

COSMIC THEORY.

Original Nebulae Became Condensed by Gravity Into a Globe.

The cosmical theory, which may be said to be the most generally accepted by scientists at the present time, is substantially as follows: That the original nebulae in a vast space of time became condensed by gravity and radiation into a semi-gaseous and semi-liquid globe, and cooling, caused a solid crust to form upon the surface; steam and other gases which had been thrown off from the seething mass were precipitated in the form of water containing immense quantities of solids in solution, these solids falling to the bottom of the liquid covering the globe, and thus in ages becoming a solid shell of primordial rock, internal fires, still burning, heaved the weaker portion of that shell into stupendous mountains by the later actions of the waves and glaciers.

Beds.

In England the old four-poster bedstead is still the pride of the nation, says the Sanitarian, but the iron or brass bedstead is beating it out of the field. The English beds are the largest in the world. A peculiarity of the German is its shortness; besides that it consists frequently in part of a large down pillow or upper mattress, which spreads over the person and usually answers the purpose of all the other ordinary bedclothing combined. In the tropics men sleep in hammocks or upon mats or grass. The East Indian unrolls his light, portable charpoy or mat, in the early morning, is again rolled together and carried away by him.

Philippine Hemp.

It is worth noting in regard to the famous hemp produced exclusively in the Philippines that the plant yields in fact two qualities, with important industrial or commercial adaptations in each case. From the bast or fibrous outer leaf comes the coarse, strong fibre, which is the best material used for sailcloths and cordage, it being particularly recommended by the fact that it is not easily rotted by salt water. The fibre yielded by the inner stalks is fine and weak, and from it are woven textile fabrics superior in softness and lightness to those made of the best Russian hemp, these fabrics, however, being seldom exported, as they are bought by Chinese merchants at Manila for local consumption.

Origin of a Damage Suit.

Mrs. Francis Franchique, a well-to-do widow of New Orleans, who is highly respected in the French quarter, was made the defendant in a suit, the basis of which has never before been recorded in a Louisiana court. \$2,500 was sued by Baptiste Melun for damages for a slap in the face dealt petitioner by defendant during the progress of a ball given by the "Orpheon Francaise." Melun's petition recites that while he was acting as the chairman of the floor committee he was set upon by Mrs. Franchique and his face was violently slapped by her without cause or provocation.

A Strange Collision.

A peculiar motor accident occurred on St. Clair street at the corner of Johns street in Glenville, O. George Beall was a passenger on the Painesville car which passed about that time. Tom Brooks, colored was standing beside the track. As the car passed him, Beall, in some unaccountable manner, fell from the car, and the men collided with great force.

A Mouse Hid in a Strawberry.

Capt. P. B. Thompson of Harrodsburg, Ky., purchased two or three gallons of strawberries a short time ago from a man from Garrard county. They were berries, the smallest being as large as a hen's egg. They were so large that it was necessary to slice them up before serving. When one of the largest was cut open a full-grown mouse jumped out, scaring the cook until she almost fainted.

Unavoidable.

"Which do you love most—your papa or your mamma?" "Little Charlie—I love papa most." "Charlie's Mother—Why, Charlie, I am surprised at you. I thought you loved me most." "Charlie—Can't help it, mamma; we men have to hold together."

Brown's Original Wife.

Brown considers his wife the most original woman on earth, because, when he proposed to her, instead of saying, "This is so sudden," she remarked, "Well, Bill I think it's about time."

BROKE UP THE MEETING.

An Amateur Orator Receives Unexpected Answer to His Question.

In the recent political campaign in Baltimore the campaign was particularly hot in the Sixth Ward. In that ward, though no longer a fashionable section, there dwell many substantial citizens, the younger members of whose families may have married and moved to more desirable sections of the city, but the parents remain in the old homestead. A mass meeting was called in Market House Hall, in this ward, and a special committee was appointed to wait upon the oldest residents and invite them to a place of honor upon the platform, and to induce some of them to say a word or two as to the great blessings to be enjoyed under our form of government, most of which were ascribed to the party holding the meeting, and to give a little advice to the younger men to vote early, if not often.

