

Keystone Wagon Works, Reading, Pennsylvania

entering the machine works of John Cather, served four years at machinist's blacksmithing, and afterward gained a good idea of the machine business. For eight years of this time he devoted his nights to study, to make up the educational advantages denied him in his boyhood. In the Fall of 1876 he borrowed \$50.00 at the exorbitant interest of 10 per cent., and started business as a wagon builder in a small shop 12 by 12 feet. It is not strange that he succeeded. His business doubled every six months until, in 1886, he removed to Reading, where his ambition has had a fuller swing at the head of the Keystone Wagon Co., whose wagons and gears are known throughout the world.

KEYSTONE WAGON CO.

Carriage Monthly April 1892.

KEYSTONE WAGON Co., Reading, Pennsylvania, have increased their capital stock to \$150,000. This concern is under the general management of Mr. James A. Klees, a thorough business man and genial gentleman. The officers are: President, James A. Klees; secretary, Harry T. Shick; treasurer, W. H. Shick. These works were established in 1876, and the plant has been increased in a phenomenal manner. It consists at present of 3 three-story brick buildings, making a total floor surface of 49,250 feet. The following new machines are being added: 150 pound upright Bradley hammer, a plunging machine, weighing 12,000 pounds, and having two heating surfaces. Numerous other new machines are about to be added. Mr. A. L. Kern, a specialist in forged iron working, has patented an improvement on upright hammers for plating singletrees and carriage clips and similar work. This invention will be put in operation in the above company's factory. A very pleasant still enjoyable event was the occasion of the banquet, February 29, tendered to the stockholders by the directors of this company, Rev. W. J. Stevenson being the invited guest. A beautiful and artistic model, in cut flowers, of their leader, the Keystone Dumping Wagon, graced the center of the board. Mr. George Grim, the popular salesman of this company, on the occasion of his birthday, which occurred on even date with the banquet, was admitted to the company, and was presented with a fine gold headed cane in appreciation of his valuable services.



James A. Klees, President & General Manager.
Keystone Wagon Co., Reading, Pennsylvania.

Carriage Monthly November 1892.



ED. HOFHEINS.
New York State representative of Keystone Wagon Co., Reading, Pa.

EDWARD HOFHEINS.

Carriage Monthly September, 1904.

One of the most active representatives of the wagon industry in the State of New York is Edward Hofheins, who represents the Keystone Wagon Co., Reading, Pennsylvania, in an important territory in the city of Buffalo, New York. Mr. Hofheins has been building up his trade for years, and is regarded as one of the popular men in the industry. He has done much to make the products of his company well known throughout a large territory.

