## IN THE MAMMOTH CAVE.

## EXHILARATING EFFECT OF THE COOL AND GERMLESS AIR.

It Is Not Known by What Process the At-mosphere Is Sterilized – Waves of Melo-dy – Wonderful Effect of Music in the Caverns in Kentucky's Natural Wonder.

John R. Procter, formerly state ge-ologist 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 fernthe hillside over jutting moss and fern-covered limestone cliffs into a beauti-ful 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 en-trance 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 exhave stood near the entrance and ex-tended 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 deair with a temperature of about of de-grees. 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—in-haling 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 the most interesting problems to be studied. By what process the air in the cave becomes sterilized remains to be determined.

be determined. But our faithful negro guide has counted the party, selected the requi-site 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 day-light which we are leaving, and ad-mire the delicate cascade falling from the overhanging arch at the entrance. the overhanging arch at the entrance. Here our lamps are lighted and we

enter this silent, mysterious, change-less 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 hun-dred 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. We note the peculiar musical effect 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 daytness and listened while the great darkness and listened while the great ahthems rolled and reverberated through the lofty corridors in majestic waves of melody. I could then ap-preciate the inestimable privilege of the few who heard Jenny Lind sing here, and who in the Star Chamber heard a member of herparty render on his violin the prayer from "Der Frei-cobutz"

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 wil! 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; cer-tainly, 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 won-derful dimenss of the air. The salt-petre vats erected in 1812, and the timbers which have remained in their present position since then show no present position since then, show no evidences of decay. In these vats the saltpetre was leached from the nitrous sattpetre was leached from the introus 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 saltpetre 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 atmoscombining with the limestone, forms nitrate of calcium, and the dis-integrated waste from the walls and ceiling yields the great supply of ni-trogen 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 or the bart as the Short route, and an entire day to the Long or River route. But that by no means exhausts the objects of et. and one may spend days in avenues and chambers and included in the regular

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 busi-ness of the Connectiont Fire Insur-ance Company, of this city, recently. A house was set on fire by a bath-tub and the tub was set on fire by a bath-tub and the tub 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 porved to be too hot. Accordingly she took it to the bathroom and set it into the bathrub to cool. This happened to be a fine tub lined with cellaloid, which served as a sort of enamel. The heat of the A House Set on Fire by a Poultice. 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 wetdown,

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 poul-tice kindled a bathtub.—Detroit Free Press.

## A Small Reward.

A small fleward. The engine driver who took charge of the train from Falkenberg to Leip-sic on December 13 prevented an acci-dent in a very ingenious and plucky manner. Between the stations Tor-gau and Mockrehna he noticed that the rails running parallel to his own were broken, and that the next train that would mass over them must inwere broken, and that the next train that would pass over them must in-evitably be wrecked. He at once wrote a few words explaining what he had seen and giving an exact descrip-tion 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 shill-ings. Even life is cheap in the Fatherland.—German Railway News.

## How's This ?

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. Che-restor the last by zers, and believe him per-son dinancially able to carry out any obliga-tion made by their firm. WER & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio. WALDING, KINSAN & MARVIS, Wholesale Drugsits, Toledo, Ohio. Mall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, act-fing directly upon the blood and mucous sur-faces of the system. Testimonials sent free, Price, 75c; per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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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 re-covered 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'

years past, and says her recovery is due both well-known romedy, Dr. Williams' Pink Pils. Mrs. Weaver is fifty-six years old, and has lived in Bushnell nearly thirty years. She is of unquestionable veracity and un-blemished reputation. The story of her re-covery is interesting. She says: "I suffered for five or six years with the for by life. I was much weakened, was un-able 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, took many different medicines, in fact, took many different medicines, in fact, took madeine 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 teecommended them highly. I made up my mind to try them. I bong ht the first box in March, 1897, and was benefited from the start. "A box and a half cured me com-sines. J Acob Weaver. "I have recommended the pills to many



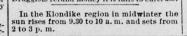
Mrs. Jacob Weaver. pills. "I have recommended the pills to many women who are suffering as I suffered. They are the only thing that helped me in the trial that comes to so many women at the trial that comes to so many women at my age." Mrs. J. H. WEAVER. my age."

the trial that comes to so many women at my age." Mas. J. H. WEAVER. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23d 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 suffer-ings will disappear and buoyant health will follow if Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are used. These no list aver a powerful influence in These pills exert a powerful influence in restoring the system to its proper condi-tion. They contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood.

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Boarded by a Big Tarpon. Recently a peculiar incident hap-pened to the steamer Florida, which runs from Pensacola to Choctawhatchie. On her trip up the steamer had a lighter in tow and one lashed along-side, and in some mysterious way a tarpon or silver fish got fast between the steamer and the lighter which she had alongida call in the

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.

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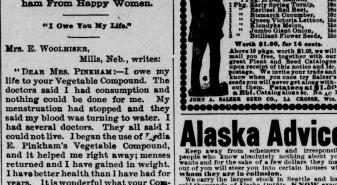
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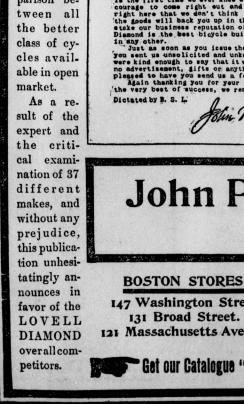
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