

From the St. Louis Republican.

THE MASTODON.

In various parts of this vast continent remains of the Mastodon have been occasionally disinterred, but so far no complete skeleton as has yet been found, the upper part of the head all above the level of the zygomatic process being decayed.

An entire head never having as yet been found, I think the scientific world will hail the announcement with pleasure, when I inform them that I have recently obtained an uncommonly large, entire head of the Mastodon, together with a great many bones. The circumstances attending its discovery are these:

A few weeks since, receiving information from a friend that many large bones were found about 22 miles south of St. Louis, I immediately proceeded to the spot; and commenced operations, which proved more successful than my most sanguine anticipations. The outside formation and peculiar construction of the upper part of the head is different from any quadruped in Natural History that I am acquainted with. It is composed of small cells about three inches deep, covered by a thin cranium; attached to the upper jaw is the snout, which projects about eighteen inches over the lower jaw, and which has never been described before.

The position of the tusks in the head, has been a subject of discussion amongst Naturalists, and they have been placed in the same manner as those of the Elephant. It gives me pleasure to state, that I can settle this question—for in the head I have discovered, I found a tusk firmly implanted in the socket, and had it conveyed with great care to my Museum, but owing to the ignorance and carelessness of a labourer, in carrying it up stairs, it was broken off, but its position can be proved by a number of gentlemen of the highest respectability. The tusks are not situated in the same position as those of the Elephant, or yet the Moose, as was supposed by some. They diverge outwards from the head with the convexity forward, and the point turning backwards in the same plane with the head; the tusk found in the head measures ten feet, one inch, from the base to the tip, following the outside of the curvature, and two feet in circumference near the socket. The other tusk measures only nine feet—part of the roof is wanting. When placed in the head in their original position, the distance from tip to tip measures sixteen feet. I may add, that it required two stout men to carry the largest tusk, and two yoke of oxen to carry the head and tusks from the place of disinterment to the Museum.

A. KOCH,
Proprietor of the St. Louis Museum.

From the German of Krummacher.

ADAM AND THE CHERUB OF PARADISE.

As Abel lay in his blood, and Adam near the slaughtered one stood and wept, there came the Cherub of Paradise to the father of the human race, and stood silently by his side, and his countenance was mournful and sad. But Adam raised his head and said—

‘Is this a type of the race that shall spring from me? and shall ever the blood of brethren, shed by the hand of brethren, stain the earth?’

The Cherub answered, ‘Thou say’st!’

‘Ah! by what name shall men call this terrible deed?’ said Adam.

With a tear in his eye, the heavenly visitant answered, ‘WAR!’ Then shuddered the father of mankind, as he sighed, and said, ‘Ah! why must then the noble-hearted and the good fall by the hand of the unjust?’

The Cherub was silent!

But Adam, still more sorrowfully, mourned, and said, ‘What consolation now remains for me, in my lamentation for the blood-stained earth!’

The Cherub answered, and said—‘Thy glance towards Heaven!’ He vanished.

Adam stood until the sunset; and as the stars shot up into the sky, he stretched his arm upwards toward Orion and the Wain, and exclaimed—‘O ye glistening watchers at the portals of Heaven! why walk ye on so silently? If it be permitted for mortal to hear the sound of your voice, O tell of the Silent Land above, and of Abel my loved one!’

Yet was it more silent than ever all around him; and Adam cast himself upon his face and adored, and then rushed into his soul a gentle whisper,—‘Lo! Abel, thy son, liveth!’

Thence went he forth in trustful hope and his soul was calm, and full of mournful joy.

THE CONDEMNED.

Sketch of a visit to Buchanan, who was lately executed in St. Louis, for the murder of Brown. He was a native of Princeton, and was brought up in the family of Judge Bayard. At the age 25 he engaged as a bar-keeper in Philadelphia, before that he hardly knew what liquor was. In April, 1838, he came to St. Louis, and kept bar at the Old Dominion. In this business he became intemperate and killed a friend and companion.