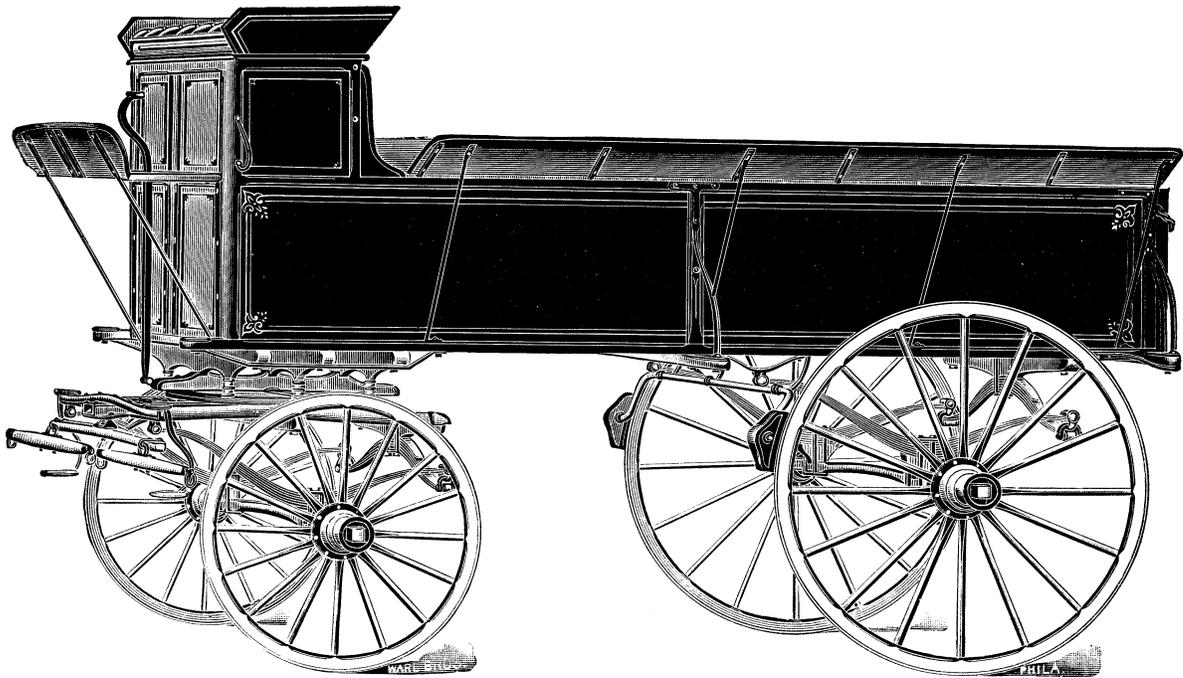


PLATE No. 668. HEAVY BUSINESS WAGON.

HALF-INCH SCALE.

Plate No. 668. HEAVY BUSINESS WAGON.

Built by Keystone Wagon Co., Reading, Pennsylvania.

Carriage Monthly February 1903 page 364

The length of this body is nearly 10 feet without the foot board; depth of sides, 21½ inches without the side boards, and depth of riser including thickness of seat board. The construction represents the highest quality of workmanship. The timber used is of the very best. All panels are recessed; the body riser is molded, and there is a molding across the front, including the striping. This makes a very attractive finish. The construction of the gear is similar to most gears, being well ironed and having heavy pole futchels. The usual platform wagon springs and Sarven patent wheels are used.

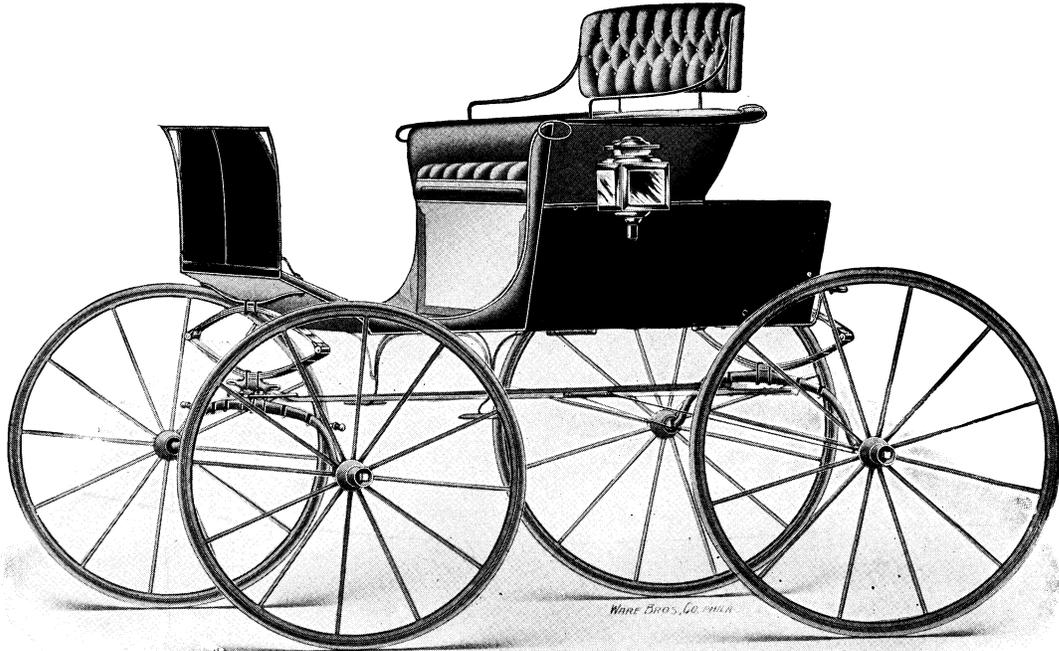
Painting--All panels, including seat panels, deep green, striped and scrolled white and pale green; all moldings black. Gear, deep green, striped black and white. Other prevailing colors are various shades of carmine for body and gear, lined and scrolled with black and shaded with deep Indian red.

Finish--Foot-board stays, side-board stays, brake lever, brake rod, axle centers all black, side handles brass and chain on rear gate.

Also published in Hitch Wagons for City Driving and More by the Carriage Museum of America.

