MEN IN PREHISTORIC TIMES

No Proof That There Was Gradual Rise From Savagery to Practice of Human Virtues.

It is proved that men—true men—existed on this earth many thousand years ago. How many no one can certainly say, but certainly longer than the period accepted as a strict dogma by Bible Christians within living memory (and still affirmed by some of them). It is not proved, but it is highly probable that there is genetic connection between man as we know him and the earlier inferior types of which evidence remains.

If a critic were to maintain that man as we know him rose suddenly from some other type not yet found (for the evidence is very fragmentary and slight), he would not be contradicting ascertained fact; on the contrary, he has on his side the anomaly of fine skulls found in apparently very early strata; all that department is quite unfixed.

That man as we know him was a vile thing for countless generations and gradually—very gradually—rose to practice the human virtues and intelligence is not proved at all. Even the vague analogy from existing savages fails. Some savages are of one character, some of another; all as old in descent as ourselves. The excessive evil affirmed of true man when first he could be so called is sheer unsupported affirmation proceeding not from evidence—for we have none—but from a mood, a desire that things should be so.—Yale Review.

REFUSE TO REVEAL NAMES

Odd Superstition That Prevails Among Certain Island Tribes of American Indians.

Writing of tabooed words in "The Golden Bough," Sir J. G. Frazer says:

"The Indians of Chiloe keep their names secret and do not like to have them uttered aloud; for they say that there are fairies or imps on the mainland or neighboring islands who, if they knew folks' names, would do them an injury; but so long as they do not know the names these mischievous sprites are powerless.

"The Araucanians will hardly ever tell a stranger their names, because they fear that he would thereby acquire some supernatural power over themselves. Asked his name by a stranger who is ignorant of their superstitions, an Araucanian will answer, 'I have none.'

"When an Ojibway is asked his name he will look at some bystander and ask him to answer."

"Sure! Even the apaches of the rogues' gallery know the evil omen of the real name. Hence the origin and would-be magic of the "alias."

To Stop Bleeding From Nose.

When we remember that not very long ago venesection, or bleeding by the physician, was a favorite method of treatment and that leeches were used for local bleeding, we can the more readily understand that a simple attack of nosebleed is nothing to be afraid of. At the same time, however, it may be well to commit to memory a few simple precautions. The patient should always sit upright and should hold the chin down to enable the blood to flow forward through the nose and not backward into the throat. Tight collars and bands round the neck should be loosened, and cold should be applied to the wrists or to the back of the neck. It often helps to snuff cold water up the nose. If the bleeding comes from a small spot inside the nose, the spot should be treated with an astringent or with nitrate of silver.—Youth's Companion.

Is Snake Charmed by Music?

There is no foundation in fact for the common belief that a snake can be "charmed" with music, according to Allen S. Williams, director of the Reptile Study Society of America. Mr. Williams bases his opinion on a series of experiments extending over a period of nearly twenty-five years.

"I have tried every sort of music," says Mr. Williams, as quoted in the Scientific American, "from a tin whistle with note holes in it to a symphony orchestra, and have used as subjects nearly every variety of snakes, but have yet to note any response on the part of the reptile."

Not All Americanisms.

"Guess," as used by the Yankee, is always chosen by the English as a typical Americanism, when, in fact, it was used by Shakespeare and Chaucer. "Allow" was formerly used in England in the same sense as in America. Special Americanisms are "sun-up," "sun-down," "complected," "as ever," "haying," "right off," or "right away," "shindig," a dance or party, usually a noisy, rough one; "shindy," a fight or row; "bark up the wrong tree," "little end of the horn," "het up," "kibosh."

Cheerful Wish.

"I've often wondered why they shave a man's head before they put him in the electric chair," said the pessimist, gloomily.

"Oh, I hope you'll find out some day," said the listener, politely.

The pessimist was satisfied.

A Cool Customer.

Stranger—Miss Phayre, allow me—this is Mr. Bangs.

Miss Phayre—But I don't know you, sir.

Stranger—Not yet, but I have asked Mr. Bangs to introduce me.

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HANDICAP IN BUSINESS LIFE

Foolish Wasters of Time, Like the Poor, Would Seem to Be Always With Us.

Most humans in big cities and in some smaller ones are handicapped more than enough by elevators, street cars, traffic, crowded sidewalks and the fellows who have stories to tell. But, worse than any of these, is the handicap caused by the chap who can't take instructions without discussing all about how long it required Noah to build the ark. Many persons just cannot discuss a matter of business and be done within the time allotted to them by those who have called upon them to tell what should be done. It is one of the most pitiable of our failings that usually twice as many words need be used in giving simple instructions as are required. Then, frequently, it is necessary to send one or additional memoranda to inform people that the original instructions were given to be carried out.

