

IN THE MAMMOTH CAVE.

EXHILARATING EFFECT OF THE COOL AND GERMLESS AIR.

It is Not Known by What Process the Atmosphere is Sterilized—Waves of Melody—Wonderful Effect of Music in the Caverns in Kentucky's Natural Wonder.

John R. Procter, formerly state geologist of Kentucky, writes of "The Mammoth Cave of Kentucky" for the Century, the article having many striking illustrations by Castaigne. Mr. Procter says:

The entrance to Mammoth Cave is reached by descending a picturesque pathway leading from the hotel down the hillside over jutting moss and fern-covered limestone cliffs into a beautiful glen extending from the top of the hill down to Green river, which is 194 feet below the mouth of the cave and about half a mile distant. If the weather is warm, as we near the entrance we step into a bracing, cool, pure air, welling up from the cave and flowing down the glen beneath the stratum of lighter and warmer air. I have stood near the entrance and extended one hand into a temperature of 90 degrees, while the other hand was extended into a cool flowing river of air with a temperature of about 60 degrees.

The air within the cave has a uniform temperature, summer and winter, of 54 degrees. The cave may be said to breathe twice a year—inhalating during the winter and exhaling during the summer. This breathing of the cave, and the purity of the air and its freedom from germs, are among the most interesting problems to be studied. By what process the air in the cave becomes sterilized remains to be determined.

But our faithful negro guide has counted the party, selected the requisite number of lamps and given the word, and we follow him in single file down the rude stone steps into the vestibule of the cave. Turning, we look up at the beautiful effect of daylight which we are leaving, and admire the delicate cascade falling from the overhanging arch at the entrance. Here our lamps are lighted and we enter this silent, mysterious, changeless abode of eternal night, where the heat of summer and the cold of winter, the storms and thunders of the outer world, never penetrate. A few hundred yards and we feel the peculiar sensation of emerging into expanding space. We catch only glimpses of white limestone projecting out of black shadows of the far-away walls and ceiling of an immense, almost circular room about 70 feet high, which our guide proclaims the Rotunda.

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We note the peculiar musical effect of the human voice. Years ago it was my good fortune to hear a celebrated German musical society sing in this Rotunda. I went far away in one of the great avenues leading from here, blew out my light and sat alone in the darkness and listened while the great altars rolled and reverberated through the lofty corridors in majestic waves of melody. I could then appreciate the inestimable privilege of the few who heard Jenny Lind sing here, and who in the Star Chamber heard a member of her party render on his violin the prayer from "Der Freischutz."

When the Rotunda is illuminated, we note the perfect clearness of the atmosphere, the freedom from dust particles of any kind; and we soon learn that nowhere in the cave will even dust rise upon our shoes. We note also the exhilarating effect of the air upon the members of our party. It is believed that the air has become oxygenated by chemical process; certainly, from its purity and dryness, it enables one to undergo exercise for hours without a sense of fatigue. Here before us is evidence of the wonderfulness of the air. The salt-petre vats erected in 1812, and the timbers which have remained in their present position since then, show no evidences of decay. In these vats the salt-petre was leached from the nitrous earth abounding in the upper and middle dry avenues, and used for the manufacture of gunpowder. The war of 1812 was fought, on the American side, with gunpowder made from salt-petre taken from caves, and Mammoth Cave supplied the greater part. One wonders how, in the absence of germs and of decay, the earth becomes charged with nitrogen. It has been claimed that nitric acid in the atmosphere, combining with the limestone, forms nitrate of calcium, and the disintegrated waste from the walls and ceiling yields the great supply of nitrogen abounding in the cave.

It requires a day and a half to make the regulation journeys through the cave; one half a day to what is known as the Short route, and an entire day to the Long or River route. But that by no means exhausts the objects of interest, and one may spend days in the avenues and chambers and included in the regular

Jim" Bowie.
erous, determined and James Bowie sought its hazards, and he was among the first to take up Texas independence. Threeperate men were never together than Travis, Crockett, as they took their last in the walls of the Alamo. Helpless in bed on that last day, "Jim" Bowie died fighting Mexican ran forward to kill himself by a supreme fight his assailant by the fatal knife into his back dead.
the story of his death was in old mother in Louisiana, "I am sure 'Jim' never died in his back," and with smile turned again to her duties.

A House Set on Fire by a Poultice.

Fire insurance companies have all sorts of experiences and their officers can tell many curious stories. One of the queerest fires fell within the business of the Connecticut Fire Insurance Company, of this city, recently. A house was set on fire by a poultice. A man in a Western city was suffering from a bad cold, and his wife, at the doctor's orders, prepared a poultice for his chest. When she started to put it on it proved to be too hot. Accordingly she took it to the bathroom and set it into the bathtub to cool. This happened to be a fine tub lined with celluloid, which served as a sort of enamel. The heat of the poultice started the celluloid a-going, and the burning tub set things going generally. The department was called out, and the house was well wet down, for which the company had to pay. This, so far as is known, is the first instance on record where a bathtub set a house on fire or where a poultice kindled a bathtub.—Detroit Free Press.

A Small Reward.