The hall was crowded, and great enthusiasm prevailed. The old citizens of the ward were prominently in evidence and filled the platform. The oldest and the wealthiest, and as it was maintained by many, the meekest man of the number, was a retired pig drover and land owner. He was introduced with a great flourish by the chairman, bowed profoundly when the applause had ceased, and said in broken English:

"My Fellow Citizens—Sixty years ago I came to this country a poor pig—what am I now?"

In the pause that followed a deep bass voice in the rear of the hall called out:

"A damned mean old hog!" That closed the amateur oratory of the evening, and the meeting broke up.

Polly at the Phone.

One West Madison street druggist lost a customer on Monday through his fondness for pets, says the Chicago News. He has a large green parrot and the cage is hung near the telephone, with the result that Polly has become quite proficient in "telephone talk" and furnishes much amusement to the customers who have the time to stop and listen.

On Monday a stylishly dressed young lady came rustling into the store and asked permission to use the phone. The druggist pointed to the rear of the store and she started in that direction. The store was rather dark, and when she heard someone apparently talking into the receiver she seated herself on a chair to wait.

"Hello, central—hello, hello—yes, give me four-double-eight express. Yes, hello; who is that? OE, yes; what, yes; hello, I say; no, I didn't get that; that is so; well, goodby; ring off; hello, central; hello, hello; give me— and so on, and so on through several repetitions.

Then she rose and advanced with a stately air to the clerk and asked if he thought that "person" intended to use the telephone all day.

"Why that's only the parrot, he!" But the front door had slammed before he could finish his sentence.

Good Snake Shooting.

Snake shooting is a novel sport of recent introduction at Williamsport, Md., and which is becoming quite popular. There are an unusual number of snakes along the streams and in the country hereabout, and many of them are copperheads, a poisonous reptile and much feared. Rifles, as a rule, are used by persons who indulge in snake shooting. A favorite place for the sport is along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, where water and black snakes and copperheads abound in great numbers.

Within the past few weeks the reptile population along the canal has been seriously depleted. A Hagers-town man who spent his Sundays shooting snakes killed over a hundred in two days. In one day he shot with a rifle thirty water snakes, besides a number of others. William Stake killed a monster copperhead snake on the towpath, just below town. It measured four feet.

Goldfish From City Waters.

Men from the Aquarium recently dragged the pond at Fifty-ninth street and the lake in Central Park, New York, for gold fish and silver fish and other small fishes, wherever it took some of the city's fountains and for specimens for the Aquarium. There were found many handsome goldfish, some of them a foot in length. The large fountain by the lake in Central Park, at the foot of the terrace, was stocked with goldfish and silver fish, as was also the basin of the fountain in City Hall Park, in which there were also placed a number of white perch and sunfish. At the request of the Department of Highways there were also stocked with goldfish the two fountains in Broadway at Seventy-second street. For the Aquarium a number of roach and sunfish and white and yellow perch were taken.

Japanese Copper Wire.

The Japanese are preparing to convert their copper ore into wire for domestic and foreign use, instead of shipping it out of the country as before. The Furukawa Smelting Works have for some time employed electrolytic refining, producing in the past year 800 tons, but they are now to be enlarged to four times their present size, and it is said that when the enlargement is completed their output will so far exceed the domestic demand as to permit a considerable export. As the Government uses several hundred tons of wire a year, it may be inferred that the new works will have a large capacity.

Making Acetylene Gas.

Acetylene gas, as is generally known, is produced by moistening calcium carbide with water. Some idea of its extensive use will be gathered when it is learned that there is being erected at Niagara Falls a plant for the manufacture of calcium carbide, which will have an output of one hundred tons per day. Electrical energy, equivalent to 25,000 horse power, will be required to operate it.

Remedy for Insect Bites.

Dr. Friedlander, of Wiesbaden, recommends galvanism to relieve the pain and irritation and to reduce the swelling caused by the bites of insects. The negative electrode is placed over the sting.—Medical Record.

SOME PECULIAR ANIMALS.

The Philippine Islands Will Add New Beasts to Zoological Gardens.

A REMARKABLE BUFFALO.

Tunnels Pathways Through Thick Bamboo Undergrowth—Hunted on Hands and Knees.

Philippine Squirrel Another Odd Creature About the Size of a Mouse—A Wild Pig Dignified With a Latin Name—A Monster Fruit-Eating Bat—A Much-Prized Alligator.

