

**RICH IN FOSSILS.**

The Bad Lands a Remnant to the Existing Geological Structure.

"The Bad Lands," said Horatio C. ... one of the most earnest rock delvers of the party from Princeton college that recently visited the Bad Lands of North Dakota and Montana to collect fossils, to a northwest magazine representative, "are a strange combination of desolation, horror and incomprehensible freaks of the primeval world. There are lofty peaks, bare and brown-baked into spires of burning rock by the hot suns of millions of years. The valleys between are white deserts, covered with bitter, dusty and blinding alkali that has made all that country a desert worse than Sahara ever was said to be.

"The rivers run wide or turbid with this alkaline concretion in winter, and are dry and dusty channels in the summer. The peaks, the valleys, and every feature of the whole region, in fact, seems to be thrown down upon the earth in nature's angriest mood—a hideous conglomeration, in which even the geological strata are displaced and entangled. This strange region was once the salt-washed bottom of a sea, and the traces of the receding waves are visible on every hand. The fossils, which were now our main pursuit, are mostly aquatic animals. Few birds, and those mostly of the semi-reptilian character, are found among them, while innumerable bones of gigantic saurians dot the shale and sandstone of the valleys. Mingled with them are remains of bear, antelope and buffalo, and relics of an intermediate age, the bones of the mastodons and elephants—not mammoths—and of a three-toed equine, one of the ancestors of the present horse.

**CHINESE ASTROLOGERS.**

Remarkable Sagacity of the Flower Kingdom's Imperial Family.

The household of the Emperor of China includes thirty umbrella-bearers and seventy-five astrologers. The astrologers, who correspond to the signal-service bureau of this country, predict every day the weather for the morrow. If they predict rain the umbrella-bearers take a day off. If they announce fair weather, on the other hand, the umbrella-bearers, mandarins of the overhose and mackintosh men report at the palace at 8:30 a. m. The Emperor of China may be a heathen Chinese, but he knows enough to copper his astrologers and meteorologists. As an instance of the sagacity of the Chinese Imperial family in this regard we may mention the signal refutation of judicial astrology made by Hung-Boo-Tung, a granduncle of the present Emperor. Chow-Chop, president of the Imperial College of Astrologers, came to Prince Hung's palace one morning and said: "Scion of seventy thousand generations of Hungs, your poor servant has dreamed a dream. Meseemed that thou and I were transformed into great black dragons. Our wings were of equal length, and with equal flight we soared through the upper air."

"Well," asked the Prince, gracefully polishing his middle finger-nail with the flat of a dagger of the first dynasty, "what of it, young fellow?"

"This, my puissant and graceful lord, that thy life and mine shall be long and of equal length. Astrology, Colonel Hung, is infallible."

"You are a liar!" cried the Prince, and slit the astrologer's wrist. And it seems that Chow was a liar. For Old Hung survived him twenty-eight years and would be alive now if he had let opium alone. Since Chow's death the Chinese astrologers have, by Imperial order, confined their predictions to the weather. If they make a correct prediction they are executed, but thus far none have incurred the penalty. The American signal-service bureau has still something to learn from Chinese methods.—N. Y. Sun.

**How He Lost Time.**

Pedestrian—B-b-boy, can you t-t-tell me how I-f-far it is to the po-po-post-office?

Newsboy—What d'y'e say, mister? Pedestrian—I-I reckon you-you heard me. How I-f-far is it to the po-po-post-office?

Newsboy—Only half a block, mister. If you hadn't a-stopped to ask me you'd a been there a-ready.—Life

**Substitute for Window Glass.**

A peculiar substitute for window glass, known as "tectorium," is stated to have been for some time employed in Austria, Italy, Germany, Switzerland and Russia, as a covering for hot-houses, greenhouses, verandas, windows of factories, roofs of stores, etc. It is a peculiar, insoluble, bichromated gelatin, translucent as opal glass and incorporated in wire gauze. It possesses, we are told, the transparency of opal glass, is tough and flexible, bends without breaking, does not dissolve in water and is not injured by frost. It is a bad conductor of heat, and becomes stronger, it is stated, the longer it is exposed to the air.

**A Great Place for Hunters.**

Judging from late statistics, India still remains a magnificent country for sportsmen. In 1892 21,988 human beings and 81,000 head of cattle were killed by snakes and wild beasts, the chief human mortality—19,025—having been due to snake bite. Tigers claimed 547 human victims, leopards 200, wolves 100, bears 145, and elephants 72. On the other hand, whereas only 4,428 cattle were killed by snake bite, no fewer than 20,909 were devoured by tigers, 20,013 by leopards, and 6,782 by wolves.

**ELECTRICITY ON THE FARM.**

Country Life May Be Made Less Laborious by a New Agency.

