

A PRETTY OLD WORLD

Said That Animal Life Has Existed on Earth for 10,000,000 Years.

Curator of Field Columbian Museum at Chicago Bases His Calculations on Experiments Made in Famous Caves of Indiana.

Oliver C. Farrington, curator of the Field Columbian museum at Chicago, has just completed experiments with the rocky formations peculiar to the famous caves of Indiana which are stated to prove the fallacy of Usher's chronology, based upon the fragmentary and varied computations of the dates in the Bible, placing the age of the earth at only about 6,000 years.

These conclusions were reached by estimating the period required for the petrification of the stalactites, or limestone formations, in the caves mentioned. In 1850 one of these stalactites was cut and the increase since then has been carefully measured, showing that about 35 years are required for the formation of a cubic inch of the substance.

Elmer S. Riggs, the assistant curator of the museum, has returned home from his fossil-hunting trip in western Colorado, during which he found the fossil remains of the largest animal which ever lived on this earth, according to all scientific records. The scientific name of the animal is brontosaurus excelsa, and is commonly termed a dinosaur. The specimen of which Prof. Riggs found a part was, according to scientific calculation, about 75 feet long and 20 or 21 feet in height. The next largest specimen of this creature ever discovered was estimated to be 65 feet long and 18 feet in height.

The portions of the skeleton secured by the Riggs party were the two thigh bones, a number of vertebrae and seven or eight ribs. The thigh is six feet and ten inches in length, the vertebrae 15 inches in diameter, and the ribs over nine feet long and eight inches broad. The dinosaurs were the largest animals of prehistoric times existing when the region now covered by the Rocky mountains was a waste of marsh and fresh water lakes. The find of Prof. Riggs has aroused wide scientific interest.

DIDN'T TOUCH THE BABY.

Lightning Wrecks a Stove and a Bedstead, But Leaves an Infant Unharmed.

Mrs. Henry Salitzer, residing in a one-story brick building, formerly a schoolhouse, at Newmarket, one mile west of Sheridan, Pa., had a most remarkable experience during a storm a few days ago. She and her three children were sitting in the dining-room, when lightning demolished the chimney. It then followed the stovepipe and buried the life coils on the hearth.

WIDENS FIELD FOR WOMEN.

Austrian Order Allowing Them to Study Medicine and Pharmacy.

The ministry of education of Austria issued ordinances the other day granting permission to women to study medicine and to practice as pharmacists. The course of study in both cases is similar to that imposed on men, but no woman will be permitted to carry on a drug store independently without special permission from the ministry of the interior.

Hitherto any Austrian woman desiring to practice medicine has been compelled to study abroad, and then only succeeded in obtaining permission to practice with the greatest difficulty. The women are delighted with the ordinance, which practically affords them two more chances for making a livelihood.

LAYS IT ALL TO ADVERTISING.

Germany's Explanation of America's Growth of Trade in Australia.

Notwithstanding the governmental supplemental subsidy the volume of Germany's exports to Australia is decreasing and that of the United States is increasing. In 1894 the United States beat Germany in the Australian trade by \$1,000,000. In 1897 Germany's exports to Australia amounted to \$4,500,000, while those of the United States reached the figure of \$9,400,000. In 1899 the American exports increased to \$11,000,000, while the German amounted to \$4,250,000.

The German press is therefore alarmed at this failure of the national trade with Australia to grow and says that the reason of the American systematic progress is the steady advertisement propaganda carried on by resident agents, which takes the form not only of floods of catalogues, but of convenient sample-rooms and the payment of liberal commissions.

Was the Frenchman Slighted? A Frenchman, M. de Regnier, has written a book in which he says New York and Chicago are the ugliest things he ever saw; also that all other American cities are unlovely. M. de Regnier must have passed through, thinks the Chicago Times-Herald, when the people who make it a part of their business to entertain foreign guests were away for the summer.

An Aquatic Hedgehog. The sea hedgehog, or globe fish, can inflate his body with air. In this state it looks like a balloon covered with spikes, and is safe from any enemy.

Isolation Cure. The newest thing in medical science is the "isolation cure."