We have always placed a lot of confidence in those who promptly approach and finish their business conversation; we have much respect for the man who says, "All right" then goes and does what he's told—and never forgets. But we have only pity for those who dillydally in their business discussions and have to be reminded time and again of the simple tasks they are asked to perform.—Cleveland Commercial.

HOTTER THAN SUN'S SURFACE

Scientists Have Produced a Temperature That Can Only Be Described as Terrific.

Until a few years ago it was thought that the sun's heat was the greatest that could exist. You can realize how intense it is when you think that the rays that burn our faces brown in summer time have traveled across 92,000,000 miles of space.

Scientists have succeeded in producing a temperature that is thousands of degrees hotter than the sun's surface. It was desired to study the composition of certain metals, and the only way of doing so was to reduce them to gas by applying heat.

The temperature necessary was enormous, and months of experiments were needed before a means of producing it could be found. Eventually a huge electrical apparatus was installed which produced heat so terrific that metals were converted not slowly but instantly into gas; in fact, pieces of tungsten were made to explode as if they had been dynamite.

The heat generated reached a temperature of 40,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

Odd Words of a Generation Ago.

An elderly contributor to this column favors us with a list of odd words and expressions current a generation or so ago. We have room for only a few of them.

"Sniptious," meaning smart, perky, was used in New York.

"I bonas it," meaning I claim it, was an expression in general use, and might be a variation of "I bone it."

"Manavelins" was said to be exclusively used in Long Island and meant toothsome bits of any dish at table.

"Gawmed up." Of a child eating bread and molasses a Southern nurse would say, "His face is all gawmed up." A variant, "gaumed," was also used in England.

"Scamuljugated" referred to two young people being fond of each other.

"John and Jane seem quite scamuljugated."—Boston Transcript.

Belief in "Evil Eye."

Prudent Italians habitually wear a horn of coral or ivory on a necklace or watch chain. Carters sling a bull's horn under their wagons for the protection of their horses. Workmen, and even babies, wearing bright red caps may be seen in cities or in the country. These are victims of a "jettatura," or person with the "Evil Eye," and must wear a scarlet cap for a mystic number of days to take away the curse.

Even the most intelligent Italians are among those believing in the "Evil Eye." Giuseppe Verdi counted two of his fiascos—"Luisa Miller," in Naples, and "Don Carlos," in Paris 19 years later, in 1876—as the work of a "jettatura," Maestro Iale, of Naples.

Seemed Like a Shot.

A famous ball player was attending a little dinner given in his honor by a newly married couple. During the course of the meal he was asked to explain why a player picks up two bats when starting for the plate.

"Well," he explained, "you pick up two bats and you carry 'em with you to the plate. Then you drop one. It makes the other seem light."

While he was giving this explanation he picked up two of the bride's biscuits, transferred them to his plate, and dropped one.

The bride's face was a study as he raised the other to his mouth.

This Up-to-Date Society.

Yvonne is a coy damsel of sixteen. Mother is very particular about Yvonne. "Yvonne," she asked, "were you kissing that young man at the party last night? You mustn't kiss strange men, Yvonne!" "Why, mamma, what an idea," returned Yvonne. "Never mind, now, don't try to fool me," persisted the mother, "you had your heads close together." "But I was asking him for a light," explained the girl. "Oh, well, I see. Quite all right, Yvonne."

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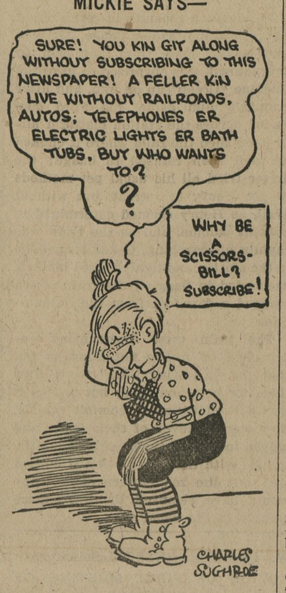

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PEAK NAMED FOR INDIAN GIRL

Honor Awarded for Valuable Services Rendered to Expedition Led by Lewis and Clark.

Sacajawea, which in the Indian tongue means "Bird Woman," was born in a little Indian village on the banks of Snake river, just west of the Bitter Root mountains, in what is now the state of Idaho, in 1790.