‘I was intoxicated,’ said he, ‘but not drunk. If I hadn’t been intoxicated, and engaged in that business, I would never have been here. Since I have been a bar-keeper, I have often had serious reflections, and was afraid I should lose my soul. I never

attempted to pray, because I knew it would be making a mock of it, till I could give up selling and drinking. A man cannot be religious to be in that business, because he knows he is injuring his fellow men as well as himself. I knew all the time I was about it that I was injuring my fellow men, and making their families miserable. O! I have seen enough of that in my time. I have often had bad feelings when I saw men to whom I sold, going home to their families. But these feelings would soon pass away. My mother often wanted me to leave off selling liquor, and follow my trade. As I am now to die, I am anxious to do all I can for those I leave behind. And I should like to warn all sellers against the influence of their business, and I hope my example may be a warning to them. I would warn all young men against drinking. From what I have seen and experienced during the last nine years, I am convinced that no man can sip a little occasionally without becoming a drunkard. I have seen a great many respectable men begin in this way and not stop till they had ruined their fortunes, and their health, and lost their lives. I have seen a great many families in comfortable circumstances, reduced to poverty and perfect wretchedness by my business, and now I deeply regret that I have in any degree contributed to it. There is no safety any where but in letting liquor alone entirely. When I lived with Esquire Bayard, I lived happy in those days. O! if I had but attended to the faithful instructions I received while in that godly family, and in Sabbath School, I might have been a respectable and useful man, and a comfort to my aged mother in her declining years.—*Missouri Herald.*

[This is indeed a melancholy example to the great number of respectable young men, who sacrifice their youth—the most important of their lives as clerks in establishments engaged in this poisonous traffic.]—*N. Y. paper.*

HOUSE FURNISHING.

To fit up a house well—to make it at once elegant and comfortable, requires no slight effort of judgment—nay, of genius even. The mind which can perform this work perfectly, might compose a picture or originate a poem. The ideality, taste and power of creation requisite for the one, is also necessary to the other. Comfort is to be blended with beauty, the useful and the ornamental are to be combined. In short, a well arranged room is a proof of high refinement in its possessor. A fine eye for colour, a knowledge of light and shadow, of distances and of grouping, are as essential to its completion, as they are to the landscape or to the historical picture.—The cabinet-maker, the upholsterer, the painter, and the glazier, may all exhaust their skill without producing the desired effect. A master mind is necessary to regulate the task of each, to see that their separate labours blend into graceful keeping—that the colours on the wall harmonize with the carpet and the window drapery—that pictures—for we can scarcely conceive of a well furnished house without them—have the exact degree of light, which will best throw out their beauties, and are appropriate in subject and size to the apartment—that an article of ornament or use, is arranged with a reference to its effect on others. If fitness and symmetry are preserved, one can afford to be in a degree independent of the prevailing style. Just proportion, chaste workmanship, and one object in quiet and graceful keeping with another, will never be out of fashion to those who can appreciate true beauty.

A room usefully and gracefully furnished is indeed of itself a picture, one of the sweetest and dearest to the tired business man when he finds it lighted up for his reception; when a family of cheerful, affectionate beings are grouped within it, with lips that dimple into smiles, and eyes that grow brighter as his step is heard on the stairs; when the music of happy voices greets his appearance, and all around is bright, beautiful and rich, with a promise of comfort and repose.—*Am. pap.*

DISCOVERIES IN THE MOON.—Whether it may be possible to discover the inhabitants of the moon is a question, which has sometimes been agitated. To such a question I have no hesitation in replying, that it is highly improbable that we shall ever obtain a direct view of any living being connected with the moon, by means of any telescopes which it is in the power of man to construct. The greatest magnifying power which has ever been applied with distinctness to the moon, does not exceed a thousand times; that is, makes the objects in the moon appear a thousand times larger and nearer than the naked eye. But even a power of a thousand times represents the objects on the lunar surface at a distance of two hundred and forty miles, at which distance no living beings, although they were the size of kraken, could be perceived. Even although we could apply a power of ten thousand times, lunar objects would still appear at twenty-five miles distance; and at such distance, no animal, even of the size of an elephant, or whale, could be discerned. Besides, we must remember, that we have only a bird’s eye view of the objects in the moon, and consequently, supposing any beings resembling man to exist in the orb, we could only perceive the diameter of their heads, as an aeronaut does when he surveys the crowds beneath him from an elevated balloon. Kay thought it were possible to construct a telescope with power of one hundred thousand times, which would cause the moon to appear as if only two and a half miles distant, it is doubtful if even with such an instrument, living objects could be perceived.—*Dr. Dick.*

THE PEARL.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 30.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.—The British Queen, Steamer, has furnished English dates, by way of New York, to May 1.