VALUABLE GIFT TO YALE.

University Receives from Morris K. Jessup a Noted Collection of Arabic Manuscripts.

It is announced by the authorities of Yale university that an unusually valuable collection of Arabic manuscript, made by Count Landberg, has been presented to the university by Morris K. Jessup, of New York city. Count Landberg is a distinguished Swedish collector and traveler, his library of Swedish literature having been purchased last year by Harvard university. The Arabic collection, which it is hoped will arrive in this country within a month, consists of some 800 manuscripts. Four-fifths of these are rare, and more than 200 are without duplicates.

They cover the whole range of Arabic history and literature, and many of them date back to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Law, philosophy, poetry and theology are particularly well represented. The collection was purchased at a cost of about \$20,000.

These manuscripts, together with the Salisbury oriental collection of about 4,500 volumes, and that of the American Oriental society, now in the university library, and containing 4,000 bound volumes and some 4,000 pamphlets, will give Yale a position of eminence in oriental research. As an evidence of the value of the Landberg collection, Prof. Fischer, of Leipzig, one of the most distinguished scholars in Germany, has expressed his intention of visiting America for the special purpose of making a thorough study of these Arabic manuscripts.

CLAPPER STOLEN FROM BELL.

Princeton. Freshmen Invade the Tower of Old North Church.

Three freshmen at Princeton the other night stole the clapper from the bell which hangs in the belfry of "Old North." It took them, however, nearly five hours to accomplish the feat, which the incoming class each year is expected to undertake, at least. Late at night the three men entered Nassau hall by way of the museum. They battered down a heavy door on the second floor leading to an anteroom, and, after forcing another door, gained access to the ladder leading to the roof.

The belfry is about 30 feet above the roof, and is protected by a lightning rod, which had been heavily wound by barb wire to prevent it from being used as an aid in reaching the bell. In some unknown way one of the freshmen managed to climb this rod and secure the trophy, which he dropped to the ground in a safe place.

The noise which the men had made while battering in the door had evidently aroused the proctors, for they were waiting for the freshmen when they reached the ground. The names of the freshmen have not been given out, but it is understood that they were obliged to pay a fine of \$30 into the university treasury. To raise the required amount, the freshmen hit upon a novel scheme. They are having the clapper recast and molded into a large number of miniature clappers, which they expect to sell to their classmates as watch charms.

BUYS HISTORIC MANSION.

Prominent Mansfield Physician Will Restore Old Colonial Structure.

The old colonial mansion, corner Park avenue and Mulberry streets, Mansfield, O., for many years in the possession of the Sherman family, has been sold to Dr. J. H. Nichols, a well-known physician of Mansfield, who intends to restore the old house to its former beauty. It is over 75 years old. The land on which it stands was part of a quarter section grant in 1812 to James Hedges, an early settler of Mansfield, and grandfather of Henry C. Hedges, Senator Sherman's former law partner.

The property did not come into the possession of the Shermans until 1838, when it was purchased from James S. McCoy by Judge Charles T. Sherman, brother of Senator Sherman, with whom the latter studied law. This was Judge Sherman's residence and a center of the social life of the town. It is a story and a half house, with old-fashioned columns in front.

In 1855 Senator Sherman purchased the property from his brother and it remained in his possession until 1888, when he sold it to James W. Craig, from one of whose heirs it is now purchased. This was the birthplace of the wife of Gen. Nelson Miles, also of Mrs. Don Cameron.

IMPROVIDENT AMERICANS.

Vice Consul Westcott at London Says There Are an Unusual Number of Applications for Assistance.

"I never knew so many improvident Americans in London," said United States Vice Consul Westcott to a representative of the press at London. "At this time of the year you are sure to find many who have overtaxed their financial resources. But the applications for relief here outnumber anything in the history of the consulate. Of course, there are no means in our hands to finance stranded travelers, and if there were they would lead since have been expended. Guests at the leading hotels say they cannot go into the streets without being besieged for financial aid by impoverished compatriots."

Feminine Inventions. Forty-two inventions relating to cycles were taken out last year by women.

ITALY CATCHES FAD.

