

The Early Railway Time-Line

1604 - wooden rails and horse-drawn wagons used by Mr. Huntington Beaumont in Nottinghamshire to transport coal to river barges;

1712 Thomas Newcomen builds his first "atmospheric engine" - a stationary steam engine to pump mine workings at Dudley Castle, Worcestershire;

1758 - Middleton R^{ly} in Leeds granted first Parliamentary Act for a railway

1767 Iron plateways used in Coalbrookdale;

1769 James Watt improves Newcomen's engine with a separate condenser and gets world patents for steam power.

1804 Richard Trevithick builds the Pen-y-darren plateway steam locomotive - the first mobile engine to haul a train - as the result of a bet by local mineowners in South Wales.

1808 - Richard Trevithick builds his *Catch-Me-Who-Can* as a publicity stunt in London to challenge Watts' monopoly on steam power.

1812 - Matthew Murray builds a Blenkinsop-designed rack & pinion locomotive to haul coal for the Middleton R^{ly} - the first successful commercial steam-powered railway.

1814 - George Stephenson builds his first locomotive *Blücher* for Killingworth Colliery R^{ly}

1825 - Stockton & Darlington R^{ly} opens, the world's first public railway. George Stephenson's

Locomotion No 1 hauls the inaugural train

1829 The Liverpool and Manchester R^{ly} run a competition for the best form of haulage - it's won by Robert Stephenson's Rocket.

1830 The Liverpool and Manchester R^{ly} contracts with Robert Stephenson & Co. to supply *Planet*-class engines - much improved versions of *Rocket*

1837 Todd, Kitson & Laird build *Lion* for the Liverpool & Manchester R^{ly} - the original still runs and starred in the *Titfield Thunderbolt*

1840 *Rocket* goes into store at Carlisle; There are 200 miles of railway in UK, railways in USA, Germany, France, Austria, Netherlands, Russia, and Italy. The Railway Age is in full swing.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Maximum speed of 30 mph Driving wheel diameter 4ft 8½ins
 Boiler pressure of 50 lbs/in² Trailing wheels diameter 2ft 6ins
 Cylinder diameter 8 ins Loco weight 4 tons 5 cwt
 Cylinder length 17 ins Tender weight 3 tons 4 cwt

STEPHENSON'S ROCKET

BUILT 1829

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
DRAWING

SCALE 1: 40 (approx.)

DRAWN BY M. DRAPER