When Sacajawea was nine years of age, her people, the Shoshones, or Snake River Indians, were suddenly attacked by their foes, the Minnatarees of Knife river. While Sacajawea was making her way alone across the river she was caught and taken prisoner. Later she was sold as a slave to Toussaint Chaboneau, a French half-breed wanderer, at Brunswick, N. D. He married her when she was fourteen years old.

Sacajawea and her husband, and their papoose accompanied a party of white explorers, led by Lewis and Clark, on a long journey.

One day the Indian girl risked her own life to save some valuable papers, maps, instruments, books, magazines and medicine, when their boat nearly capsized. Sacajawea swam out and brought the articles back to the boat in safety.

When the travelers reached the land of Sacajawea's birth her presence saved the white men from being killed by the hostile Indians. Sacajawea also foiled a plot to steal all of the horses of the expedition by warning the leaders of the plans of the Snake River tribe.

A few years ago the geographical survey named for Sacajawea the great peak in the Bridger range, where she was captured during her childhood, and where she later pointed out the pass over the mountain now used by one of the great railways.

GROTESQUE DOLLS OF JAPAN

Little Girl Will Dress Up Cushion to Look Like Live Baby and Tie It on Her Back.

The Japanese have a genius for making dolls. They make them of anything—flowers, fruit, beans, even of a few wisps of straw. Their quaint humor finds free play in this field; the children are pleased with the odd ones, the more grotesque the better.

Tiny children draw and cut out surprisingly clever dolls from paper. A little girl will dress up a cushion and get some one to tie it on her back; one has to look twice to see if it is a real baby.

For the girls' doll festival in March of every year, and the boys' festival in May, such an array of dolls is set out as could not be matched for originality and beauty.

These dolls are extremely small, but represent with surprising skill and exactness the imperial court (in the girls' festival) or figures from history, myth, the drama or everyday life.—Asia Magazine.

How Male Albatross Makes Love.

Little is known of the habits of the albatross, although many persons are familiar with this bird as it is depicted in "The Ancient Mariner."

A distinguished British writer, in describing their mating habits, informs us that "when a male albatross makes love he stands by the female on the nest, raises his wings, spreads his tail and elevates it, throws up his head with the bill in the air or stretches it straight out forward as far as he can, and then utters a curious cry. While uttering the cry, the bird sways his neck up and down. The female responds with a similar note and they bring the tips of their bills lovingly together. This sort of thing goes on for half an hour or so at a time."

Admission to the Bar.

Each state prescribes its own rules and regulations with reference to admission to the bar. These are not uniform. Most of them require the applicant to pass an examination, and if he can do so and will subscribe to the oath of office he will be admitted to practice regardless of where he obtained his legal education. The oath of office is usually to the effect that the applicant will suport the Constitution and laws of the United States and the constitution and laws of the particular state in which he makes application for admission.

Word "Jade" of Spanish Origin.

The name jade is derived from the Spanish piedra de ijada, or "stone of the loins." Early Spanish explorers found natives of Central and South America wearing precious stones as amulettes, to protect them against pain. One of the most interesting jade ornaments worn in olden times was a girdle which gave out a musical tinkle when the wearer walked. Jade is thought to instill virtue into the heart of its wearer. Imperial personages were never permitted to remove their jade jewels, as each was worn for some symbolic purpose.

Informal.

At a school in the mill district of a certain manufacturing town in the East a teacher received first-hand impression of how the other half of the world lives. A little Russian was painfully progressing through his reading lesson till he was finally stumped on the word "plate." To help him the schoolma'am kindly inquired, "What is it mother brings in the bread on?" The little chap's eyes lit up with the light of understanding. "The newspaper," he said.

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HARD TO GET BACK AT HIM

Editor Seemingly Had Maneuvered Himself Into a Position That Was Impregnable.

Back in the days of personal journalism the talent of the editorial writer was devoted not so much to the discussion of the merits of public questions as to vituperation of the leaders of the opposing party, particularly the editor of the vile opposition newspaper, writes Russell M. Seeds in the Indianapolis Star. In those days William R. Nelson, who later built up the Kansas City Star into a great property, and Samuel E. Morss, well remembered as editor of the Indianapolis Sentinel, were partners, publishing the Fort Wayne Sentinel. The Fort Wayne Gazette, the Republican morning paper, had recently been purchased by one Beecham, who, being of an inquisitive turn of mind, hunted up the private history and peccadilloes of Messrs. Nelson and Morss and stuck the data in his safe for a rainy day. It came right soon, for the fall campaign opened with an attack on him in the Sentinel. He came back with a broadside that was a scorcher.

