent of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, for Sandusky, thus beginning their annual summer excursion. They arrived in Sandusky at noon and repaired to the Sloane House for dinner. In the afternoon the excursionists, numbering about fifty, boarded the steamer "R. B. Hayes" which had been previously chartered, and proceeded to the docks of the Baltimore & Ohio Railway Company, where they witnessed the loading of vessels by the aid of the Brown Hoist machine. The railroad car is forced up a trestle where its contents are deposited in a large bin from which the coal is turned into buckets holding about six tons each and these are swung over the vessel and unloaded to any point desired. After witnessing the very rapid movement of the coal, the members of the party enjoyed a sail around Sandusky Bay, passing Johnson's Island and the Cement Works at the head of the bay. Next the docks of the Short Line Company were inspected and the operating of the new Thornburg machine was witnessed. This takes the car up and turns it over at such a level as to permit the coal to run by gravity into the vessel. This is said to be among the rapid unloading machines at the lake ports and is the latest of the six machines now employed at the different lake ports, namely:—the Lindsay, Mc-Mylar, Long, Brown, Webster and Thornburg. These cost from thirty to eighty thousand dollars to erect. Some of them will unload as high as three hundred tons an hour, and it is said that in some instances coal is unloaded at an expense of from one to three cents per ton. From the docks of the Columbus, Sandusky & Hocking Railway the excursionists returned to the Sloane House, where they enjoyed a royal fish supper. In the evening they boarded a boat and spent the even-

ing at Cedar Point, one of the most pleasant of the summer resorts along the chain of lakes. Wednesday morning, on the steamer "Arrow" the party left for Kelly's Island, where arrangements had been made for examining the glacial markings that belong to the ice age. Owing to the steamer having been delayed, the party were deprived of this interesting feature of the occasion and they contented themselves while on the island with a basket picnic on the beautiful lawn of Mr. Kelly. In the afternoon the steamer "City of New York" called for the party, taking them to Put-in-Bay, where they remained a short time before proceeding to Toledo, where they arrived in the evening. Here they were met by Mr. W. E. C. Coxe, President of the Board of Commerce, Senator Fassett of the "Toledo Critic," Mr. Bloomer of the "Toledo News," and others. After supper the Street Railway Company offered transportation to the entire party to the Casino, and here a most enjoyable evening was spent. On Thursday morning the vessel loading machinery of the C. H. V. & T. Railway Company was inspected. Here they were met by Mr. Mefford and the operation of the coal unloader at work was shown. Next the party visited the docks of the T. & O. C. Railway Company, where Mr. H. C. Ferris, the superintendent, met them. Every facility for examining the mode of unloading vessels by the Brown machine employed by this company were accorded the members of the party. Thursday afternoon was devoted to a street car ride over the "Belt Line," passing the old forts and many points of historic interest. At four o'clock the party entered a special car furnished them through the courtesy of Mr. Monsarrat. This was attached to the regular Hocking Valley train. They landed in Columbus at 8:40 P. M., all feeling that they had had a most pleasant as well as profitable trip, and upon separating many good-byes and expressions of again meeting were exchanged.