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"MANY SHALL RUN TO AND FRO, AND KNOWLEDGE SHALL BE INCREASED."—DANIEL xii. 4.

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THE TRAVELLER.

MR. AUDUBON'S EXPEDITION.

EXTRACTS from letters written by Mr. Audubon, the Naturalist, and dated as late as June 1st, appeared in the *New Bedford Mercury*, giving accounts of his progress to the Rocky Mountains. From these we give the following:

"Since my last from Council Bluffs, the general appearance of the country has assumed a different aspect for the worse. The river has become more contracted between the hills through which it passes, and has also become straighter. We have less water, meet with fewer snags and many more sand bars. The bluffs become more abrupt and more picturesque in their forms—for by the effect of the cold and thaws, the upper portion lose their softer parts, and leave the hard parts assuming the shapes of battlements, towers, &c., and when viewed from a distance look not unlike a curiously built city. Trees are becoming scarce and of stunted growth, and in the ravines that wind their way between the hills, the growth is principally red cedar. The hills themselves, which gradually ascend to plains of immense extent, and the plains, are both and all of the very poorest description, so much so that we can scarcely conceive how millions of buffaloes, deer, antelopes, &c., manage to subsist; and yet they do so, and grow fat between this time and the autumn. This is the wild, and to my eye melancholy looking district, on which countless multitudes of monstrous sized animals live and die. The shores are strewn with their carcases, on which the wolf, the vulture, and the raven gorge themselves at leisure and undisturbed—for hunters rarely, if ever, shoot at any of them.

"We have seen many elks, abundance of deer, wild cats, antelopes, buffaloes, and wolves. Our folks have shot buffaloes, but I have not done so, because they are worthless, and when killed only display a mass of bone and skin, simply covered by a very thin portion of flesh; and if you shoot a bull, the rankness of the better parts is enough to revolt the stomach of any but a starving man. The winter has been so very severe that buffaloes have been 3 or 400 miles lower down the river than they have been for 20 years. The calves are nearly all destroyed," &c.

"In the way of plants, we have seen some of the cactus family, unknown to us previously,

and we intend to take a plenty of them home. We have also found a beautiful dwarf sweet-scented pea that perfumes the whole atmosphere. It grows all over the sandy, gravelly, dreary plains and hills, of which I have spoken. We have collected every thing that was in blossom, and shall continue to do so when in seed and ripe, and then will fill up boxes of them for all our friends, both far and near.

"In geology we have done pretty fair. In ornithology better, as we have already four new birds, and shall no doubt find more.

"We are sadly annoyed by heavy and almost constant winds, that retard our progress more or less daily. No otters, beavers, muskrats, or even minks, are seen in or about the waters of this mighty river, whose waters look more like a hog puddle than any thing else that I can compare them to. Springs of magnesia abound in many of the ravines. Sulphur and oxide of iron show themselves frequently. Immense bluffs of white, blue, and yellow sand-stone are also found, as well as boulders of granite, even on the tops of the highest hills. But not a single specimen of fossil remains as yet, although we are assured they abounded along these bluffs. On the contrary, we were as fully assured that we should see no small birds, and we have seen millions of them, including almost every species found in the eastern states, and a great number more particularly adapted to the region we are in."

In September, 1838, a valuable piece of mosaic, representing Orpheus and Ceres with her attributes, was discovered in the forest of Brothonne, in Normandy. Since then the Archæological Society of Caen have extended their researches, and found a long suit of Roman apartments, and several baths. One of the rooms is very splendidly decorated, and on the walls are the finest specimens of mosaic work, representing various aquatic birds. On one side is a large stove, with flues to convey the heat, and on the hearth were charcoal and ashes, as fresh as if newly brought there. Another room was entirely paved with mosaic, but unfortunately only a few fragments remained entire. There were also found coins, with the profiles of Nero, Antoninus, Gallienus, Claudius, and other Roman emperors, with bricks, tiles, double-headed nails, vases of terra cotta of different colours, pieces of stone, marble, and glass, and several articles in iron, bronze, and ivory. There were also numerous stags' horns, boars' tusks, and bones of animals.

THE CHINESE.

I took our cutter the other day, and eight men, and starting from the ship at five o'clock in the morning, went about forty miles up the labyrinth of Island, landing at several places, and going into villages. The country was beautiful in the extreme—much more so than I ever saw.

Fancy the most hilly country that can possibly be, one mountain rising from the foot of another in the most varied manner, and culti-

vated in the highest degree to the very top. In fact their farming would not disgrace an English farmer; and I very much doubt whether a man put down here from the clouds would know that he was not in England, but for the circumstances that pieces of land which no Englishman would think of venturing his neck upon, are here in the most beautiful order; indeed the resemblance between the two countries is, in every respect, most striking; and I decidedly think, that the people I have seen are quite as much civilized, if not more so, than you would find in England, in the same situation—they certainly exceed them in politeness.

One village I landed in. I sailed the boat up a beautiful creek for some distance, until I was stopped by some large lock gates, when I landed and walked up to the shore, alongside quite as good a canal as any I ever saw, with good strong locks, on precisely the same principle as our own. The stone bridges over it were beautiful, with heads carved in stone, of angels and devils. The houses were built of square stones, extremely neatly put together, and roofed with beautiful red tiles, each ornamented with a different device. The inside was generally divided into three or four rooms, all very neat, and there the similarity between them and old England, a place they never heard of, became most ridiculous. There was the plastered floor, the same shaped tables and chairs, and the closet, with the cups and saucers of the most beautiful china, by the by; there too was the kitchen—in the yard the pig-sties were very amusing—the identical pig-sty door that they have at a place you know very well in Yorkshire, opening with a large wooden latch, and a hole to put your finger through from the outside to lift it up, squeaking on its hinges when opened or shut, the same to half a note.—*China as it was.*

A REMARKABLE FALL OF WATER.

Two hundred miles from Long Island Sound is a narrow pass in the river Connecticut, only five yards over, formed by the shelving mountains of solid rock, whose tops intercept the clouds. Through this chasm are compelled to pass all the waters, which, in the time of floods bury the northern country. At the upper Coos the river there spreads twenty-four miles wide, and for five or six weeks, first rate ships might sail over lands that afterwards might produce the greatest crops of hay and grain in all America. People who can bear the sight, the groans, the tremblings, and surly motion of water, trees, and ice through this awful passage, view with astonishment one of the greatest phenomena in nature. Here water is condensed without frost, by pressure and swiftness, between the adamantine sturdy rocks, to such a degree of induration that no iron crow-bar can be forced into it. Here iron, lead, and cork, have one common weight; steady as time, and harder than marble, the stream passes irreplicable, if not swift as lightning: the electric fire rends trees in pieces with no greater ease than does this mighty water.