

The 18xx games are in order of starting from p2 onwards. Railway Rivals RR2586DM starts on p8. Outpost M22 starts is on p9. The Games That You Play is on p10 and comments on Outpost M21 are below. Comments on RR2536ZM are below.

New Games: Railway Rivals RR2586DM. But you knew that.

When using these LLM AI things, I started out by being polite - maybe not as far as saying "please" and "thank you" - but certainly feeding them whole sentences and otherwise erring on being a bit helpful (and possibly "leading the witness").

I went the other way, when considering what to use as a space filler this time, and just typed "Minstrel 18xx". The response was - **In the early-late 1800s, minstrel shows were a dominant U.S. entertainment format in which white performers in blackface enacted exaggerated stereotypes of Black people. These shows shaped American popular culture for decades and left a long legacy of racist imagery.**

As ever, something between verbose and cryptic will produce the best results.

RAILWAY RIVALS RR2563ZM

COMMENTS

Mike R 1st

Hmm. 8 points is less than the value of a second place in a race - or one good die roll if you like - so "lucky me" I think. I wasn't very confident at the start as it seemed "obvious" that being first or at least second to the permitted build through the DRC was essential. In fact, the players making that build were third and fourth - so maybe I was lucky there too in being forced to do something else. I think that what allowed me to edge the win was my semi-monopoly amongst the 4s, when everywhere else had a relative wealth of competition. Commiserations to Brad who might easily have beaten me, and thanks as always to Rob for running the game - and on a map that I hadn't seen before.

Brad M 2nd

GES: Closer result than I thought, but congratulations to Mike, who had a much neater network than I had. Thanks Rob, for the running the game.

John W 3rd

Congratulations to Mike, and Brad. I really thought that a direct line from Livingstone via Kinshasa and the copper belt to the north would be a certain winner. Didn't work out that way.

Tony S 4th

An interesting map with the payment to DRC on a number of runs needing to be considered; without checking I think I spent too much on that tax!! Might well consider different route(s) if/when I play again.

RAILWAY RIVALS RR2563ZM

END – WON BY MIKE FROM BRAD

WAITING	1829 SOUTH NORTH	David H David H
	1830	Tony S, Mark H
	1830 READING	Tony S
	1835	Graham L, John W
	1846	
	1856	Tony S, Graham Lee
	1861	
	1870	Mike B
	18EU	David H
	RAILWAY RIVALS	
	ST. PETERSBURG	Brad M, John W, Mike R

DEADLINE: FRIDAY 17TH JULY 2026

HOST : ROB THOMASSON

We reach the end with two groups - at the front Mike B wins with David H holding position in second, and behind them Tony S was making up ground on John S but not quickly enough. Thanks again to John W for stepping in and working John S's position. Any comments received will be printed next time.

Operating Round 17

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Base	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
B&O	JS				280	Y	350A	224	6	
PRR	MB	24:C11:3	[8]		680	Y	325A	1	D	
NYNH	MB	41:C13:6	[23]		260	Y	260B	138	5	
RDR	DH	42:C11:3	[24]		630	Y	260B	0	D	
C&O	TS				240	Y	240B	341	6	
B&M	JS				220	Y	185C	29	5	
Erie	MB				260	Y	170C	260	5	
NYC	DH	24:C19:5	[9]		280	Y	130D	141	6	
CPR	TS			H4	530	Y	110D	100	D	A

Operating Round 18

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Base	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
B&O	JS				280	Y	350A	224	6	
PRR	MB				570	Y	350A	1	D	
NYNH	MB				260	Y	280B	164	5	
RDR	DH	27:B18:1	[7]		560	Y	280B	0	D	
C&O	TS				240	Y	260B	413	6	
B&M	JS				220	Y	200C	29	5	
Erie	MB				260	Y	185C	338	5	
NYC	DH	46:C9:6	[28]		280	Y	155C	169	6	
CPR	TS			F16	530	Y	120D	0	D	B

Notes A \$40 to the Bank for a garrison B \$100 to the Bank for a garrison

Tiles	1/0	2/1	3/2	4/1	7/3	8/2	9/3	14/0	15/0	16/1	18/1	19/0
	20/1	23/1	24/1	25/0	26/0	27/0	28/1	29/1	39/1	40/1	41/1	42/0
	43/0	44/1	45/2	46/1	47/1	53/2	54/1	55/1	56/0	57/2	58/0	59/2
	61/0	62/0	63/0	64/1	65/0	66/0	67/0	68/0	69/0	70/1		

Trains D/3(\$900)

