

GIANT SEQUOIAS of California



The giant Sequoias of California are surely one of the great wonders of America. Their huge proportions, vastly exceeding any of the other species of great trees of which the Pacific Coast country is prolific, coupled with the fact that they are one of the few floral descendants of a previous age (they flourished throughout the destructive glacial period) cause the beholder to view in silent wonder a work of nature more beautiful and imposing than anything which has ever been reared by the hand of man.

These gigantic Big Trees, prior to the glacial period, grew over a wide area of the American continent, but the rigors of that period crowded them down into a few favored spots on the Pacific Coast, where their groves stand as a connecting link between the present age of civilization and the unfathomable epochs of the dim past, far back beyond human tradition and fable.

Bark Two Feet Thick.

The Sequoia is a tree, Mr. Gifford Pinchot, the Government Forester, tells us, which has come down through the vicissitudes of scores of centuries solely because of its superb qualifications. Its bark is often two feet thick and nearly non-combustible, and the oldest specimens felled are found to be still solid and sound at the heart, while destructive fungus is an enemy unknown to it.

Man the Destroyer.

But puny man, civilized man, artistic and esthetic man, with his little span of active life of three or four decades, the enemy of many living things, is fast working that destruction among these forest giants which forty centuries of time have not accomplished. Yet some of the Big Tree groves have been purchased by the Government and saved from the hand of ruth; and it is interesting to note that while there has been thus far only destruction of these noble trees and practically no new growth, the Bureau of Forestry has successfully experimented in raising the young Sequoia. Last year Ranger Davis, in charge of the General Grant Park, successfully transplanted 800 baby Big Trees, and further discovered how best to secure the sprouting of the Sequoia seeds. His method is to rake the seeds lightly in good soil, covering this with a straw mulch and burning it over. The ground squirrels dug up some of the transplants, but these rodents were poisoned off. The young plants grew during the past summer from 10 to 13 inches each.

Should these trees live and reach maturity, what transformation may they not see in the American Republic? Who of the great Americans of the past

century will be known in the world 4,000 years hence, who will have been lost in the great shuffle of Time's cards, for that is the age of some of the largest Sequoias as shown by microscopic examination of their rings of annual growth.

Four Hundred Feet Tall.

The tallest Sequoia of the Coast is now prostrate, the "Father of the Forest," belonging to the Mammoth Grove. How long this giant has lain recumbent none knows. When growing in its primitive majesty it exceeded 400 feet in height, with a circumference of 110 feet. Standing alone and apart from other trees, it rose a majestic pillar for 200 feet without a limb. In falling it struck against and partially demolished "Old Hercules," another ancient rival in size. The trunk of the "Father of the Forest" lies a huge hollow cylinder, predatory fires having eaten out its heart wood. Into this great pipe a tall man can ride direct on horseback a distance of 80 feet.

Mr. J. M. Hutchings, in "In the Heart of the Sierras," thus describes another fallen Big Tree, in the Stanislaus Grove:

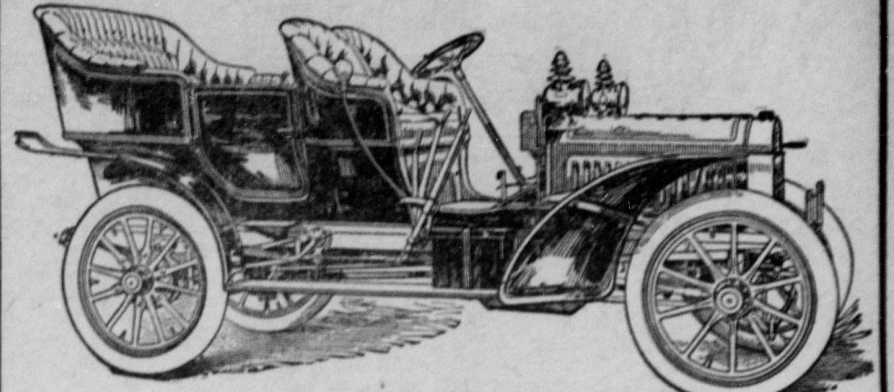
"The Canal Boat," as its name implies, is a prostrate tree, the upper side and heart of which have been burnt away, so that the remaining portion resembles a huge boat, in the bottom of which thousands of young Big Trees have started out in life, and, if no accident befalls them, in a thousand or two years hence they may be respectable-sized trees. "Noah's Ark," is another prostrate shell, hollow for 150 feet, through which for 60 feet three horsemen could ride abreast."