Count of Turin Introduces American Shirt Waist.

Likes the Style and Adopts It and It at Once Becomes Popular with Fashionable Young Men.

The struggle of the shirt-waist man in Italy has been tragic. The impossibility of defeating his purpose is illustrated to good advantage by the manner that he has flourished in spite of environment. The popular count of Turin, first cousin of the king, was the first to introduce the fad. Since his visit to America two years ago he has followed closely the American fashions. When he learned of the popularity of the shirt waist he immediately designed an Italian edition.

The count is an artist, and with his crayons he sketched several designs similar to the shirt waist that has been struggling for recognition in America, and sent them to a manufacturer in Bradford, England. He accompanied them with patterns in madras linens. Dozens of the shirt waists were manufactured for him.

The murder of the king made it impossible for the count of Turin to wear the pretty colors and gaudy designs. But he is a man of resources. He put them carefully away and immediately designed new waists to be made up in soft white silks with black stripes running through them. These were made in a hurry, but with excellent taste, and on a proud and happy morning the gallant count appeared, taking his early morning walk in the Quirinal palace along the Pia Sestina, where so many American visitors have their residences, to the Pincio, the famous public gardens of Rome.

It is needless to say that no young Roman considers himself complete now unless he wears a shirt waist.

A striking innovation which the count introduced is the buttons of the waist. In one case the buttons are gold coins of the realm, ten-lira pieces. They are the size of the American two and a half dollar gold pieces. On another waist the buttons are of black jet, each as large as a franc piece and arranged in a double row like the buttons on an Italian officer's tunic. The rows are far apart at the top and tapering inward at the bottom.

OREGON IN A BAD WAY.

Battleship Will Probably Be Ordered Home for the Making of Permanent Repairs.

It is probable the battleship Oregon will be ordered home from the Asiatic station. The reports and photographs received from Kure of the injuries sustained by that ship on its way to Taku show that it was damaged to a greater extent than was at first supposed, or than has been indicated in the previous reports from naval officers attached to the ship. The attempt to repair the damage must have been of the most temporary character, and consisted largely of filling in the huge apertures with timber framework covered with sheet iron. The repairs are described as merely something to keep the water out, and it is doubtful if the permanent repairs can be done at Hong-Kong. It is estimated that it will require several months to complete the work, which includes a good deal of internal construction. The ship is badly damaged throughout, and it will probably be necessary to place it out of commission.

SPIDER'S NEST IN BOY'S EAR.

Ninety-Six of the Insects, All Alive, Are Removed by a Physician.

From the ear of the eight-year-old son of James Hawkins 96 live spiders were taken, besides three balls of eggs and a lot of spider web. The boy, who lives with his parents at Senath, ten miles from Kennett, Mo., complained of earache, and his mother applied a common remedy, tobacco juice. She was astonished to see a full grown black spider come out, and in a few minutes several others appeared.

The boy was taken to a physician, who coaxed out 14 other spiders. The boy was then put under an X-ray light and a lot of other spiders were discovered. All of the spiders are reported to have been as large as buckshot. The physicians have preserved the captured insects. The boy still suffers severe pains in his head and his experience may yet prove serious if not fatal.

HAS A PIG FOR A PET.

"Snootie" Introduced to Fashionable Society by Miss Adelaide Pierson and Is Well Received.

Miss Adelaide Pierson, daughter of Gen. and Mrs. J. Frederick Pierson, of 20 West Fifty-second street, New York city, has started a new fad in society by choosing a live pig for a pet. The pig is now installed in the Pierson's Bellevue avenue villa at Newport. "Snootie" is piggy's name. "Snootie" is white with large splotches of black. Miss Pierson got him up at Howardsville. "Snootie" was taken to Newport and was quick to adapt himself to the petting showered upon him. "Snootie" wears a collar. Miss Pierson wanted to have his snout pierced, so that he might be further decorated with a golden ring, studded with jewels, but Gen. Pierson persuaded her to abandon this idea.

