

ANCIENT TEMPLES

Mighty Structures of Old Dwarfed by Modern Skyscrapers.

TOWER OF BABEL A MIDGET.

It Would Not Reach Two-thirds of the Way Up to the Top of the Eiffel Tower, That Sways 984 Feet in the Air. Big Buildings and the Pyramids.

It has long been the popular impression that the modern effort to pierce the clouds with skyscrapers is but a feeble imitation of the work of those ancient sons of Noah whose memory is perpetuated in the Bible. Reading in the eleventh chapter of Genesis, where it tells of the people attempting to erect the Tower of Babel, "whose top may reach unto heaven," it strikes one that they must have gone farther toward realizing their ambition than we of today may ever hope to do.

But as a matter of fact when the Lord halted building operations by confounding the workers' language and scattering them broadcast over the earth the summit of the tower was but one stage, or 606 feet 9 inches, from the level of the plain.

The Ziggurat, or temple tower of Babylon, is described by Herodotus as having eight stages, each somewhat narrower than the one directly beneath it. The top was reached by a gradually rising spiral ascent, and on the top-most tier was a shrine wherein the god Marduk was supposed to dwell. Diodorus says this shrine contained three colossal golden images—one of Bel, one of Belshazzar and the third of Rhea or Ishtar—together with two golden lions, two enormous silver serpents and a golden table forty feet long and fifteen feet wide.

The tower, as the Bible sets forth, was built of brick, with slime for mortar. This slime, it is believed, was natural asphaltum obtained from nearby springs. Ages after the building operations had been interrupted by the Maker's wrath Nebuchadnezzar undertook, with indifferent success, to restore the ruins to their former state.

The modern ruins of Babel are supposed to be represented by the great pile of Brins Nimroud, which stood in Borsippa, eight miles from the ancient city of Babylon. Its sides were from 375 to 643 feet long, and the edifice still rises to a height of 153 feet.

The next structures in point of antiquity are the pyramids of Egypt. These are the oldest and most mysterious of man's works still existing. But they are not really so tall, considered in the light of present day achievements. The greatest, known as the Great Pyramid of Cheops or Khufu, was originally 481 feet 4 inches high and 755 feet square at the base. The second—that of Chephren or Khafra—was 472 feet high and 706 feet wide. The third—that of Mycerinus or Menkaure—was never completed, but it stood, nevertheless, 215 feet high and 346 feet square at the base.

In all nearly seventy of these pyramids have been located, and, inasmuch as they all appear to have been royal sepulchers, it is the belief that the dynasties of the builders covered a period of at least a thousand years. The area of the Great Pyramid is more than thirteen acres—above twice as great as that of St. Peter's at Rome. The passages leading to the chambers containing the royal mummies defied detection for thousands of years, only to be torn open at last and their contents ruthlessly made away with.

Of modern edifices the tallest by far is the great Eiffel tower of Paris, whose steel webbed structure pierces the blue to a height of 984 feet. Then comes the Woolworth building in New York, the loftiest office building in the world, its fifty-five stories rising 750 feet into the air. The height of others is: Metropolitan Life building, New York, fifty stories, 700 feet 3 inches; Singer building, New York, forty-one stories, 612 feet 1 inch; Washington monument, Washington, 555 feet; Cologne cathedral spire, Cologne, Germany, 517 feet; Rouen cathedral spire, Rouen, France, 492 feet; cupola of St. Peter's, Rome, 439 feet; St. Paul's, London, 364 feet.

The loftiest obelisks ever constructed are those mentioned by Diodorus Siculus, which rose 158 feet and were eleven feet thick at the base and seven feet thick at the top. One of the world's largest domes is that of the Roman Pantheon, 142 feet in diameter and 143 feet high.

The ancient peoples were great for their methods of embalming, for their art, their literature, their general culture. But when it comes to building skyscrapers they will have to give way to the builders of the Eiffel tower and the Woolworth building, who have pierced the clouds without their language being confounded in the slightest.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Death by the Bowstring.
In Turkey and Persia the bowstring is the method of execution. This is a stout cord of catgut placed around the victim's neck with two slipknots, which are suddenly drawn tight by two strong men. This kills the criminal by strangulation.—London Telegraph.

Great Scheme.
"I'm going to marry a girl ten years older than I am," says the philosopher of folly, "so that I can catch up with her by the time I'm fifty."—Cleveland Leader.

The busy man is troubled with but one devil, the idle man by a thousand.—Spanish Proverb.

SAVED HIMSELF, UNAWARE.

Showing How the Eye Saws More Than One Thinks It Does.

Writing on psychological subjects in the Ladies' Home Journal, H. Addington Bruce says:

"From Dr. A. H. of Pennsylvania, one of our well known psychologists, I have received this impressive piece of testimony to the power of the eye to see more than one consciously apprehends:

"Three summers ago, when I was on a visit to my old home town, I took a short cut across familiar fields where a fair growth of weeds covered the ground. I was going along at a rapid gait, with my mind wholly occupied with matters other than my path, when suddenly, quite reflexly, my left foot, instead of going down on the spot where it should, jerked itself over to the left, and I went on fully ten steps before I realized that I had made the sharpest kind of an offset in my path. I wondered what made me do it, turned, retraced my steps and found an adder still coiled and ready to strike, exactly, as I judged, where my foot would have gone."