Cash Flow Start OR17 OR18 End Value % Certs Max 17

Mike Bennett	3,591	808	739	5,138	10,753	27.9	17 - 17
David Hooton	4,060	826	762	5,648	10,458	27.2	17 - 17
John Shelley	2,758	546	539	3,843	8,703	22.6	17 - 17
Tony Sait	2,788	811	771	4,370	8,570	22.3	17 - 17

Portfolios	PRR	NYC	CPR	B&O	C&O	Erie	NYNH	B&M	RDR
Tony Sait	3	2	6P	-	6P	-	1	-	1
David Hooton	2	6P	-	2	-	-	-	4	6P
John Shelley *	-	1	1	6P	1	1	2	6P	1
Mike Bennett	5P	-	-	2	-	5P	6P	-	2
Bank New	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
Par	82	90	90	100	76	100	100	100	90
Bank Pool	-	1	-	-	3	3	1	-	-
Quote	350A	155C	120D	350A	260B	185C	280B	200C	280B
Credit	\$1	\$169	\$0	\$224	\$413	\$338	\$164	\$29	\$0
Tokens Left	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

Everybody achieves the maximum number of certificates ...

Operating Round 13

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Token	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
LNWR	MR	24:M8:4	[9]	H9 - M7	120	Y	142	100	3 +3	A
GWR	SG	38:E5:3	[10]	E4 - F4	260	N	82	260	5 3	
Mid	DH	38:I8:4	[12]	E7 - H8	260	N	112	840	4 (3)	
LSWR	ED	7:D7:5		D7 - C7	310	Y	100	50	5 3	
GNR	MR	47:M8:4	[24]	K6 - I5 =S	320	Y	90	10	5 4	B
LBSC	SG	8:D10:1		D10 - E10 =S	130	Y	82	290	3	C
GER	DH	38:J8:3	[12]	E10 - G9	140	N	47	10	4 +3	D
GCR	ED	13:L7:2	[6]	I9 - K8 =S	160	Y	71	140	4	C

Notes A £30 to the GNR for a 3 Train C £40 to the Bank for a garrison
 B £100 to the Bank for a garrison D £350 to the Mid for a 3 Train

Tiles	1/2	2/2	3/1	4/5	5/4	6/4	7/3	8/3	9/6	10/3	12/3	13/2
	14/0	15/0	16/1	17/1	18/1	19/2	20/0	21/1	22/1	23/4	24/4	25/2
	26/1	27/2	28/0	29/1	30/1	31/1	32/0	33/1	34/0	35/0	36/0	37/1
	38/0	39/1	40/0	41/2	42/2	43/1	44/1	45/1	46/1	47/1		
Trains	5/1(£550)		then	7/4(£720)								

Share Dealing Round 9

* share from the pool

David Hooton	Edward Denley	Mike Ruffhead	Shaun Goodwin
+GNR*	+LNWR*	+GER*	+GCR
+GCR	+LNWR*	+LSWR*	+GCR
+LSWR*	+LNWR*	+LBSC*	~
+GWR*	~	+LBSC*	~
~	~	(S&M), -S&M, +GWR*	[Totem]

Cash Flow	Start	OR13	SDR9	End	Value	%	Certs	Max 18
Mike Ruffhead	264	334	-393	205	2,252	27.0	18 - 18	
Shaun Goodwin	297	163	-122	338	1,880	22.5	18 - 18	
David Hooton	320	15	-333	2	1,675	20.1	18 - 18	
Edward Denley	688	330	-426	592	2,541	30.4	18 - 18	

Portfolios	Privates	LNWR	GWR	Mid	LSWR	GNR	LBSC	GER	GCR
Mike Ruffhead	(S&M)	5D	1	1	1	8D	3	1	-
Shaun Goodwin *	C&HP	-	5D	-	2	-	7D	3	2
David Hooton	C&W	-	4	6D	1	1	-	6D	1
Edward Denley	-	3	-	3	6D	1	-	-	7D
Bank New	Hull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Pool	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tokens Left		4	3	3	3	2	2	2	2

1829I46 : SOUTH GAME, MSK1, PC RULE : PHASE 3 : BANK - £18,863

NEXT TIME - OR14 & OR15

The bank is nearly broken so just the one OR to finish next time ...

