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RAILWAY CENTENARY

1825 - 1925

Supplement to

THE LOCOMOTIVE, RAILWAY CARRIAGE & WAGON REVIEW

COMMEMORATING *the* OPENING *of the* FIRST PUBLIC RAILWAY & A SOUVENIR *of the*

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INTRODUCTION.

MANY writers have claimed that the steam locomotive, and with it the railway, has done more to promote the progress of the human race than any other single product of man's ingenuity. The centenary we are celebrating this year (1925) of the opening of the first public railway, marks the commencement of a revolution in transport, both of passenger and goods. It is an event which touches our national pride as Britons, for whatever claims may be made for the invention of the locomotive, it

remains a fact beyond all doubt that the first public railway operated by steam locomotives was the Stockton and Darlington Railway, now part of the L. & N.E.R.

In the following pages, with the aid of several recognised authorities on railway history, we have attempted to briefly trace the history of each of the component sections of our four great trunk lines and incorporate in such descriptions a few notes on the evolution of the steam locomotive on each.