"Dr. A. H., recognizing the correct explanation of his fortunate misstep, adds:

"During my boyhood summers I used to go barefooted much of the time. Through sad experiences with stubble fields, briar patches and stony paths I learned automatically to pick my way without giving thought to the matter. As a result, I find myself frequently in my walks avoiding obstacles which at the moment I do not consciously discern."

A LESSON FOR THE NURSE.

She Didn't Like It When She Was Paid In Her Own Coin.

A mother overheard her nurse girl talking to the child she was putting to sleep, and among other legends of the nursery in which she was indulged was this: "If you don't go to sleep this very minute a great, big, awful, black bear, with eyes like coals of fire and sharp, white, cruel teeth, will come out from under the bed and eat-y-o-u-a-l-l up!" The poor little thing nestled down under the clothes to dream of horrid bears eating her up.

That night when the stolid nurse had composed herself in her own comfortable bed and had put the light out there came a sudden rap at the door, and the voice of the mistress called loudly through the panels: "Maggie! Maggie! Get up as quick as you can! There's a burglar under your bed!" At the word "burglar" the girl sprang screaming from the bed, tore open the door and fell into hysterics in the hall.

The lesson was more instructive than the mistress designed, but when the girl's fears had calmed she said to her: "You did not hesitate to tell my delicate child, who could not possibly know that it was a lie, a cruel story about a bear under her bed. Now, when I treat you to the same kind of a story, you are nearly frightened to death. Tomorrow you can go into the kitchen and work there. You are not fit to care for little children."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Curious Experience.

Lombroso, the famous Italian criminologist, once had a curious experience. He was in a printing office correcting the proofs in his "Delinquent Man" with the chief reader when on reaching a page which dealt with a young man who, impelled by jealousy, had stabbed his fiancée he made a surprising discovery. The proofreader was this man.

"Suddenly," Lombroso said in telling the story, "he threw himself at my feet, declaring that he would commit suicide if I published this story with his name. His face, before very gentle, was completely altered and almost terrifying, and I was really afraid that he would kill himself or me on the spot. I tore up the proofs and for several editions omitted his story."

Thunder.

Winter thunder is considered throughout Europe to be of very ill omen, but April thunder is considered to be very beneficial. In Devonshire and other cider counties of England there is a saying that "when it thunders in April you must clean up the barrels"—in readiness, that is, for a plentiful crop of apples. The French consider April thunder to be indicative of a good yield from vineyards and cornfields.

Getting it Straight.

It was in the Elysian fields. "I am gratified to see that Shakespeare is more sought after than the military heroes," declared a highbrow shade. "I consider this a tribute to the peaceful arts."

"It isn't that so much," pointed out a lowbrow shade. "Every new arrival wants to ask him if he really wrote those plays."—Kansas City Journal.

Angel Coins.

An "angel" was an ancient gold coin weighing four pennyweights and valued at 6s. 8d. in the reign of Henry VI. and at 10 shillings in the reign of Elizabeth in 1562. It took its name from the effigy of an angel embossed on one side.

Desperation.

Lady Visitor—My poor man, what first drove you to a career of crime?
Desperate Criminal—Trying to match samples for my wife.—Baltimore American.

There never was an excuse as interesting as a duty well done.—Toledo Blade.

A WONDROUS LAND

The Yellowstone Region as James Bridger Saw It.

AND HE WAS A TRUTHFUL MAN

His Adventure With an Elk at the Famous Obsidian Cliff and the Effect of a Ride Through Alum Creek—Story of the Mountain That Was Cursed.

As a teller of tales Munchausen had a worthy rival in James Bridger, the celebrated hunter, trader and guide, whose name and career are part of the pioneer history of the west. Bridger was thoroughly familiar with the region now comprised in the Yellowstone park as far back as 1830.

In his book, "The Yellowstone Park," the author, Hiram Martin Chittenden, brigadier general United States army, retired, sets down some of the yarns Bridger told about that land of wonders. Many of the Yellowstone country tales ascribed to Bridger have survived to this day, probably because they have never been capped. The first story General Chittenden tells relates to the celebrated Obsidian cliff, a mass of black volcanic glass with which all the tourists are familiar. Its discovery by Bridger was the result of a hunting trip, and it happened in this way:

"Coming one day in sight of a magnificent elk, he took careful aim at the unsuspecting animal and fired. To his amazement the elk not only was not wounded, but seemed not to have heard the noise of the rifle. Bridger drew considerably nearer and gave the elk the benefit of his most deliberate aim, but with the same result as before. A third and fourth effort met with similar fate. Utterly exasperated, he seized his rifle by the barrel, resolved to use it as a club, since it had failed as a firearm. Rushing madly toward the elk, he suddenly crashed into an immovable vertical wall which proved to be a mountain of perfectly transparent glass, on the farther side of which, still in peaceful security, the elk was quietly grazing.