Morss had got down to the office early that morning and was in such a hurry to get some early copy on the hook that he had deferred reading the Gazette. But in a few minutes Nelson came in in a towering rage and threw the paper down on the desk.

"Sam, look here at what that vile and dirty wretch has printed about us! It's the most outrageously scandalous stuff you ever read!"

"What's the use of getting excited over a pack of lies, Bill?"

"Lies, h—l. It's worse than that! That villain has told the truth!"

TEXAS TOWN CENTURIES OLD

Ysleta, Now El Paso, Has Tradition It Was Founded in 1540 by Spanish Explorer.

A tradition which has been handed down through many generations of West Texas and New Mexico pioneers has it that the little town of Ysleta, Texas, 18 miles southeast of El Paso, is the oldest settlement in the United States.

According to this tradition, Ysleta was founded in 1540 by Don Francisco Vasquez Coronado, famed Spanish explorer. This would make Ysleta twenty-five years older than St. Augustine, Florida, which is accredited as being the oldest city in this country.

Yet there are no official records to substantiate the theory of Ysleta's antiquity. It is old, the oldest town in Texas, no doubt, but its origin is traceable only as far back as 1682, authoritatively.

According to church records at Ysleta, the town was founded by Antonio Otermin, Spanish governor of New Mexico, about the year 1682.—Detroit News.

Eclipse Aided Columbus.

An eclipse is said to have aided Columbus on the Island of Jamaica a few years after he discovered America. The savages had taken Columbus and his companions prisoners and would give them no food. By his reckonings Columbus knew that an eclipse of the moon was coming. He called the Indian chiefs to him and told them that if they did not bring him and his companions food that very night he would take from them the light of the moon. At first they laughed at him, but when the dark shadow began to creep over the face of the moon they ran to him with all the food they could get together, beseeching him to forgive them and to order the moon to shed its light again.

This happened March 1, 1504, a date by which, according to modern tables of eclipses, there would have been an eclipse.

Masterpieces of Wood Carving.

In the Italian Renaissance masterpieces in wood carving were elaborate choir stalls, elaborately carved ceilings and minor works of industrial art, such as carved wedding chests. In Spain wood carving flourished to a still greater extent. Here the art first showed Moorish influence, but during the late Gothic period French, and in the Sixteenth century Italian influence. During the Seventeenth century polychrome sculpture in wood was perhaps the most characteristic form of Spanish sculpture. The masterpieces in the art were choir stalls and screens.

Chinese "Devil Drive."

Once in every 12 years the Chinese residents in the little city of Kuching, in the island of Borneo, exert themselves strenuously in a devil drive.

The devil driving is a beautiful affair in magnificent dresses and designs, for the devils are hunted by a great procession of floats carrying beautiful dressed young girls, loaded with gold ornaments and jewels. Other floats are adorned with vicious-looking paper dragons. Scattered throughout the mile-long procession are men carrying silk banners with threatening words written upon them to frighten the devils.

Modern Youth.

In front of a Broadway restaurant a ragged urchin was observed by a kindly disposed and prosperous individual who thought the youngster looked wistfully at the batter cakes being baked by the girl in the window. "Hungry, kid?" he asked. "Naw!" came the scornful reply. "Can't a fellow look at a swell dame without drawin' a crowd?"

A Mean Trick.

In Boston a young lawyer, who spent most of his time trying to seem busy and prosperous, went out for a while, leaving on his door a card neatly marked:

"Will be back in an hour." On his return he found that some envious rival had inscribed underneath:

"What for?"

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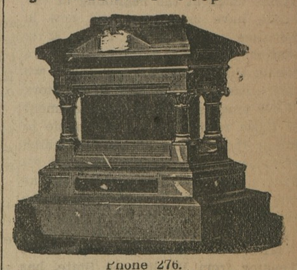

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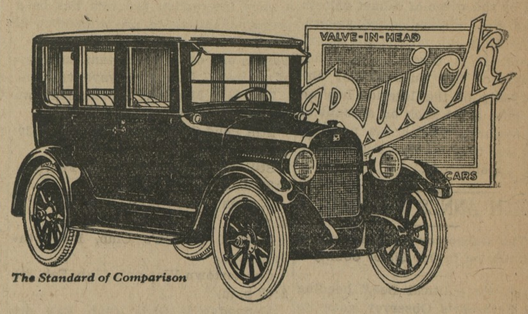

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