The engine driver who took charge of the train from Falkenberg to Leipzig on December 13 prevented an accident in a very ingenious and plucky manner. Between the stations Torgau and Mockrehna he noticed that the rails running parallel to his own were broken, and that the next train that would pass over them must inevitably be wrecked. He at once wrote a few words explaining what he had seen and giving an exact description of the place, and when passing a group of railway workmen he flung the paper to them, which he had first rolled round a piece of coal. They read the warning, sent telegrams to the stations interested, the trains were stopped in the nick of time, and the accident happily prevented. This praiseworthy conduct of the engine driver was duly brought to the notice of his superiors, and he has just been rewarded with a present of two shillings. Even life is cheap in the Fatherland.—German Railway News.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.
WALDING, KENAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Canada supplies about one-fourteenth of the imported food of Great Britain.
To insure the eradication of eruptive complaints wash daily with Glenn's Sulphur Soap. Hill's Hair & Whisker Dye, black or brown, 30c.
A candy trust is the latest idea in the monopoly line.

Woman's Fate.

From the Record, Bushnell, Ill.
No woman is better able to speak to others regarding "woman's fate" than Mrs. Jacob Weaver, of Bushnell, Ill., wife of ex-City Marshal Weaver. She had entirely recovered from the illness which kept her bedfast much of the time for five or six years past, and says her recovery is due to that well-known remedy, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Mrs. Weaver is fifty-six years old, and has lived in Bushnell nearly thirty years. She is of unquestionable veracity and unblemished reputation. The story of her recovery is interesting. She says:
"I suffered for five or six years with the trouble that comes to women at this time of my life. I was much weakened, was unable much of the time to do my own work, and suffered beyond my power to describe. I was downhearted and melancholy."
"I took many different medicines, in fact, I took medicine all the time, but nothing seemed to do me any good."
"I read about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and some of my friends recommended them highly. I made up my mind to try them."
"I bought the first box in March, 1897, and was benefited from the start."
"A box and a half cured me completely, and I am now rugged and strong. I have not been bothered with my troubles since I began taking the pills."
"I have recommended the pills to many women who are suffering as I suffered. They are the only thing that helped me in the trial that comes to so many women at my age."
"Mrs. J. H. Weaver."
"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of October, A. D. 1897."
"O. C. HICKS, Notary Public."

When woman is passing beyond the age of motherhood, it is a crisis in her life. Then, if ever, proper attention to hygiene should be exercised. The attendant sufferings will disappear and buoyant health will follow if Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are used. These pills exert a powerful influence in restoring the system to its proper condition. They contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood.

Why Suffer Like Job
When St. Anthony's Ointment will heal all sores, new or old, or money refunded, 50 cents per box, all druggists or St. Anthony MFG Co., Chicago, Ill.

The Japanese have a gigantic colonization scheme in Mexico.

To Cure A Cold in One Day.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All Druggists refund money if it fails to cure, 25c.

In the Klondike region in midwinter the sun rises from 9.30 to 10 a. m. and sets from 2 to 3 p. m.

Men and Women Wanted
TO TRAVEL for old established house. Permanent position. \$40 per month and all expenses. P. W. ZIEGLER & CO., 228 Locust St., Philadelphia.

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JOHN W. MORRIS, WASHINGTON, D. C.
Att. Principal Examiner U. S. Pension Bureau. 7 yrs. in last war, 15 adjudicating claims, 245,000.

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Boarded by a Big Tarpon.

Recently a peculiar incident happened to the steamer Florida, which runs from Pensacola to Choctawhatchie. On her trip up the steamer had a lighter in tow and one lashed alongside, and in some mysterious way a tarpon or silver fish got fast between the steamer and the lighter which she had alongside, and in trying to free itself jumped aboard the steamer. The monster weighed 175 pounds and measured six feet and four inches in length.—Pensacola (Fla.) Star.

The eight great water companies of London now supply nearly six million people with about 186,000,000 gallons of water a day.

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The Salzer Seed Co. want suitable names for their 17-inch long corn and White Out prodigy. You can win this \$400 easily. Catalogue tells all about it. Seed potatoes only \$1.50 a barrel.

SEND THIS NOTICE AND 10 CENTS IN STAMPS to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and get their great seed catalogue and 11 new farm seed samples, including above corn and oats, positively worth \$10.00, to get a start. Send to-day, to-day, sir! A. C. 1.

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During 1897 Mexico exported \$42,000,000 worth of minerals.

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Frogs and toads have remarkably acute hearing.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

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We have not been without Piso's Cure for Consumption for 20 years.—LUZIZ FERRER, Camp St., Harrisburg, Pa., May 4, 1894.

There are almost nine pounds of oil in a bushel of peanuts.

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"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I owe my life to your Vegetable Compound. The doctors said I had consumption and nothing could be done for me. My menstruation had stopped and they said my blood was turning to water. I had several doctors. They all said I could not live. I began the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and it helped me right away; menses returned and I have gained in weight. I have better health than I have had for years. It is wonderful what your Compound has done for me."

"I Feel Like a New Person."

Mrs. GEO. LEACH, 1609 Belle St., Alton, Ill., writes:

"Before I began to take your Vegetable Compound I was a great sufferer from womb trouble. Menses would appear two and three times in a month, causing me to be so weak I could not stand. I could neither sleep nor eat, and looked so badly my friends hardly knew me."
"I took doctor's medicine but did not derive much benefit from it. My druggist gave me one of your little books, and after reading it I decided to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I feel like a new person. I would not give your Compound for all the doctors' medicine in the world. I can not praise it enough."

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