Keystone Wagon Works—The Keystone Wagon Works, Reading, Pennsylvania, were originally established in 1890, and subsequently incorporated in 1899. Their capacity is 5,000 vehicles annually. Of the present output carriages represent 50 per cent., and wagons 50 per cent. The officers are Nathaniel Ferguson, president; John Hendel, secretary and treasurer; G. W. Biehl is general manager. *Carriage Monthly* April 1904. See ad *Vehicle Dealer* May 1902 & February 1903. *Carriage Dealers Journal* 1900 page 69.

Keystone Wagon Works, Reading, Pennsylvania



**Plate No. 990 MODERN STANHOPE, SUSPENDED ON
TWO SPRINGS.**

Built by Keystone Wagon Works, Reading, Pennsylvania.
Carriage Monthly August 1906.

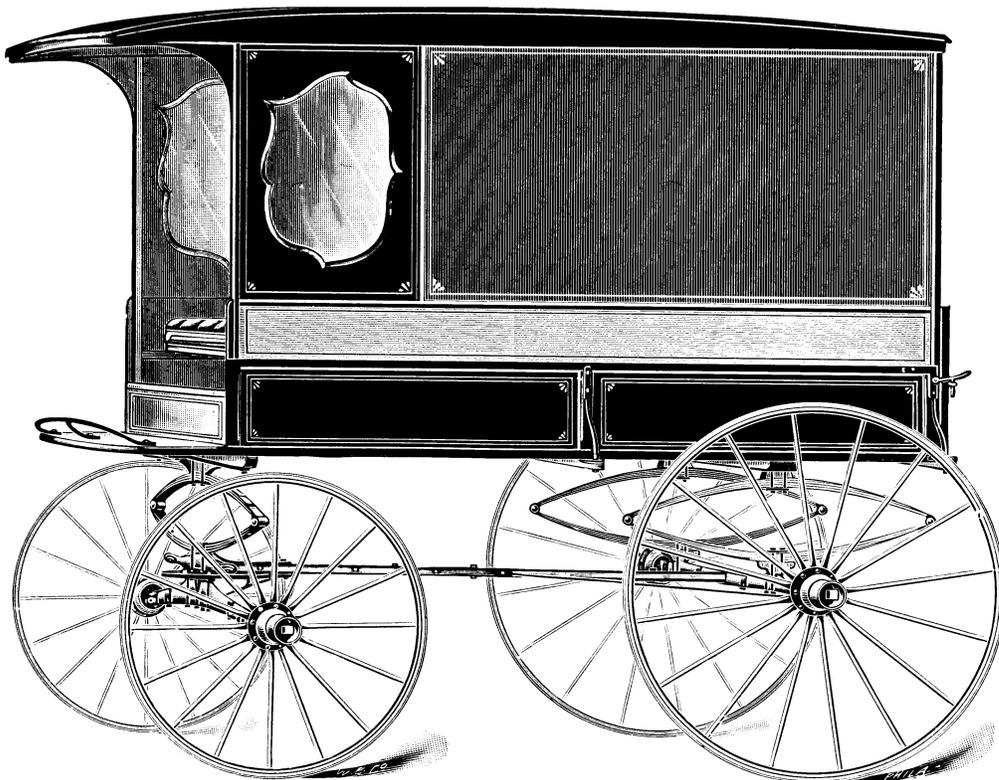


PLATE No. 1257. THREE-SPRING DELIVERY WAGON.

BUILT BY KEYSTONE VEHICLE CO., READING, PA.

Plate No. 1257. THREE-SPRING DELIVERY WAGON.

Built by Keystone Vehicle Co., Reading, Pennsylvania.
Carriage Monthly October 1909.

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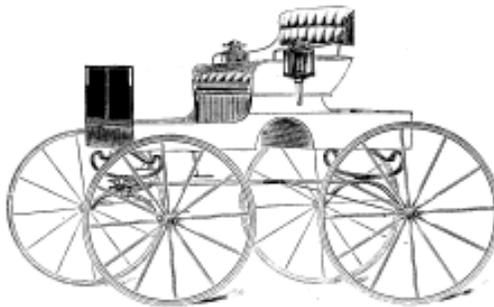
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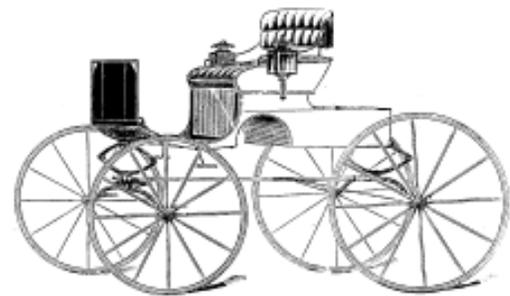
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— READING, PA. —

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