

# PROF. CAMPBELL THE HITTITES THEIR INSCRIPTIONS AND HISTORY.

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A block of coal, believed to be the largest ever mined in this country, was taken out of a mine at Roslyn, Wash., several days ago. It is 24 feet long, 5 feet 8 inches wide, 4 feet 8 inches high, and weighs 41,000 pounds. It is, perhaps, the largest lump ever mined in the world, as it is larger than the block England is sending to the Chicago Fair, as a prize specimen.—New York Sun.

The magnificent telescope which was in position at the Warner Observatory, at Rochester, N. Y., has been removed from its position, and it is more than probable that astronomical observations will never again be taken from that point. The observatory was established ten years ago, by H. H. Warner, who made an assignment recently, and was in charge of Prof. Lewis Swift, an astronomer of world-wide repute.—Indianapolis Times.

When Manitoba is pronounced Indian fashion, with an explosive accent on the last syllable, it is plainly enough in part an onomatopoeia, or word expressing its sense by its sound. It means "breath of God," 'Manitou' being God, and 'ba,' breath. As properly pronounced the last syllable is simply a sudden expulsion of breath, such as must have seemed to the savages, who first employed the name, as accurately expressive of their meaning.—New York Sun.

Mr. Anagnos, of the Perkins Institute, accounts for Helen Keller's "faultlessly sweet and pure English" by the fact that this remarkable child has had no opportunity to form acquaintance with any other than lofty models of the language. Helen has learned to articulate, and recently, at the National College for the Deaf, recited Longfellow's Psalm of Life. One of Helen's admirers is the Queen of Greece, who learned to know her through the letters written by Helen to Mr. Anagnos, when he was visiting that country.

The fact that two ideal Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, do not contain the eleven verses which conclude the Gospel of Mark, as found in our Testaments, together with other facts of similar significance, have given scholars grounds for the opinion that these verses did not form a part of the works originally written. They are usually regarded as an editorial note by a later hand. That they could not have been added at a time much subsequent to the apostolic period, seems probable, from the fact that they are found in Tatian's "Diatessaron, or Harmony," an Arabic version of which was discovered in manuscript in 1888. Tatian's period is placed between A. D. 112 and A. D. 180.—Rev. I. M. Atwood, in the Universalist.

## PUBLIC OPINION.

Halifax Chronicle: It is easy to blame politicians and political parties for not grappling with the prohibition question and making it a distinct political issue. They are but human and cannot be blamed very much if they make sure of their ground before taking up that or any other kindred question as a political issue, especially when they know that the majority of professed temperance advocates are party men first and prohibitionists second. If the temperance people expect their parliamentary representatives to have backbone they should exhibit the possession of that desideratum themselves.

Manitoba Free Press: Our quarrel is with the Northern Pacific, not with the Canadian Pacific; with the Northern Pacific, and the Government that made its swindling bargain with it. It only argues gross stupidity or impudence to affect to shut our eyes to the truth of this. What did we pay our half million and odd to that road for? Was it merely to assist the Northern Pacific to extend its system into Manitoba, or was it to get relief from burdensome freight rates? We all know it was the latter. There was an express stipulation that in consideration of our bonus that road would come in and actively compete with the Canadian Pacific. That was the bargain as understood by the people. The road was given the money, and we know it has never competed. Yet Mr. Braithwaite exculpates the Northern Pacific, and lays the heavy weight of his displeasure on the Canadian road.

Ottawa Citizen: The Convocation of Canterbury has by a unanimous vote passed a resolution declaring that "the religion of Christ has nothing to fear from the reasonable and careful extension of the Sunday opening of libraries, art galleries, museums, and industrial exhibitions." The Convocation might have added Sunday street cars. It is a great trial to many persons who have to go long distances to church on hot days in summer, especially mothers who have to trail little ones alongside them. It is also a misfortune for mechanics and labourers to have no means of getting to the suburbs and enjoying a change of scene, with the refreshing sight of green fields and shady woods, on the only day when they have leisure. The Convocation of Canterbury are evidently free from superstition upon the subject of Sabbath observance, and as superstition recedes more reasonable views prevail. If these clerical dignitaries ever heard of the "entering wedge" argument they do not seem to have been much struck by it.

Montreal Star: There are at least three things that a reciprocity treaty must not do. 1. It must not endanger our political existence. 2. It must not deprive us of the practical control of our own tariff; and 3. It must not discourage the growth of our trade with Britain. The theories upon which these requirements are based, are that our political individuality is worth preserving, and that our trade with Britain is the most valuable part of our commerce. If this country is forced to make a choice between its trade with the United States and its trade with Britain—as it was by the Unrestricted Reciprocity scheme—there should and would be no hesitation in keeping hold on the central market of the world in which the Americans themselves are most eager to win a place. In such a case, our choice would lie between being servants of or competitors with the Americans. Still a reciprocity treaty can be framed—in theory at least—that will ask none of these sacrifices on our part, and will serve simply to increase our mutual trade.

Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil.—Milton.

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