One freak beast which will excite curiosity in our zoological gardens is the tamarau, a dwarf buffalo found in the forests of Mindoro of the Philippine group. It is a stunted form of the Old World buffalo, not of the American bison. It sometimes occurs high up in the mountains. It tunnels pathways through the thick bamboo undergrowth covering the mountain sides above 6,000 feet. Hunters must go upon hands and knees to follow these trails. The aborigines never hunt this little beast, being deadly afraid of it.

The midgem Philippine squirrel is another odd creature. It is about the size of a mouse, has legs longer in proportion than those of the ordinary squirrel, large eyes and rounded ears.

Had the driver wavered for an instant and allowed the animal to be hit by the car, it would have thrown the magnificent brute off his hind legs and undoubtedly smashed the buggy and more probably killed the horse.

An assistant Chief of the Fire Department and several of the men attached to the Brightwood Engine House witnessed the incident, and were loud in the praise of both driver and animal. Several of the passengers in the front of the car were badly scared as they realized the importance of the horse staying in the air and not descending upon them with his forefeet.

Among the inflictions of a higher civilization that have been introduced into one of the native battalions of the Philippine army is a brass band.

It was required recently at the funeral of a comrade, and it took leave of the departed one to the inexpressible touching anthem of "We drew his club money this morning."

Some years ago Queen Victoria was at Buckingham Palace and, as its merry word, the guards' band saluted Her Majesty with a matutinal dose of dreamy melody. One tune especially pleased the aged monarch, and she asked it be played again, and afterward requested its name for future use. Sir Henry Ponsonby was gone a long time, and when he returned wore a somewhat perplexed countenance.

His royal mistress fretfully remarked: "Surely they knew what they were playing," and Sir Henry deferentially coughed behind his hand and replied: "It is entitled 'Come Where the Booze Is Cheaper.'"

New Vehicle Wheel.

The success of the bicycle and the automobile has led many inventors to attempt a resilient vehicle wheel, simpler than those in use. A promising improvement is described in an English journal. It consists essentially of two concentric shells at the hub, connected by radial webs which extend the breadth of the hub.

Queer Nomenclature.

The British navy draws upon the animal world for many of its names, and the following list is compiled from the last navy list, issued by the Admiralty: Barracouta, Buzzard, Cockatrice, Basilisk, Dragon, Fox, Goldfinch, Griffon, Lapwing, Linnet, Magpie, Mosquito, Peacock, Penguin, Pheasant, Phoenix, Pigeon, Plover, Porpoise, Quail, Raccoon, Rattlesnake, Redbreast, Redpole, Ringdove, Salamander, Sparrow, Sparrowhawk, Sphinx, Stork, Swallow, Thrush, Whiting, Widgeon, Albacore, Eagle, Sheldrake, Triton, Unicorn, Beagle. Their navy list is also rich in names taken from mythology, many of them, however, being repetitions of names brought from early historical times in the British navy.

Pasteboard Shingles in Japan.

A new paper product is the result of the enterprise of one of the Japanese paper companies. It is a substitute for ordinary shingles, made of thick tarred pasteboard. The paper shingles have met with a quick and large demand, selling for about one-half the price of wooden shingles and being much easier to manipulate. They economize the labor of mechanics, and are said to be as proof against rain and fire as the ordinary articles. Paper shingles have been adopted for the sub-roofing of the new Tokio Chamber of Commerce and Imperial Tokio University buildings.

Freight Trolley Cars.

Two cars, carrying local freight, are now in use on the Consolidated Traction lines of Pittsburg. Although freight stations have been established for the present, it is intended to ultimately make house-to-house deliveries—employing more cars as the service expands. It is said the United Traction lines will shortly begin a like service.

Our Opinion of Ourselves.

"Think well of yourself always," said Mr. Staybolt, "or nobody else will. People may not always take the man who thinks well of himself quite at his own valuation, and then, again, they may rate him higher than he does himself; but they never fail to agree with the man who thinks of himself poorly."—New York Sun.

FINE HORSEMANSHIP.

Made Horse Stand on Hind Legs to Let Car Pass.