A Maker of Fortune. Joaquin Miller, writing from China, says: "I invoke, I implore my country to get out of this rotten and try to get out of it. It is a moldy land and keep out of it. It is not fit for a white man. In fact, I do not believe a white man could live here a thousand years without becoming exactly like a Chinaman." But, says the Chicago Times-Herald, some white men might run the risk even of being like a Chinaman if they could be sure of living a thousand years.

A Cow's Hide. Morton county, Kan., has no physician or surgeon.

TO RETIRE FROM NAVY.

Rear Admiral Hichborn Will Reach Age Limit in March—Speculation as to His Successor.

Naval constructors are discussing the probable successor to Rear Admiral Hichborn when that officer retires in March. There are four candidates for the place. Constructors Hanson, Bowles, Woodward and Baxter. All of them are prominent officers. The senior in rank and the officer who will retire first is Constructor Hanson, now on duty at the Cramps' shipyard in Philadelphia. Constructor Woodward is on duty at Richmond, Va., and was formerly attached to the Norfolk navy yard.

Commander Bowles was the first of the constructors to be sent abroad for instruction in naval architecture, and has been for some time in charge of the construction work at the New York navy yard.

Constructor Baxter, the junior candidate, was appointed to the Naval academy by President McKinley when the latter was in congress. For this reason he is supposed to possess chances not enjoyed by the others, but his place on the list of constructors will probably interfere with his appointment as head of the corps, which carries with it the position of chief of the bureau of construction and repair and the rank and pay of a rear admiral.

The discussion may be useless after all, for Rear Admiral Hichborn may be continued on the active list after he reaches the age of retirement, a condition permitted by recently-enacted law.

GOES INSANE OVER MONEY.

Father of Famous Opera Singer Too Well Provided For by His Daughter.

Seth Abbott, of San Diego, Cal., father of the late Emma Abbott, the famous American opera singer, was confined in a cell at police headquarters at Lowell, Mass., the other day. He has an income of \$100 a week, left him by his daughter, and has gone insane over his money.

His daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Abbott Clark, of Chicago, who is wealthy, was notified to come for the old man. He is 83 years old.

He came to Lowell recently to visit Mrs. B. C. Atkinson, a distant relative. He was arrested for throwing money away in the streets and giving it to clerks in the stores. Literally he had every kind of money about him, and, although he was dressed in broadcloth, the police locked him up because they did not know his identity. Now that it has been discovered, he will be given a more comfortable room at the city farm.

FAST RIDE ON CAR ROOF.

Two Boys Have a Terrible Experience on a Mill-a-Minute Train.

Frank White and Stephen Moriarty, 18-year-old boys who rode from Atlantic City to Camden (N. J.) terminal the other night on the roof of a car of the 60-minute flyer, are slowly recovering from their experiences. When the train arrived White rolled off the roof and broke his fall by landing on a passing trainman. His companion fainted. The two then told how they had thought it would be excitement to ride on a roof from Atlantic City.

"We little knew that we had got on a flyer which makes no stops and which runs faster than chain lightning," said White. "The ride was something awful. Every time we swung around a curve I expected to go shooting off. I dug in, till it seemed as if my finger nails would be torn out by the roots. I had to turn my face to the rear to get a breath. Did not dare to open my eyes, for the air was full of sand and dust and everything infernal."

CHICKENS HOLD UP A TRAIN.

Escape of Caged Fowls Causes an Amazing Incident at Hinsdale.

An incoming freight train on the Burlington road for Chicago was delayed the other day at Hinsdale by a singular mishap. In some way a crate containing chickens was broken and the fowls got away. The train was stopped while the crew pursued the feathered fugitives, the chase being enlivened by music from the Fifty-first Iowa regiment band, which was in a car attached to the train.

The train selected was "I Want a Mah Chicken, Mah Shanghai Chicken," but it only tended further to frighten the cackling birds. The soldiers then joined in the chase and soon the fowls were captured. Strange to say, there were found seven more chickens than originally flew the coop, and these the Iowa boys consigned as contraband of war.

WILLY SELL ITS PLANT.

American Bible Society to Dispose of Old Bible House and Print Bibles by Contract.

