

DUST FOR MANY AGES.

The Industrious Cliff-Dwellers of Southern Colorado.

Relics of a Peaceful Race of Men Found Among the Wind-Worn Caves of Montezuma County, Col.—Why They Became Extinct.

The archaeologists of Denver should be happy. Almost at their very door they can now see the skulls and handiwork of men and women of pre-historic time. The caves of the cliff-dwellers on the Manco, of Southern Colorado, have been once more entered by vandals, but this time only ruin and the dust of departed centuries were to be found.

The existence of these caves has long been known, but no thorough examination was ever made until a few months ago, when Charles McLeod, a prospector and miner of the San Juan, and four companions concluded that it would be at least a lark to look into the abandoned dwellings. A writer in the Denver Republican describes the result of their investigations. No definite idea of securing a collection was thought of, but after wandering from one ruin to another on the top of the cliffs, and where the land could be made fertile, they commenced exploring the caves. Among the first entered little of interest was to be found, but they finally came to a place that was almost inaccessible. On the mesa above a large reservoir was to be seen, and it is the opinion of the explorers that this great tract of ground was once tilled by the people who lived in the caves below. But now plain trees of great age are standing on all sides, and how many of them have sprung up, lived their days, decayed and then have been succeeded by others, no man living today knows—it may have been hundreds, it may have been thousands of years ago.

Mr. McLeod says that the dwellings in Montezuma County were found on the sides of walls of the canyon of the Manco and its tributaries in wind-worn caves or crevices caused by falling water, and were so completely protected from the elements that many of their effects were found in a perfect state of preservation. As a rule, these caves are in almost inaccessible places. When inhabited they were reached quite frequently by notches cut in the rock, and at other times rope ladders must have been used.

Quite a number of the houses found were of pretentious dimensions, the largest being a building on the ground floor of which are 112 rooms, and 200 in the upper stories. This building was four stories in height with a tower, and was built of dressed stone and a cement made of the surrounding soil mixed with a substance now unknown, and the architecture now would be called that of the Roman period.

The race which inhabited it is thought to have been related to the Zunis, Moquis and Pueblos, and it is supposed was the ancestor of those tribes. This, however, is simply supposition, and is based on the formation of the skulls and the ruins of different kinds left.

The race, according to the theory advanced by the Smithsonian Institute, existed about ten thousand years ago. This theory is based upon the idea that the people lived and farmed on the banks of the Rio Grande before the bed of that stream was changed and the finding of trees and fungi in the ruins.

The adjoining natives, the Navajos, are the only race that have any tradition concerning these people, and theirs is that the cliff-dwellers became extinct by being overcome by numbers, and, preferring death by drowning rather than at the hands of the enemy, jumped into the water below their homes, and, instead of drowning became fish. The cliff-dwellers were a quiet, inoffensive race, judging from the lack of instruments of war and the many articles that were used in their crude method of farming.

Phrenologically speaking, they were quiet and peaceable, the back part of the skull being very flat and often depressed, while the front part was well formed and denoted some intelligence.

Among the skulls in the collection is one that consists of one piece only, and shows no trace of a seam between the three parts, as is usual in the human skull. The bones found would indicate that they were a people of medium height and well formed, having small hands and feet, the hair black and finer in texture than that of any known race of savages. There is no sign of any domesticated animal or fowl with the exception of the turkey; it was utilized in many ways, specimens of dust brushes, bone needles, etc., having been found. The agricultural products found consisted of corn, beans and pumpkins, for articles of food, and the yucca for that of clothing. Their textile fabrics consisted of mats and cloths made of cord of the yucca plant interwoven with the down from the turkey or fur of some animal, and is soft and flexible. It was used evidently only in the burying of their dead, who were wrapped in this cloth.

There were discovered near the cities of these people large reservoirs for holding the water that came down from the mountains. These reservoirs were made with stone walls. There is one still perfect, it being situated on top of the "mesa verde" or foot hills, and is 100 feet in diameter, walled with double walls and contains from ten to fifteen feet of water. All their farming was carried on in the valleys above the canyons and was accomplished by hard labor and with the crudest of implements, nothing having been found of this nature except a sharp-pointed stick of hard wood, which was used to tear up the ground for planting.

Their household utensils consisted of pottery jars and casks made of fiber and covered with a substance resembling modern varnish. Both were made in coils and are light in weight and of course very durable.

Their knives were made from the bones of the deer, highly polished and very sharp. There is nothing to indicate that they were acquainted in any respect with the use of any kind of metal. They used both wood and coal for heating and cooking purposes, and had their fireplaces just outside the door in the same manner that the Mexicans do to-day. The sandals used, unlike those worn by savage tribes of the present, were made of vegetable fibers and not of skins, and there is nothing to show that the cliff dwellers were in any way proficient in the art of hunting, as only arrows of hard wood and cane are found, and they could not be used in killing large game, being of so fragile a nature. They had but few ornaments, which were made mostly of turkey bones and nuts, resembling the hickory nut, and of which no other specimens are extant. There are, however, a few made of coral coral, inlaid with ivory of some kind.

This race was one evidently that on account of their peaceful nature were driven from place to place in the valley, and finally took refuge and built homes in these almost inaccessible places, and were at last overcome and perished in defense of their homes as the unfinished walls found indicate that they were suddenly interrupted in their peaceful occupations and were unable to turn the old man in his house.