A very thrilling exhibition of superb horsemanship and brute sagacity was witnessed on the Brightwood road near Washington. A young farmer from Montgomery county was driving home from the city, the horse attached to his buggy being a magnificent animal, about three years old. When about opposite the car sheds at Brightwood one of the old wornout cars came down the track and reached the spot at the same time. There was a flat wheel attached to the car and it made almost as much noise as a locomotive, added to which was the humming of the motor. The fine young thoroughbred pranced and pawed the earth as the car approached, but refused to advance.

Just at the instant the car was passing the driving outfit the now thoroughly frightened animal wheeled around on the track and directly in front of the car. At the same instant the horse made a dash for the track the young man handling the reins gave a mighty pull on the reins and almost instantly drew the frightened animal straight up on his hind legs. There he stood pawing the air, not more than a foot from the car, and in that position he remained until the grinding conveyance, crowded with shrieking women and astonished men, swept by. During these thrilling seconds the driver in the buggy kept his seat, and in the most matter-of-fact way allowed the horse to place his forefeet upon the earth when all danger was past.

Had the driver wavered for an instant and allowed the animal to be hit by the car, it would have thrown the magnificent brute off his hind legs and undoubtedly smashed the buggy and more probably killed the horse.

An assistant Chief of the Fire Department and several of the men attached to the Brightwood Engine House witnessed the incident, and were loud in the praise of both driver and animal. Several of the passengers in the front of the car were badly scared as they realized the importance of the horse staying in the air and not descending upon them with his forefeet.

Penalty of Curiosity.

Among the inflictions of a higher civilization that have been introduced into one of the native battalions of the Philippine army is a brass band. It was required recently at the funeral of a comrade, and it took leave of the departed one to the inexpressible touching anthem of "We drew his club money this morning."

Some years ago Queen Victoria was at Buckingham Palace and, as its merry word, the guards' band saluted Her Majesty with a matutinal dose of dreamy melody. One tune especially pleased the aged monarch, and she asked it be played again, and afterward requested its name for future use. Sir Henry Ponsonby was gone a long time, and when he returned wore a somewhat perplexed countenance.

His royal mistress fretfully remarked: "Surely they knew what they were playing," and Sir Henry deferentially coughed behind his hand and replied: "It is entitled 'Come Where the Booze Is Cheaper.'"

Illness Made Him Grow.

Among the hospital patients of Dr. Lucas, Championiere in London is a man seven feet four inches high. He is twenty-seven years old and is still growing. He takes after his father, who was seven feet eight, whereas his mother was short. At the age of eighteen he was a youth below middle height, but after an illness he grew four inches in a few days.

Too Vastly Different.

A member of an athletic club, after swimming the length of the large tank in the basement of the institution, came out puffing and blowing, apparently exhausted, says the Youth's Companion.

"You don't manage your breathing right," said the swimming instructor. "It ought not to tire you so. As to the upper part of your body, including your arms, you use exactly the same muscles, and in very much the same way, in swimming as in sawing wood."

"No, sir," gasped the swimmer. "When it comes to sawing wood I use the muscles of some other man."

How Champagne Is Made.

In making champagne the grapes are squeezed six times, each pressure making wine of a different quality.

A COMPARISON.

American and European Industries Compared to the Credit of Former.

Those who are interested in comparisons between the vast industrial establishments of America on the one hand and of Europe on the other will find no cause for disparagement in the case of the latter, in view of facts officially published in a recent London Trades Review. From this it appears that the largest number of blast furnaces possessed by a single concern in the world is owned by the Alpin Montan Gesellschaft of Vienna and Styria, which has a total of thirty-two furnaces; but as most of these are of old plans and methods, worked with charcoal fuel, the fact is more important than of the modern class of furnaces the largest number owned by a single firm is twenty-six, owned by the Beards of Glasgow, who own the works of Gartsherrle, Eglington, Lugar and Muirkirk of Scotland, these being equal to a total output of 400,000 tons a year, or about one-third of the total pig-iron production of that country. Next to this firm is that of Bokkoy, Vaughn & Co. of Middlesborough, with a total of twenty-four furnaces, equal to an annual output of 750,000 tons of pig-iron if all were in blast. The capacity in both these cases is below that of some American firms, although the number of furnaces is larger.

Man Knocked Out By a Screech Owl.