Save These American Wonders.

None of the giant trees of the tropics, the cottonwoods, the baobabs, or the eucalyptus of Australia compare in actual size and majesty with the magnificent Sequoia Gigantea of California. Rearing their high heads to heaven and looking down on the making of world history four, if not five, thousand years, it seems a pity and a shame that the hand of commerce should now lay these giants low. Every specimen of the Big Tree, and there are but a few groves left, should be protected by the Government for future generations to gaze upon and wonder. That the lumbering and timbering of these living monuments of a long-gone age should be allowed is little short of a crime. Trees that stood in full vigor when Christ walked the earth must surely awake a sentiment to appeal for their protection from sordid destruction.

OLDSMOBILES THE CAR for 1905 THAT GOES

Highest Workmanship. Lowest Prices.



Cars for Immediate Delivery.

Olds Motor Works
DETROIT, MICH.

Admiral Togo a Lobster.

The story is told of Baron Komura that he evidently made a slip of his tongue when he spoke at a dinner a short time ago in calling Admiral Togo a lobster. Very far from being a friendly name to call such a hero as Togo has proved to be. This was called to the Baron's attention when the statement

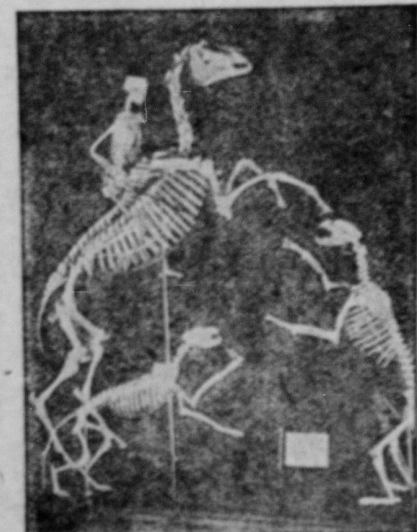


ADMIRAL HEIHACHIRO TOGO.

was made that in Japan the lobster is a sign of good luck; in fact, at wedding feasts miniature papiermache lobsters form an important part of the decorations as a sign of good luck to the young couple. Hence, what Baron Komura meant, when he called Togo a lobster, was that the Admiral had brought good luck to Japan and was her talisman.

A Bear Hunt in Bones.

An interesting group of skeletons may be seen in the museum connected with the University of Rochester, New York, which, as shown in the accompanying illustration from the "Technical World," might be called a skeleton bear hunt, for it not only represents



the bear, but also the hunter mounted on his horse and accompanied by his dog, the work of a clever taxidermist. The attitude of the figures show the bear at bay, standing upright on his hind feet, ready to attack either man or animal. The skeleton on the horse is that of an Indian with spear in hand ready to strike the bear, while his faithful dog is in the act of springing forward to aid his master.

The Picasure of Work.

From the Washington Star.
"Does your boy, Josh, enjoy work?"
"Yes," answered Farmer Courtessol. "He can sit on the fence and watch people work for hours. I dunno as I ever see anybody that seemed to get more enjoyment out of work than he does."

THE PRODIGAL SON.

New Play by Hall Caine, Which Contains a Moral.

Hall Caine's new play, "The Prodigal Son" which had its initial production in Washington on August 28th, contains one scene showing the experience of the prodigal in a gambling house. Mr. Caine had been criticized by those who knew, in that his book on the same subject did not describe this



HALL CAINE.

scene true to life. In order that the play should not be lacking in accuracy or realism the author visited several gambling places on the Riviera. Experienced bacarrat players pointed out to Mr. Caine the weaknesses of many points he had brought out and so under the guidance of one of the best known European gamblers and plungers, he visited all the most notorious clubs, casinos and gambling halls at Monte Carlo, and while his aristocratic guide played bacarrat Mr. Caine took quiet notes of all that went on.

MANUFACTURE OF ANTIQUES.

Flourishing Industry, Archaeologist Says, in Wisconsin.

