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## THE CLIFF DWELLERS.

VISITORS to the World's Fair in Chicago will remember a very interesting exhibit near the Anthropological building, illustrating the habits and customs of the Cliff Dwellers. Their method of building their houses on the ledges of precipices and platforms of rock was shown, and many of their productions were exhibited. Those who had not the good fortune to attend this great Exposition may be interested in knowing something of these strange people who lived in pre-historic times.

At one point in the adjoining Republic, four of the States come together at right-angled corners. Colorado, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico thus meet. Near this little known and little traversed district the relics of the Cliff Dwellers are to be found. It is a region, for the most part bare, brown, and desolate, thrown here and there into wild relief by barren ridges and mountain peaks. All over this country you will find the ruined homes of the forgotten people. You will find them hundreds of miles from the white man's dwellings, or the red man's haunts. Sometimes on the high plateaus, sometimes in broad valleys, sometimes hung along the crags of well-nigh inaccessible canyons, or perched in dizzy security atop of some gigantic rock which rises sheer and solitary above the plain. Some of the ruins are only crumbled piles of stone, half covered with sand or overgrown with grass and bushes and trees. Some of them have walls, and often several storied, still upright and firm or partly fallen in.

Along the walls of the canyons, sometimes near the bottom, but more often far up their rugged sides where the rush of ancient streams has scooped out shelves or caverns from the softer rock, one may see, scarcely visible against the gray, bare surfaces, tiny stone boxes edging sheer upon the face of the cliff, or a series of these more conspicuous and strung along on various levels.

The delver among the ruins is continually impressed by the wonderful preservation of things of the most delicate texture, things which in most climates would have speedily rotted, and crumbled, such as fabrics and feathers, and corn husks, and the tassels of corn. The climate of these regions is so very dry, and the remnants of household articles have been so absolutely protected from rain and snow in the deep recesses of the great caverns in the cliffs where the houses are, that the usual disintegrating processes of time have been here largely held in check.

The cliff man was skilled in masonry, for his houses were well built. They had tiny fire places in the corners of some of the little rooms. In others the fire was

in a pit in the floor in the centre. The smoke from the fires found its way out as best it could through holes in the ceilings. So the walls are often very black, and from some of them you can rub off the soot upon your hands to-day. But when the wall got too sooty a thin fresh layer of plaster was laid on over it.

Furniture there is no trace of, unless one reckons as such a low stone step or bench which runs around some of the larger rooms.

No trace of metal tools or utensils has ever been found in these ruins. The Cliff Dweller was a man of the stone age. He was no mean artisan, however, as may be seen by his stone arrow heads, and spear heads, by his stone axes and hammers, many of them with the wooden handle still tied firmly to them. He had knives made of chipped stone tied into the end of a stick and made fast with some sort of pitch.

He was a warrior. His houses are not only built in inaccessible and well protected places, but loop holes sloping toward the avenues of approach are used in the walls, and the doors have ample provision for closure by tightly fitting slabs of stone.

The pottery found in the Cliff houses is remarkable. It was all fashioned by the hands, for no tidings of the potter's wheel had ever reached these folks, and their skill in the management of clay justly commands admiration. Some of the great jars, holding several gallons, are scarcely one-eighth of an inch thick—of excellent shape and symmetry, and when struck ring like a bell.

The forms of pottery are various. There are bowls of many shapes and sizes, usually decorated on the inside only, but sometimes on the outside too. There are long jars and short jars, some with wide and some with narrow mouths. There are vases, pitchers, cups, lales platters, sieves, mugs, and bottles, and many other queer shaped things that it would be difficult to mention.

Baskets and mats showing considerable variety in the weaving have been found.

What induced these people to build their dwellings in these almost inaccessible heights, has never been satisfactorily explained. It is thought, however, that they did so for the purpose of more successfully defending themselves against their enemies, the various tribes of Indians. What became of them no one can tell. They have, long since, become extinct.

Tourists now wander among the deserted ruins of their strange houses, and study the character of the people who lived in them by the relics that may be found.

## Christian Science in Trouble.—

Christian Science is having a disturbing experience in the courts in various parts of the country, and on a variety of charges. Among their offences is the refusal of some of these so-called scientists who deny the existence of disease to placard their houses when either real or imaginary scarlet fever and other contagious diseases attack their families. Whatever they think as to the existence of disease, they are learning that the strong arm of the law is not a myth.

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## Diffusion of Knowledge.—

In a recent address, Rev. A. B. Leonard, D.D., gave the following cheering information: When the nineteenth century came the Bible was printed in sixty-six languages. Now it is printed in more than four hundred. It is now printed in languages spoken by twelve hundred million people, and these are the leading languages of the world. Only about three hundred million of the people of this world do not have the Bible in the languages they speak, but these languages are being carefully studied and will be conquered at no distant day. Since the year 1800 the several Bible societies of the world have published and distributed two hundred and eighty million Bibles, Testaments, and parts of the scripture. The Protestant Churches, I fear, are losing sight of the great work that is being done for the cause of missions through Bible societies. The greatest agency to-day for the evangelization of the world is the Bible, and we are dependent largely upon the Bible societies for its publication and distribution.

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## An Amazing Work.—

President Booker T. Washington, in bringing to a close his autobiography, which has been running in serial chapters through the *Outlook*, summarizes the growth of his institution, the Tuskegee Industrial Institute, which he founded twenty years ago, without a dollar's worth of property, and with but one teacher and thirty students. There are now eleven hundred students; twenty-eight industrial departments, besides the facilities for academic and religious training; forty buildings and twenty-three hundred acres of land, the whole plant being worth \$300,000; an endowment fund of \$188,000, and the annual expenses aggregate \$80,000. Three thousand men and women who have received their equipment for their life-work at Tuskegee are now engaged, in various parts of the South, in the task of elevating their race. Each graduate, wherever he may go, becomes a nucleus of economical habits, industry, self-respect, and intelligence. The story of this school, taken in connection with Booker T. Washington's struggles and achievements, is most inspiring.