John Young Mayes of Springfield, Ky., tells a story of a remarkable encounter which he had recently that would tax the credulity of his friends in believing were it not for his good reputation for truth and veracity and the fact that he bears the scars of battle in evidence. Mr. Mayes says that while passing under some trees in his yard, his attention was attracted by a couple of screech owls that flew at him in a threatening manner. He, however, paid little attention to them, thinking they could do him no harm, when suddenly one of them flew at him and struck him full in the face. The blow was so sudden and came with so much force that he was knocked down and partially stunned. The owl continued the attack until Mr. Mayes made his escape into the house. He now exhibits a bruised eye and several scratches about his eyes and nose.

Overrun By Big Snails.

Snails of a strange variety have made their appearance at Osgood, and it is supposed they are brought from some Eastern conservatory in flowers. They are very long, some measuring six inches in length. They have multiplied until there are thousands of them. A number of wells and cisterns have been destroyed and some persons now keep a ring of salt around their wells to preserve them from their ravages. They are now trying to exterminate the snails, and snail hunts take place nightly, one person often catching from 300 to 400. Where the snails crawl over the grass they leave a phosphorescent glow, by which they can be traced, says the Indianapolis Sentinel. When found they sprinkle salt on them, which kills them almost instantly.

Illness Made Him Grow.

Among the hospital patients of Dr. Lucas, Championiere in London is a man seven feet four inches high. He is twenty-seven years old and is still growing. He takes after his father, who was seven feet eight, whereas his mother was short. At the age of eighteen he was a youth below middle height, but after an illness he grew four inches in a few days. A second illness produced another rapid increase of his height. After this he had several successive attacks of a debilitating complaint. On recovery he invariably found he had grown several inches, till when at twenty-one he went to serve in the army he had reached seven feet. He was the youngest of twelve children, and is the tallest of them all by a foot or so.

Too Vastly Different.

A member of an athletic club, after swimming the length of the large tank in the basement of the institution, came out puffing and blowing, apparently exhausted, says the Youth's Companion.

"You don't manage your breathing right," said the swimming instructor. "It ought not to tire you so. As to the upper part of your body, including your arms, you use exactly the same muscles, and in very much the same way, in swimming as in sawing wood."

"No, sir," gasped the swimmer. "When it comes to sawing wood I use the muscles of some other man."

How Champagne Is Made.

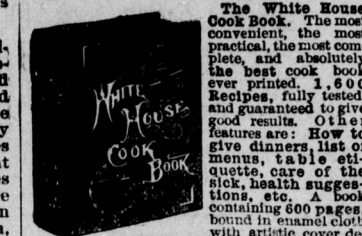
In making champagne the grapes are squeezed six times, each pressure making wine of a different quality.

An \$8.00 Dictionary for \$2.00

The New Werner Edition of Webster's Dictionary.

Newly and magnificently illustrated. We offer you the best dictionary ever put on the market at a low price. This is an American Dictionary of the English Language, containing the whole vocabulary of the first edition, the entire corrections and improvements of the second edition, to which is prefixed an introductory dissertation on the history, origin, and connections of the languages of Western Asia and Europe with an explanation of the principles on which languages are formed. This book contains every word that Noah Webster ever defined, and the following SPECIAL FEATURES: An Appendix of 10,000 words, Pronouncing Vocabulary of Scripture names, Greek and Latin Proper Names, Modern Geographical Names, Dictionary of Antonyms and Synonyms, Dictionary of Familiar Allusions, Lexicon of Foreign Phrases, Dictionary of Abbreviations, etc., etc., together with 4 BEAUTIFUL COLORED PLATES, showing in their actual colors the Flags of the Various Nations, U.S. Naval Flags, Pilot Signals of the United States, Yacht Club Signals, and Shoulder Straps for Officers. THIS IS NOT THE USUAL BOOK but a beautiful printed edition on fine paper with thousands of valuable additions of aid to all students of modern science. It is a grand educator of the masses, now offered to our readers in a sumptuous style in keeping with its great value to the people. Bound in Tan Sheep with a beautiful cover design and sold at the small price of \$2.00, makes it the best-illustrated, low-priced dictionary ever published. For every day use in the office, home, school and library, this Dictionary is unequalled. Forwarded by express upon receipt of order, with no charge of postage. If it is not as represented you may return it to us at our expense and we will refund your money. Write for our special illustrated book catalogue, quoting the lowest prices on books. Address all orders to THE WERNER COMPANY, Publishers and Manufacturers. AKRON, OHIO. [The Werner Company is thoroughly reliable.]—Editor.