"The manufacture of imitation antiques, especially in the form of copper and flint implements, is quite a prominent industry in Wisconsin, in spite of the fact that it is forced to flourish secretly, and that the Wisconsin Archaeological Society is doing all in its power to put an end to these frauds," according to H. J. Crosby, president of the State Archaeologists.
"We have been able to locate a number of men throughout the state who have made a business of manufacturing these imitations, and we have recently secured the promise of one of the men in the interior part of the state that he will go out of the business."
"A blacksmith is almost always at the bottom of the fraud, although he may not be the originator of the plan, and may even be an innocent accomplice. He hammers out the copper implements at his forge, and then they are treated with chemicals or buried in a river bed to give them the appearance of age. Then they are buried, and after a little it becomes necessary to plow up the field where they are hidden, and the manufacturer hires a man to do the plowing and incidentally to find the recently manufactured antiquities. This is necessary, as the members of the Society require the name of the finder before purchasing the article.

Ancient Implements by Wholesale.

"One man in Wisconsin has done an extensive business, and the large number of the same kind of implements found by him aroused our suspicions. The majority of them get in too much of a hurry and do not wait for the chemicals to work properly, and this gives them away. Mistakes are also made by the men who make antiquities out of flint—as a rule they have no scientific knowledge, and they pound the flint into shapes never dreamed of by the Indians."
"The great objection to these imitations is that they get into really fine collections. Perhaps the collector buys them knowing they are fine imitations, but when he dies, unless his cabinet is labeled, the imitations are sold as genuine, and it is important for scientific investigation that this should be avoided. A new law, just enacted, will aid the society in putting an end to these frauds, who are to be found in all parts of the state and many of whom have been located."

THE WILD MUSK OX.

A STRANGE ANIMAL OF THE POLAR REGIONS WHICH DIES IN TEMPERATE CLIMES.

Attempts of "Buffalo" Jones, Lieut. Peary and Others to Domesticate It Have Failed.—Has a Shaggy Coat.

In November, 1901, there arrived in San Francisco a whaler having on board what was then the first musk ox ever brought alive to the United States. It was captured in March of that year at Langton Bay, Alaska, and consigned to Mr. C. F. Perriolat, of Chicago, who sold it to ex-Secretary Whit-



DRAWING OF MUSK OX MADE IN 1778.

ney of the Navy. It was presented to the zoological park of New York City. The desire to capture some specimens of musk oxen and bring them to the United States is of long standing, but all efforts in that direction have failed until the arrival of the one brought by Captain Bodfish in 1891. While the habitat of the musk ox is so inaccessible as to make its capture one of great difficulty, yet the greatest obstacle was the opposition of the Indians who warned the party that the

pedition was to capture the animals alive, they refused to go on farther.

"Buffalo" Jones an Ox Hunter.

Hon. C. J. Jones, of Topeka, Kans., better known as "Buffalo Jones," has hunted the musk ox and he relates how on one occasion he and his companions had captured alive 5 yearlings out of one herd. The journey homeward with the animals was begun, the men driving the animals, which were all tied to a single rope. On the third day the men awoke to find that the Indians had cut the throat of every musk ox. They were determined that none of these animals should be taken out of the country alive. The Jones party were not willing to return to the hardships first encountered in order to get another herd with the prospect of another loss in the same manner.

Thrives on Scant Rations.

Musk oxen are found in the barren lands of British America, the Parry Archipelago and other lands to the northward of the continent. They prefer rocky, barren ground and mountains where grass and other food are scarce. The musk oxen possess great vitality and endurance; their breasts are as broad and well developed as that of a Norman horse. The meat on the ham extends well down to their locks. While they vary in length from 5 1/2 feet to 8 feet, they are in appearance much larger, due to the huge mass of woolly hair covering their bodies. General Greely, the explorer, in his government report stated that he came across one which weighed over 2,500 pounds, although he stated that the bulls usually vary from 250 to 500 pounds; the cows weigh about 75 pounds less. The flesh of the musk ox is excellent; in fact, the Greely party owed much of its health to its diet of this sort of flesh.



WILD MUSK OXEN IN GREENLAND.

animals must not be taken out of the country alive. It was the belief of the natives that if any musk oxen left the country alive all other animals would die or leave the country and thus the people would perish of hunger. While they offered no objection to the killing of the animals, when they learned that the object of the ex-

Succumbed to Our Climate.

