

# PLEASANT HOURS

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK

ENLARGED SERIES.—VOL. V.

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## THE WONDERS OF THE YELLOWSTONE.

BISHOP FOSS, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in a letter to the *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, of Sept. 12, 1883, writes thus of the Yellowstone Park:

"Nowhere else on the face of the earth can there be found such a multitude and variety of natural wonders, and especially such abundant evidences of intensely heated subterranean waters. The eye of the tourist is arrested, delighted and startled in turn by grand mountains flecked with perpetual snow, and radiant with strange varieties of colour; lovely lakes; roaring torrents, the greenest of green and the bluest of blue; towering precipices, immense gulches and canons, cliffs and volcanic glass, mighty cataracts, verdant valleys, seething pots of many-coloured mud; boiling springs—many hundreds of them—of every conceivable variety, some of them large, steaming lakes of wondrously transparent depth, and of indescribable richness of colouring, emerald, turquoise, topaz, prismatic; appalling caldrons, roaring steam vents; above all, genuine geysers of every size, form, and period of eruption, including much the largest known in any land.

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"By far the largest collection of geysers is in the Upper Geyser Basin, fifty miles south from the Mammoth Hot Spring. Here, in a narrow valley two miles long, are geysers far surpassing in number and in size those of Iceland, New Zealand, or any other part



THE GIANT GEYSER, YELLOWSTONE PARK.

of the world. Some of their names are very suggestive. Old Faithful, the Bee Hive, Castle, Splendid, Grand, Giantess, Giant, Lion, Lioness and Cubs, the Saw Mill, Comet, Riverside, Fan. Some of them have built up sloping mounds covering many acres, and capped with cones from four to twenty feet high. Their periods of eruption vary from a few seconds to fifteen days or longer; their height, from a few yards to 300 feet; their volume, from an amusing spray to an awful flood. Some are steaming, sizzling, boiling, roaring or groaning constantly others, entirely quiet until just before eruption. The first large geyser I saw in action was Old Faithful, and as its stately column rose to a height of 150 feet, this deep impression thrilled me: 'Great and marvelous are thy works, O Lord God Almighty.'

Among the most attractive features of the *Methodist Magazine* for 1886 will be a series of illustrated articles by ex-Alderman John T. Moore, Esq., of Toronto, the Rev. Dr. Sutherland's companion in travel across the continent to British Columbia and Alaska. These papers will give an account, with nearly fifty magnificent pictorial illustrations of these geysers and of the Yellowstone, and the magnificent scenery of the Rockies and the Pacific Coast. See advertisement on last page of other attractions of the forthcoming volume. Write to Rev. Wm. Biggs, Toronto, for special rates to Sunday-schools

GROWTH is obedience to command.