"Stranger still, the mountain was not only of pure glass, but was a perfect telescope lens, and, whereas the elk seemed but a few yards off, it was in reality twenty-five miles away."

Another of Bridger's discoveries was an ice cold spring near the summit of a lofty mountain, the water from which flowed down over a long, smooth slope, where it acquired such velocity that it was boiling hot when it reached the bottom. This, a later investigator of the Firehole river found, was a case in which a hot spring discharged into the river bed.

Alum creek, a tributary of the Yellowstone, received its name from an accidental discovery by Bridger. One day he forded the creek and rode out several miles and back. He noticed that the return journey was only a small fraction of the distance going and that his horse's feet had shrunk to mere points which sank into the solid ground so that the animal could scarcely hobble along. Seeking the cause, he found it to be in the astrigent qualities of the water, which was saturated with alum to such an extent that it had power to pucker distance itself.

Bridger also found a fine place to fish: "Somewhere along the shore an immense boiling spring discharges its overflow directly into the lake. The specific gravity of the water is less than that of the lake, owing to the expansive action of heat, and it floats in a stratum of three or four feet thick upon the cold water underneath. When Bridger was in need of fish it was to this place that he went. Through the hot upper stratum he let fall his bait to the subjacent habitable zone and, having hooked his victim, cooked him on the way out!"

The visitor to the region of petrifications in the northeast corner of the park and to various points in the hot springs districts will have no difficulty in discovering the base material out of which Bridger contrived the following picturesque yarn:

"A mountain in the park was once cursed by a great medicine man of the Crow nation. Everything on the mountain at the time of this dire event became instantly petrified and has remained so ever since. All forms of life are standing about in stone where they were suddenly caught by the petrifying influences, even as the inhabitants of ancient Pompeii were surprised by the ashes of Vesuvius. Sagebrush, grass, prairie fowls, antelopes, elk and bears may there be seen as perfect as in actual life. Dashing torrents and the spray mist from them stand forth in arrested motion as if carved from rock by a sculptor's chisel. Even flowers are blooming in colors of crystal, and birds soar with wings spread in motionless flight, while the air floats with music and perfumes siliceous, and the sun and moon shine with petrified light!" It is denied, though, that Bridger was responsible for the story that even the laws of gravitation were petrified in the region.

Uncontrollable Curiosity.

"I don't see how it is that Mrs. Jorwag has so many friends. She gossipa terribly."

"Yes," replied Miss Cayenne. "Everybody seems willing to take a chance on being talked about for the sake of hearing what she says about the others."—Washington Star.

There is only one sort of shabbiness that matters—a shabbiness of the soul.—Edwin Pugh.

HOP PICKING

NEXT WEEK

OVERALLS

AND

JACKETS

THIS WEEK

To start things moving, we offer you a well-made Overall, blue and white stripe, bib, 6 pockets, at

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Jackets to match at the same price

Khaki Pants, to close out - - - 75c and up
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All Summer Underwear Reduced a third

Bargains in All Lines of Summer Goods

Summer Clean Up at

THE DAYLIGHT STORE	<i>Dallas Mercantile Co.</i>	THE DAYLIGHT STORE
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TO THE PEOPLE OF DALLAS:

An agent, representing a Salem studio, has been trying to sell coupons here, good for \$1 on a \$4 order of a dozen cabinet folders and one enlargement.

I turned this proposition down because I did not want to ask the people of Dallas to pay \$4 for \$3 worth of photographs, as the agent gets the \$1 you pay him.

If you have one of these coupons I will make you the dozen folders and the one enlargement for \$3, and guarantee the pictures to be as good or better than you would get at the Salem studio.

If you did not buy a coupon, you have saved \$1, as I shall be very much pleased to make you the pictures for \$3. Call and see samples.

STONE,
The Photographer in your town.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned as administrator of the estate of Gerhard J. Quiring, deceased, has filed his final account in the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Polk County, and that Wednesday, the 22nd day of September, 1915, at ten o'clock a. m. of said day, at the court room of said county court in the City of Dallas, Oregon, has been appointed by said Court as the time and place for hearing of objections to the said final account and the settlement thereof.

Dated and first published August 24, 1915.

JOHN W. QUIRING,
Administrator of the estate of Gerhard J. Quiring, deceased.
L. D. BROWN,
Attorney for the estate. 50-51.

ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to whom it may concern, that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Tena S. J. Hastings, by the Hon. County Court of Polk County, Oregon, and has qualified. All persons holding claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same duly verified on or before six months from the date hereof, and all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate settlement thereof. Dated this 24th day of June, 1915.

REUBEN A. HASTINGS,
Administrator of estate of Tena S. J. Hastings, deceased.
SIBLEY & EAKIN,
Attorneys for estate. 33-51.

The Observer, a Twice-a-Week paper, costs no more than a weekly.

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