Operating Round 13

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Base	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
PrE	JW				250	Y	318B	10	4+4 +5	A
ByE	GL	218:L14:1			160	Y	262C	141	4	
HeE	JS	7:K5:2			420	Y	148A	19	3+3 +6	C
BaE	TS	8:E5:1			330	Y	134B	409	4 3+3	C
WtE	GL	24:K7:5	[9]		380	Y	134B	36	5 4	C
SxE	JW				200	Y	126E	71	6 3+3	B C
MsE	JS	14:F10:2	[57]		300	Y	100C	0	5+5	

Operating Round 14

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Base	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
PrE	JW				480	Y	350B	10	5 4+4	
ByE	GL				160	Y	290C	141	4	
HeE	JS				420	Y	166A	19	6 3+3	C
BaE	TS	8:L10:5			330	Y	150B	409	4 3+3	C
WtE	GL				380	Y	150B	36	5 4	C
SxE	JW				480	Y	140E	71	6 3+3	C
MsE	JS				300	Y	110C	0	5+5	

Notes A 328M to the SxE for a 5 Train C At Train Limit
B 600M to the Bank for a 6 Train

Tiles	1/1	2/1	3/2	4/0	5/3	6/3	7/5	8/5	9/3	12/1	13/2	14/0
	15/1	16/2	18/1	19/2	20/2	23/1	24/0	25/3	26/0	27/1	28/2	29/2
	39/1	40/1	41/2	42/2	43/1	44/2	45/2	46/2	47/2	55/1	56/0	57/2
	58/1	63/0	69/2	70/1	87/0	88/2	201/2	202/2	203/1	204/2	205/1	206/1
	207/2	208/1	209/1	210/1	211/1	212/1	213/1	214/1	215/1	216/0	217/1	218/1
	219/0	220/0	221/0									

Trains 6+6/4(720M)

Cash Flow	Start	OR13	OR14	End	Value	%	Certs	Max
John Webley	287	380	816	1,483	5,543	22.3	17	17
John Shelley	1,786	758	758	3,302	6,212	25.0	16	17
Tony Sait	2,920	404	466	3,790	6,405	25.7	13	16
Graham Lee	1,572	499	510	2,581	6,716	27.0	16	17

Portfolios	PrE	ByE	SxE	BaE	WtE	HeE	MsE	OIE
John Webley	80/9D	-	90/8D	-	-	-	-	-
John Shelley *	-	-	-	-	10/1	100/8D	100/7D	-
Tony Sait	15/2	10/1	10/1	100/8D	-	-	-	20/1D
Graham Lee	5/1	90/8D	-	-	90/7D	-	-	-
Bank New	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80/6
Bank Pool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quote	350B	290C	140E	150B	150B	166A	110C	
Credit	10M	141M	71M	409M	36M	19M	0M	
Tokens Left	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	1

The OR15 operating order is - PrE, ByE, HeE, BaE, WtE, SxE, MsE.

John W picks up the CGR and three companies are ready to operate for the first time in OR13 - so just that one OR for the next deadline.

Operating Round 12

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Base	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
GT	MH	124:N11:5	[122]		380	Y	200A	114	5 4	B
CGR	MB	15:H15:5	[57]	N11	340	N	150A	405		A
CA	JW				230	Y	150A	430	5	
CV	MB	14:L13:1	[6]		340	Y	110A	60	6 5	B

Notes A \$100 to the Bank for a garrison B At Train Limit

Tiles	1/1	2/0	3/2	4/3	5/2	6/1	7/5	8/12	9/5	14/2	15/2	16/1
	17/1	18/1	19/1	20/1	23/3	24/3	25/1	26/1	27/1	28/1	29/1	39/1
	40/1	41/3	42/3	43/2	44/1	45/2	46/2	47/2	55/1	56/1	57/4	58/1
	59/1	63/3	64/1	65/1	66/0	67/1	68/1	69/1	70/1	120/1	121/2	122/1
	123/1	124/0	125/0	126/0	127/0							
Trains	4/3(\$350)	6/1(\$700)	D/9(\$1,100)									

Stock Round 7

* share from the pool

Mike Bennett	John Webley	Mark Hancock	John Shelley
+BBG/P(200)	+CGR*(150)	+TGB(100)	+THB/P(200)
+BBG(100)	+CGR*(150)	+TGB(100)	+THB(100)
+BBG(100)	+CGR*(150)	-CGR(150)	+THB(100)
+BBG(100)	+CGR*(150)	~	+THB(100)
+BBG(100)	~	~	+THB(100)
+CGR*(150)	[Priority]		

Cash Flow	Start	OR12	SR7	End	Value	%	Certs	Max 16
Mike Bennett	603	227	-750	80	2,240	22.7	13.5 - 13.5	
John Webley	450	240	-600	90	2,070	21.0	10.5 - 10.5	
Mark Hancock	417	190	-50	557	2,157	21.9	9.0 - 9.0	
John Shelley	946	293	-600	639	3,399	34.5	16.0 - 16.0	