NEW CURE FOR LA GRIPPE.

The Effect on a Boston Drummer of the Woman with the Yardstick.

I have read with some interest the different methods of curing diseases, some by regular physicians of the allopathic, others of the homeopathic and others of the mind school, but I can bear all this by an experience I went through about a year ago in Columbus, Ga., says a writer in the Boston Globe.

I was there canvassing for a New York publishing house. With all the rest of mankind I had la grippe.

I left Atlanta, Ga., at noon, Jan. 13, 1890, and arrived in Columbus, Ga., toward evening. Feeling the effects of the malady come on, I took about twenty grains of quinine during the day, and toward evening I was fairly crazed with the drug.

On arriving at Columbus I went to the boarding-house of Mrs. —, a kind-hearted old woman, full of southern hospitality but not quite as bright as the average Boston girl. I told the good woman that I felt very ill and asked her to do for me what she could.

She assigned me to a room and I retired at once. She brought me a quart pitcher full of sage tea, and in a short time I perspired freely. Yet my breath seemed to get short all the time, and I became thoroughly alarmed. There I was, far away from friends and acquaintances, with no one but this strange woman near me.

I raised myself half up in bed and with faltering voice said: "Mrs. —, I think I am going to die this very night, and I want to ask a favor of you; in case I should be taken away please do not send me to the public morgue. Go to an undertaker, buy me a cheap coffin and keep me here until some of my friends come. Here is my pocketbook and the address of my family."

The woman looked at me pitifully, nodded her head, and then left me, as I thought, for the night.

In about thirty minutes, however, she returned with a yardstick in her hand, saying: "I went across the street to Mr. Watkins'. I told him you were a little cripple, likely to die, and you wanted a coffin. He said if you would take one without paint, and if he could squeeze you into a 'boy's' size, he would let you have one for six dollars."

With that she laid the yardstick on and remarked: "It will take five feet two inches."

What the sage tea had not brought out faith or yardstick cure did. I never recovered so in all my life. I saw eternity in all its ghastly uncertainty, and I truly believe that this was the crisis in my sickness.

In about three days I was up again, and the only man that felt sorely disappointed was Mr. Watkins because he could not squeeze me into that "boy's" size, without paint, for six dollars." This was the way I was cured of la grippe.

VICTORIA'S CROWN.

It is Worth a Million and a Half of Dollars.

The crown worn by Victoria weighs nearly two pounds, says the Pittsburgh Dispatch. It comprises more than 2,000 precious stones set in various designs. The most prominent gem is the ruby given to Edward, the Black Prince, by Pedro, king of Castile. It is in the front of the crown set in a Maltese cross composed of seventy-five large diamonds. The lower part of the crown band contains a row of 196 pearls, the upper part 112. Between them and in front is a large sapphire, black of that again is a smaller sapphire surrounded by six others, and eight emeralds. Between the two larger sapphires are designs containing 266 diamonds. Above the band are eight more sapphires surrounded by eight diamonds, and the same number of festoons contain 160 diamonds. Besides the Maltese cross there are three others around the upper part of the crown containing 286 diamonds, and between the four are four ornaments, each with a ruby in the center and containing respectively 84, 80, 85 and 87 diamonds. From the crosses rise four arches composed of oak leaves and acorns, the leaves containing 728 diamonds. The thirty-two acorns are each of a single pearl, and are set in cups made of fifty-four diamonds. Above the arches stands the mound, containing 558 diamonds, and above the mound is the cross, containing a very large sapphire, four very large and 108 smaller diamonds. All the stones are genuine, and not a few in some other European crowns, colored glass, which has replaced the genuine stones. The crown entire is valued at \$1,500,000.

MARKED BY THE DEVIL'S HOOF.

The Strange Story Told by an Old Negro in Missouri.

Henry Rice, an aged negro who resides, or did, not more than a year ago, at Holla, this state, says the St. Louis Republic, makes what is probably the most remarkable claim that ever came from the mouth of a human being:—That he had sold his soul to the devil and that his Satanic majesty sealed the bargain by putting his trade mark on the negro's breast. In support of this preposterous statement Rice exhibits a deep scar situated directly over the heart, which appears to have been burned deep into the flesh with a branding iron about the shape and size of the hoof of a two-year-old heifer. This scar, the old negro declares, is the print or mark of the devil's hoof, and that it is a memorial of a compact which he made with the king of the infernal regions, away back in slavery days. According to the terms of the contract the negro is to have supernatural powers over his race during the few fleeting days that he remains a tenant on earth, and that when all is over his soul is to go—not to God, who gave it, but to the devil, who has marked it as his own. When Rice and the devil had settled on the conditions outlined above the latter of the negro placed his hooves upon the heart of the wicked old African and left its indelible impress as evidence of his future proprietary right to burn the old man in his house.

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THE LEBANON EXPRESS.

Notice of Administration.

Notice is hereby given, that, by order of the county court of Linn county, Oregon, the undersigned has been duly appointed and now is the duly qualified and acting administrator of the estate of Nancy Marks, deceased. All parties having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, properly verified, within six months from the 12th day of July 1900, the date of the first publication hereof, to the undersigned at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Oregon.

JOHN H. MARKS, Administrator.
SAM'L M. GARLAND, Atty. for Admr. Estate of Nancy Marks, deceased.

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