Part of the growing difficulties occasioned by the desertion of the country and the crowding of the cities will be remedied, perhaps, by six years hence—in that wonderful year 1900, which electricians set as a mile post of human progress—by the crowning of steam's rival, says the New York Press. Machinery is rapidly taking the deadening drudgery out of farm work when conducted scientifically and on a large scale, and is causing it to attract the attention of city people who long for the healthful fields. Only the bodily discomforts of farm work have prevented an exodus from the city to the country. Already electricity is turning its attention to the long neglected farm work, and has discovered profitable results to be had by subjecting crops to currents of electricity. It is beginning to simplify the ponderous farm machinery, and as soon as the storage battery has received its finishing touches and can be applied to lighting the farmer's toil and increasing his profits the farmer will be looked upon with envy by the prisoners of city streets and counting house walls. Those particular effects of electricity upon farm machinery and farm life are, however, visible chiefly in the imagination at present, and are not at all likely to be realized in six years; but one great change may be looked for in this direction in the immediate future, and that is the improvement of the farmer's condition by means of good roads and the rapid transit which electricity is almost ready to bring, thus greatly enlarging his market and bringing him higher prices for fresher products, and also bringing him closer to the life and pleasures and stimulating effect of the city. There is to be a wonderful change in farm life in the more thickly settled parts of the country in a very few years, and rapid transit will be largely responsible for it. The cheap transmission of electrical power must bring soon many changes that will be felt in the city household, and perhaps the chief of them will be the abolition of the cook stove as it is known at present. The small electric heater has already begun to take its place, and it is almost certain that even in six years coal will be banished from a majority of the kitchens in cities adjacent to water power from which electricity is generated. When heat is wanted for cooking purposes it will be had at a moment's notice by the pressing of a button.

**CATS' EYES.**

Their Normal Form Is the Same as the Human Eye.

The pupil of a cat's eye ordinarily appears as a long, narrow oval, or a straight, vertical black line. The animal seems to be looking through mere slits in the iris of its eye, especially when it faces the light. In semi-darkness the pupil widens into a beautiful oval. One is accustomed to regard the narrowness of the pupil as the distinguishing peculiarity of the eyes of cats. All animals of the cat family share this peculiarity.

And yet, according to the results of a scientific investigation of cats' eyes recently made in England by Lindsay Johnson, the natural shape of their pupils is circular.

By varying the quantity of light entering the eyes he has seen the pupils of cats and tigers change from straight lines to perfect circles, and while under the influence of atropine, which suspends for a time the muscular control of the eye, they are always circular.

The normal form of the cat's pupil is, then, the same as that of the human pupil, but when submitted to the influence of light its behavior differs. In a bright light our pupils become very small circles, while those of a cat turn into ovals or narrow slits. The general effect is the same in either case—namely, to diminish the quantity of light passing into the eye.

Curiously enough, in the larger animals of the cat tribe, such as tigers, the pupil sometimes behaves exactly like a human eye, and when brightly illuminated contracts into a minute circle instead of becoming linear. In the case of domestic cats the older the animal the more frequently does the pupil of the eye assume a circular form.

**KEPT HER DARLING WARM.**

Touching Scene in a Chicago Drug Store During a Blizzard.

As far as herself was concerned she held the storm lightly. She had on a little jacket not longer than a reefer. Her eyes were unprotected, and barring a pair of kid gloves her hands were uncovered. It was in a drug store on the north side, says the Chicago Tribune, when she came in evidence. There was a crowd inside the door waiting for a car. She was out of sight behind a big showcase using the telephone. After ordering soliloquy for a room three and three-fourths yards wide by four yards long, and having forgotten to ring off, the waiting messengers heard her say:

"And was my sweet darling cold? It is too bad, dear; no matter, we will soon be home."

"Tough weather for a baby to be out," thought the car waiters in chorus. Then she appeared around the showcase and put a bundle on the cigar stand. From the folds of the enveloping wraps was poked the nose of an ever sook's prize for ugliness in a bench show. The outer covering of the animal was a heavily quilted and embroidered wrap of dark goods. Under this there was a delicate white flannel covering worked with all thread. Both were of extent enough to go around the dog twice. She adjusted the wraps carefully, so that not even the tip of its tail was exposed, and made out into the storm regardless of her own unprotected face, ears and hands and insufficiently protected body. It was all over in a twinkling.

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LAND OFFICE AT OREGON CITY, OR., February 24, 1896.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk of Linn County, at Albany, Or., on May 2, 1896, viz:

MILTON W. YOEMAN, H. E. No. 8281, for the N. E. 1/4 Sec. 22, T. 11 S., R. 1 E.

He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of, said land, viz: W. W. Sanders, Ben. White, G. A. Downing, D. E. Myers, all of Lacombe, Or.

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