Portfolios	BBG	CA	CV	GT	TGB	THB	WGB	CGR
Mike Bennett	6P	1	6P	-	-	-	-	5
John Webley *	-	6P	3	-	-	-	-	5P
Mark Hancock	-	-	-	5P	6P	-	-	-
John Shelley	-	3	1	5	-	6P	-	4
Bank New	4	-	-	-	4	4	10P	4
Par	100	100	100	100	100	100		150
Bank Pool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Quote	100A	150A	110A	200A	100A	100A		150A
Credit	\$1,000	\$430	\$60	\$114	\$1,000	\$1,000		\$405
Loans	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Tokens Left	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	3

Rights Held by ShareCos : CGR - Bridge, Tunnel.

The OR13 operating order is - GT, CGR, CA, CV, TGB, BBG, THB.

One 6 train has been bought. Next time we will stop after OR8 if a Diesel is bought during that very OR8.

Operating Round 7

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Base	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
C&O	JW	65:H18:6	[59]		320	N	100D	460	4 (3)	
NYNH	MB	28:F18:2	[8]		140	Y	100E	407	4	
CPR	MR	57:B16:2			70	Y	100A	253	4	
B&O	AM	14:J14:1	[57]		170	Y	90E	45	(3) +6	A B
Erie	AM	59:D10:6			80	Y	90B	10	5	C
NYC	MB	43:F18:2	[28]		150	Y	82C	65	5	
PRR	MR	23:H8:6	[8]		280	Y	60I	84	5 4	D

Notes A \$630 to the Bank for a 6 Train C \$80 to Bank for a river
 B 6 Train purchase starts Phase 5 D At Train Limit

Tiles	1/0	2/1	3/2	4/2	7/2	8/8	9/5	14/1	15/1	16/1	18/1	19/1
	20/1	23/1	24/3	25/1	26/1	27/1	28/1	29/1	39/1	40/1	41/2	42/2
	43/1	44/1	45/2	46/2	47/1	53/1	54/1	55/1	56/0	57/3	58/2	59/0
	61/2	62/0	63/1	64/1	65/0	66/1	67/1	68/1	69/0	70/1		

Trains 6/1(\$630) D/6(\$1,100)

Stock Round 6

* share from the pool

Andy Muir	Mike Ruffhead	John Webley	Mike Bennett
+NYNH(76)	+B&O*(90)	+CPR(100)	+PRR*(60)
-NYNH(100),+C&O(82)	+B&O*(90)	+NYC*(82)	+PRR*(60)
-C&O(100),+B&O(90)	+PRR*(60)	+Erie(90)	+PRR(71)
+PRR(71)	-B&O(90),+PRR(71)	~	+NYC(90)

Cash Flow	Start	OR7	SR6	End	Value	%	Certs	Max 16
Mike Bennett	129	159	-281	7	1,390	28.1	14 - 14	
Andy Muir	10	133	-119	24	1,111	22.4	11 - 11	
Mike Ruffhead	109	157	-221	45	1,330	26.9	13 - 13	
John Webley	272	59	-272	59	1,118	22.6	11 - 11	

Portfolios	PRR	NYC	CPR	B&O	C&O	Erie	NYNH	B&M
Mike Bennett	3	6P	-	-	1	-	6P	-
Andy Muir *	1	-	-	6P	-	6P	-	-
Mike Ruffhead	5P	-	6P	2	1	-	1	-
John Webley	1	1	1	1	6P	1	1	-
Bank New	-	3	3	-	1	3	-	10P
Par	71	90	100	90	82	90	76	
Bank Pool	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-
Quote	67H	82C	100A	80F	90E	90B	100E	
Credit	\$84	\$65	\$253	\$45	\$460	\$10	\$407	
Tokens Left	2	3	3	1	1	2	-	1

The OR8 operating order is - NYNH, CPR, C&O, Erie, NYC, B&O, PRR.

I had to make a small number of “decisions of interpretation” during this adjudication. Any queries or appeals should be submitted in good faith but not necessarily in triplicate.