The old Bible house at Fourth avenue and Nineteenth street, the home of the American Bible society for nearly 50 years, is to be sold. The great printing establishment of the society will be given up and Bibles printed by contract. The fight of the last five years between the Oxford and International Bible companies of England has been so bitter that the business has become unprofitable. Because of this competition the receipts of the American Bible society have been reduced from \$662,759 in the fiscal year 1893-94 to \$350,173.82 in the year just ended. The issues in 1893-94 were 1,477,659 volumes, and in the year just closed 1,408,801 copies were sent out.

TURNING TO INDIANS.

Prof. Starr Says Americans Will Become Aborigines.

Racial Differences Due to Physical and Climatic Conditions, and Each Continent Has Its Distinctive Race of People.

Prof. Frederick Starr, of the department of anthropology in the University of Chicago, believes that the American people are becoming Indians and will eventually revert to the aboriginal type. His theory is that racial differences are due to physical and climatic conditions of the different continents, and that the same conditions which made Indians of the earlier inhabitants of America will produce a like result among the present inhabitants.

Prof. Starr bases his theory upon careful investigation. He has minutely examined and measured the features of more than 5,000 children of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage and has found in most cases a lengthening of the face and broadening of the cheek bones in accordance with the characteristic features of the Indian races. Recently in his class in ethnology he pointed out various members of the class who most strongly showed the Indian tendency.

"All who come to America," said Prof. Starr, "must converge toward the Indian type. Some may resist the influence longer than others, but the result will be sure to follow in time. As the features change the temperament will change also. Mind is correlated with body, and it is to be expected that those who come here must become as those who came centuries ago had become Indians. The people of France recognize the Indian characteristics in the faces of Americans who visit Paris, and they readily distinguish between Americans and English."

"Asia is the continent of the brown and yellow men. Whatever you pour into it becomes as the natives who are there. Africa is the black man's continent. The white man who goes to Africa must in time become black, with the projecting jaw, the coarse hair and backward heel of the native African race."

Prof. Starr was asked if the Indianized Americans of the future would live in wigwags. He replied that when the first white explorers came to America there were many Indians living in better houses than Chicago people live in to-day.

QUEEN LIL'S PATRIOTISM.

Remained Standing During Strains of "Star Spangled Banner" at Honolulu.

The steamer Australia has arrived at San Francisco, bringing Honolulu news to September 4. Queen Liliuokalani took occasion on her sixty-second birthday, September 1, to give the natives another lesson in American patriotism. During the celebration and concert at the queen's residence she arose when "The Star Spangled Banner" was played and kept her seat during the playing of the Hawaiian national anthem. This action greatly surprised the natives. It was the queen's way of showing that "The Star Spangled Banner" was the national anthem in Hawaii, and not the old Hawaiian hymn. This action may have a good deal of political effect, as a reply from the queen to those natives who are urging the organization of an independent party with the idea that the restoration of the monarchy is still a possibility.

AUTO MOUNTS PIKE'S PEAK.

John Brisben Walker Ascends 11,000 Feet and Then Comes Down.

For the first time in its history Pike's peak was the other day ascended by an automobile, and John Brisben Walker, of New York, did the feat. Although he did not go clear to the top, yet he made an ascent of 11,000 feet, the highest that an automobile has traveled anywhere in the world. His only company in the ascent and the descent was his son Justice, who has accompanied him on the western trip.

"The road was the worst I ever saw," said Mr. Walker, "and got worse and worse as we proceeded. When 11,000 feet was made we fell in with tourists, who told us it was much worse beyond, and advised us to turn back, which I proposed to do. Going back, however, was like coming down a toboggan chute, and we made the distance in a quarter less time. It was fearfully rapid work."

LANGUAGE IN HAWAII.

Hawaii Has Closed Its Last School for Teaching the Native Language. Hereafter Young Hawaiians Will be Taught to Talk English.

The world has been so absorbed elsewhere during the last few months, says the Chicago Record, that several South American revolutions have been pulled off with practically no spectators.

CHINA'S FRONTIERS.

The coast line of the Chinese empire exceeds 2,000 miles and the land frontier is 4,400 miles.