A \$2.50 Cook Book For Only 85 Cents.



The White House Cook Book. The most convenient, the most practical, the most complete, and absolutely the best cook book ever printed. 1,600 Recipes, fully tested, and guaranteed to give good results. Other features are: How to give dinners, list of menus, table etiquette, care of the sick, health suggestions, etc. A book containing 600 pages, bound in enamel cloth with artistic cover design. Illustrated with beautiful half tones of the wives of many of the Presidents, interior views of the White House, etc., etc. If you desire this book send us our special offer price, 85 cents, and 20 cents for postage and it will be forwarded to you at once. Order now. Send for our illustrated book catalogue, quoting lowest prices on books, FREE. Address all orders to THE WERNER COMPANY, Publishers and Manufacturers. Akron, Ohio.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents. Guaranteed tobacco habit cure, makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c, \$1. All druggists.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE PATENTS TRADE MARKS DESIGNS COPYRIGHTS &c. Anyone sending a sketch and description will quickly ascertain our opinion free whether your invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American. A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year, four months \$1. Sold by all news and book dealers. MUNN & Co. 361 Broadway, New York Branch Office 55 1/2 N. Washington, D. C.

STYLISH, RELIABLE ARTISTIC Recommended by Leading Dressmakers. They Always Please.

McCALL'S BAZAR PATTERNS NONE BETTER AT ANY PRICE These patterns are sold in nearly every city and town in the United States for four months. \$1. Sold by all news and book dealers. Write for terms and other particulars. Address your nearest point THE McCALL COMPANY, 138 to 146 W. 14th Street, New York BRANCH OFFICES: 159 Fifth Ave., Chicago, and 105 1/2 Market St., San Francisco.

McCALL'S MAGAZINE Brightest Magazine Published Contains Beautiful Colored Plates Illustrates Latest Patterns, Fashion, Fancy Work. Agents wanted for this magazine in every locality. Beautiful premiums for a little work. Write for terms and other particulars. Address THE McCALL CO., 125 to 146 W. 14th St., New York

REGULATE THE LIVER CATHARTIC CANDY CURE CONSTIPATION ALL DRUGGISTS

Webster's Dictionary. Newly and magnificently illustrated. We offer you the best dictionary ever put on the market at a low price. This is an American Dictionary of the English Language, containing the whole vocabulary of the first edition, the entire corrections and improvements of the second edition, to which is prefixed an introductory dissertation on the history, origin, and connections of the languages of Western Asia and Europe with an explanation of the principles on which languages are formed. This book contains every word that Noah Webster ever defined, and the following SPECIAL FEATURES: An Appendix of 10,000 words, Pronouncing Vocabulary of Scripture names, Greek and Latin Proper Names, Modern Geographical Names, Dictionary of Antonyms and Synonyms, Dictionary of Familiar Allusions, Lexicon of Foreign Phrases, Dictionary of Abbreviations, etc., etc., together with 4 BEAUTIFUL COLORED PLATES, showing in their actual colors the Flags of the Various Nations, U.S. Naval Flags, Pilot Signals of the United States, Yacht Club Signals, and Shoulder Straps for Officers. THIS IS NOT THE USUAL BOOK but a beautiful printed edition on fine paper with thousands of valuable additions of aid to all students of modern science. It is a grand educator of the masses, now offered to our readers in a sumptuous style in keeping with its great value to the people. Bound in Tan Sheep with a beautiful cover design and sold at the small price of \$2.00, makes it the best-illustrated, low-priced dictionary ever published. For every day use in the office, home, school and library, this Dictionary is unequalled. Forwarded by express upon receipt of order, with no charge of postage. If it is not as represented you may return it to us at our expense and we will refund your money. Write for our special illustrated book catalogue, quoting the lowest prices on books. Address all orders to THE WERNER COMPANY, Publishers and Manufacturers. AKRON, OHIO. [The Werner Company is thoroughly reliable.]—Editor.