Operating Round 5

	Dir	Lay	[Rep]	Token	Run	Pay	Quote	Credit	Trains	Notes
LNWR	DH	8:S11:3		S11 - R12	110	Y	142	240	2 2 2 +2	A B
NER	SG	9:H12:1		H12 - H10	40	Y	100	220	2 2	
Mid	MR	9:R14:2		R14 - R16	60	Y	82	640	2	

Notes A £180 to the Bank for a 2 Train B At Train Limit

Tiles 1/2 2/2 3/2 4/5 5/3 6/3 7/3 8/5 9/6
 Trains 3/6(£300) then 4/4(£430) 5/4(£550) 7/4(£720)

Share Dealing Round 6

* share from the pool

Edward Denley	Mike Ruffhead	David Hooton	Shaun Goodwin
+Mid	+NER*	+Mid	~
-NER, +Mid	-LNWR, +NBR/D	-NER, +LNWR*	[Totem]

Cash Flow	Start	OR5	SDR6	End	Value	%	Certs	Max 18
David Hooton	116	57	-124	49	971	27.0	7 - 7	
Shaun Goodwin	7	52	0	59	918	25.5	7 - 7	
Edward Denley	50	57	-64	43	885	24.6	8 - 8	
Mike Ruffhead	80	52	-110	22	826	22.9	7 - 7	

Portfolios	Privates	LNWR	NER	Mid	NBR	Cal	L&YR	GNR	GCR
David Hooton	A&F	5D	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Shaun Goodwin *	C&HP	2	5D	-	-	-	-	-	-
Edward Denley	S&D	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	-
Mike Ruffhead	-	1	1	5D	2D	-	-	-	-
Bank New	Hull	-	-	-	8	10D	10D	10D	10D
Bank Pool	L&M	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tokens Left		4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3

Tony, John & Brad got their first choice of start town. Maybe Mike did as well. Brad got his second choice of colour. Please consider the building allowance info below and advise any objections.

DANGER - Brown Brad Martin	Danish And Northern Great European Railway Start at København
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GNJ - Red Mike Ruffhead	Gnaven's Nordjysk Jembarne Start at Aalborg
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GITCO - Blue Tony Sait	Gothenburg Is Terribly Close Overseas Start at Aalborg
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GRID - Green John Webley	Green Rails In Denmark Start at København
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Building Allowances & Run Length

The building allowance for each of rounds 1-6 will be built from three (six-sided) die rolls with no roll below 3 and only one roll that is 3 or 4. The result will then be increased by 2. This is driven by there being four players on this map that can stretch to six players. The building allowance in round 7 will be 12 points (including known payments to rivals) and will then decrease by 2 for each subsequent round.

The minimum run length is 6 hexes.

The enervating variance in production cards received continues. Just as it should. Possibly.

Round 3 Actions

John Bought one Water Factory (o:{3},2,2 w:6,7)
 John Bought one Population Unit (o:{3} w:7)
 David Bought one Water Factory (o:3,4 w:5,8)
 Dane Bought one Water Factory (o:{3},1,5 w:5,6)
 Mike Auctioned a Data Library for 15
 Mike got it for 15 (o:{3},{3} w:9)
 Mike Bought one Population Unit (o:3 w:7)
 Tony Bought two Population Units (o:3 w:8,9)

Pos	Player	Factories	Operators	Colony Cards	Production	Total	VPs	Buys
1	Mike	2o,3w	4p (5,0)	DL	1o,4w	(31,10)	5	(15)
2	Tony	2o,3w	5p (5,0)	-	2o,4w	(34,10)	5	(0)
3	John	2o,3w	5p (5,0)	-	3o,3w	(30,10)	5	(0)
4	David	2o,3w	4p (5,0)	-	2o,4w	(34,10)	4	(0)
5	Dane	2o,3w	4p (5,0)	-	3o,3w	(30,10)	4	(0)
On Offer	Data Library	2	(1 more)	Heavy Equipment	1	(2 more)		
	Warehouse	1	(2 more)	Nodule	2	(1 more)		

OUTPOST M20: EXPERT : PHASE 1

[PHASE 2 AT 10 VP, PHASE 3 AT 30 VP]

NEXT - ROUND 4

Andy Muir	1830R46
Brad Martin	RR2586DM
Dane Maslen	Outpost M22
David Hooton	1830E46, 1829I46, 1829T46
David Smith	Outpost M22
Edward Denley	1829I46, 1829T46
Graham Lee	1835K46, 1856M46
John Shelley	1830E46, 1835K46, 1856M46
John Webley	1830E46, 1835K46, 1856M46, 1830R46, RR2586DM, Outpost M22
Mark Hancock	1856M46
Mick Haytack	
Mike Bennett	1830E46, 1856M46, 1830R46
Mike Ruffhead	1829I46, 1835K46, 1830R46, 1829T46, RR2586DM, Outpost M22
Shaun Goodwin	1829I46, 1829T46
Tim Parkes	
Tony Sait	1830E46, 1835K46, RR2586DM, Outpost M22