The progress of the Halifax Atlantic Steamers, is reported. The London Spectator says, ‘They are, perhaps, the finest steamers yet constructed.’ The Unicorn, which is expected daily, is said to be 700 tons and 300 horse power, and is intended as a branch packet on the Boston line. Preparations are made in Canada, to continue the line up the great lakes.

Nothing decisive appears respecting the Boundary Question, but instructions in furtherance of its settlement seem to have been transmitted.

Many endeavours are made at Home, to induce large bodies of the labouring population to emigrate to the British Colonies, particularly Canada. The Highlanders of Scotland appear most forward in this work, and several thousand of the hardy mountaineers are expected to bid a final adieu to the romantic land of their nativity, seeking for new homes on the other side of the Atlantic.

An Anti-Slavery Conference is to commence its sittings, in London, early in June. Much interest is expected to result from this rallying in the cause of humanity, in the metropolis of the world of civilization.

British Merchants are equipping two vessels, for a voyage of discovery to the Antarctic regions.

Meetings had been held in London and Bristol, against the threatened war with China. This is creditable to the British character. If some are shamefully ready to infringe the laws of justice and morality, in the cause of money-making, others should present a formidable and fearless front in support of those principles which should never be violated. It is expected that Ministers will be so assailed, in both Commons and Lords, that they will allow the Opium war to subside, and permit the Emperor of China to enact such regulations as he shall see fit, for the suppression of a most demoralizing species of illicit trade.—Men talk about the shortness of earthly existence, and the importance of eternal considerations,—but they act as if eternity consisted in making, a momentary accumulation of the wealth which perishes in the using.

Nothing decisive appears respecting the affairs of Turkey and Egypt. Mehemet Ali refuses to permit the departure of the Turkish fleet, and seems to take high ground in his notions of independence, both as regards the Sultan, and the European powers.

Russia continued embroiled in contests with Circassia and Chiva. She was unsuccessful in both. The English Government, it is said, have offered a check, as regards Chiva, and have informed the autocrat, that if he persists, British troops, from India, will make corresponding movements on the river Oxus.

War with Naples, concerning some commercial regulations, seemed on the eve of bursting forth,—but the intervention of France, it is said, has allayed the danger.

ADMIRALTY.—In last and preceding numbers of the Pearl, paragraphs appeared, respecting a case in the Court of Admiralty. In last Journal is a statement signed by Mr. Slayter, setting forth the foundation for the remarks which previously appeared, although not calling in question the explanations of the Judge as regards the proceedings of the Court. By Mr. Slayter’s statement, which cannot be doubted, the following facts are substantiated: that the Plaintiff gave a release for all money due him, and for any ill usage received on board the Syren,—that a warrant was issued against the Defendant, and he was lodged in jail,—that the U. S. Consul had been informed by the Registrar of the Court, that Defendant should employ a Proctor, at the expense of some pounds, for the purpose of addressing the Judge on the subject of his release,—and that Plaintiff acknowledged the charge to be a frivolous one.

We got, accidentally, into this question, and have no wish to continue in so delicate a matter.

THE WOODS.—Several fires were raging in the woods in the vicinity of the Town, during the week. On Tuesday, a cloud of smoke, from these causes, obscured the sun, and hung for hours, portentously, over our dwellings. On the same evening a person reckoned nine fires burning on the lands which surround the Basin, while others were visible on the southern side of the arm, and on the Dartmouth side of the harbour. Much evil must have been caused by these conflagrations, in destroying fences and other rural erections, and stuff for hoops and staves,—in sweeping valuable timber off ground which is not fit for cultivation,—and in blasting the scenery, in parts where the rocks and the black ram-pikes will now appear, in place of the verdant and aromatic forest, and where the plough cannot make amends for the loss of sylvan beauty. All this is to be regretted,—on the latter, as well as the former, considerations: If the foliage which gives beauty to a rocky soil be removed, deformity will be the result,—and every man with perceptions above those of the brute must feel an interest in the scenic beauty of a country, as well as in its agricultural capabilities. Those conflagrations may be caused accidentally, or by parties burning brush wood carelessly, or by incendiaries who apply the fire in sport, reckless how it may spread.—It might not be too much to wish, that some steps should be taken to punish those who should be detected