The New York Zoological Park did not long enjoy this rare animal, for a short time after his arrival he was taken with an inflammation of the lungs, and, after an illness of a week, died in spite of all the efforts of the veterinary surgeons. In September,

"Always Leave Them Laughing When You Say Good-Bye."

Tropical Conditions.

"Her father kicked you out, did he? I thought you said you'd make him come to terms?"
"So I did—heated terms. You should have heard them."

It Was Marry or Go to Work.

"George, dear," said the homely, happy little bride who had half a million in her own right, "why did you ever marry such an ugly girl as I?"
"You may not be a beauty, dear," answered the truthful George, "but you're worth your weight in gold; besides, I either had to marry or find something to do."

A Natural Scarecrow.

A farmer recently paid a visit to a neighbor, and as he passed along by the side of the fields he made a mental note of the fact that no scarecrows were visible. Meeting his neighbor almost immediately, he opened conversation as follows:

"Good morning, Mr. Oates. I see you have no scarecrows in your fields. How do you manage to do without them?"
"Oh, well enough," was the innocent reply. "You see, I don't need 'em for I'm in the fields all day myself."

Reflections of a Bachelor.

From the New York Press.
Sometimes a man is so smart that he can save money even if he is married.

Family life is nearly always contented when the family is asleep. All old maids know how to teach mothers how to raise their children and young wives how to manage their husbands.

Saving money is a lot of fun for your heirs.

You can tell when a girl is not engaged by the way she pretends to be, and when a man is married by the way he pretends not to be.

A woman's idea of fortune tellers is to keep on going to them until she strikes one that she just knows tells her the truth because it is what she wants to hear.

A man has more principle, but a woman more conscience.

SOME AFTER THOUGHTS.

The writers of current history tell us that Mr. Rockefeller did not begin to accumulate money until he had passed the age of thirty-five. When it is considered how little of it he has left for the rest of us, we can all congratulate ourselves that he didn't get an earlier start.

The price of meat has advanced twenty-five per cent. in Germany during the last six months, according to consular reports. The trusts are rather slow over there in copying American methods.

The Government Mint at Philadelphia is closed on the ground that "there is no demand for gold or silver coin." Surely there are some sections of the country which have not been heard from on this point.

"What" asks the Boston Globe, "shall we say for the man who works for \$1.50 a day?" The Washington Post says he ought to get it.

The Tobacco Trust makes the claim that the consumption of cigarettes has nearly doubled in Indiana since that State passed an anti-cigarette law. It's a little curious then why the Trust should be fighting the law.

"We are overrun by feds," says Professor Ross, of the University of Nebraska. The Professor is not alive to the progress of events. The automobile is no longer a fed.

The peace envoys studiously and deliberately evaded the question as to whether it should be spelled Korea or Corea.

Editor Bok, of the Ladies' Home Journal, says that "women dress to please men." There are others that assert that they dress to anger other women.

Has the pedestrian any rights left? asks the Syracuse Post. He has one—the right to choose whether he shall be run down by a trolley car or an automobile.

The Chicago labor unions have taken up the question of a 45-year age limit, and intend to fight for it. The time will come when men will be more anxious to conceal their ages than women.

Since the extra session of Congress has been called off, there will be no wrangling over the subject of additional mileage for Congressmen.

The Massachusetts police force is out looking for a woman who left her happy home, taking with her a "mongrel dog, 13 puppies, a cat and 4 kittens, a parrot and 2 sheep."

M. Witte states that Russia "has little resemblance to other countries." The other countries will not probably be aggrieved that such is the case.

Russell Sage, the New York multi-millionaire money lender, says he expects to live to be 100. Mr. Sage wants to be personally quoted at par.

It is a very fortunate thing that Mr. Rockefeller has outside investments, as his annual dividends from the Standard Oil Company amount to only \$16,000,000.

Mr. Charles Schwab is visiting Europe to "learn how to build the best ships in the world." Judging from recent war experiences, he will not get much useful information from Russia and Spain. It may be, however, that the Russian and Spanish ships themselves were all right.



SOME PEOPLE HAVE GREATNESS THRUST UPON THEM.