2009: Trains in the Gardens
"There is no way to success in art but to take off your coat, grind paint, and work like a digger on the railroad, all day and every day."

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 - 1882) US philosopher, poet, essayist
“It is almost as if you were frantically constructing another world while the world that you live in dissolves beneath your feet, and that your survival depends on completing this construction at least one second before the old habitation collapses.” — Tennessee Williams
"The whole difference between construction and creation is exactly this: that a thing constructed can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists." — Charles Dickens
It's only a hobby... only a hobby... only a...
What can be more palpably absurd than the prospect held out of locomotives traveling twice as fast as stagecoaches?

The Quarterly Review (England), March 1825
It would be difficult, indeed, to overestimate the transcendent importance of the part the railroad has played in making the Nation what it is today. Perhaps it would be within bounds to say that without railroads to bind the States into one homogeneous whole, the Nation never could have attained its present size and importance.

- Charles Frederick Carter
The struggles of the men who built the first railroads were as those of Titans, and the detail of their struggles is even now almost lost in Titanic mists.
- Logan G. McPherson
Loco-motive A crazy reason for doing something.
"I was a boy when this train started."
-- On A Slow Train Through Arkansas, Thomas W. Jackson, 1903.
If God had meant for us to fly, he wouldn't have given us the railways. -- Unknown

The introduction of so powerful an agent as steam to a carriage on wheels will make a great change in the situation of man. -- Thomas Jefferson, 1802
"Engineering is the art of modeling materials we do not wholly understand, into shapes we cannot precisely analyze so as to withstand forces we cannot properly assess, in such a way that the public has no reason to suspect the extent of our ignorance." Dr. A.R. Dykes, 1976 UK
RAILROAD, n. The chief of many mechanical devices enabling us to get away from where we are to where we are no better off. For this purpose the railroad is held in highest favor by the optimist, for it permits him to make the transit with great expedition. -- Ambrose Bierce
"In my day, all trains were steam powered!" "Really grandpa? Does that mean they were in black and white?" anon.
You cannot tell which way the train went by looking at the track.
"A man who has never gone to school may steal from a freight car; but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad."

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26th US
"Grandchildren: Pretext for grandfathers to buy another electric train." anon.