

There is a reciprocal action between the interest which the teacher takes and that which he communicates.

If he is not, with his whole mind, present at the subject—if he does not care whether it is understood or not, whether his manner is liked or not—he will never fail of alienating the affections of his pupils and rendering them indifferent to what he says.

But real interest taken in the task of instruction—kind words, and kinder feelings, the expression of the features and the glance of the eye—are never lost upon children.—*Brooklyn Journal of Education.*

A Remarkable Cavern.

Professor Andrews, of this city, and a member of the State Geological Board, in company with Judge Silas H. Wright, recently visited the famous Ash Cave, in the southern part of Hocking County, for the purpose of exploration and archaeological research, and were richly rewarded for their long and toilsome trip, in the discoveries made and relics secured.

The country round about Ash Cave is extremely wild and mountainous, almost wholly unfit for agricultural pursuits, as the soil is thin, sterile and covered with ragged rocks and a scraggy growth of evergreens. There are numerous caverns, and subterranean retreats in the vicinity, but none nearly so large nor remarkable in gloomy and mysterious aspect as Ash Cave. This is a cavern of enormous dimensions, and receives its name from a large bed of ashes, fully one hundred and twenty-five feet in length and from thirty to thirty-five feet in breadth, which lies at the base of a ragged, rocky and perpendicular cliff, and in immediate juxtaposition with the cavern. The cave itself is a mammoth one, although not extending very far back into the bowels of the earth, but where the black, frowning, age-begrimmed rocks loom up at least one hundred and fifty feet high, and project out half that distance from a sheltered place of sufficient dimensions to comfortably accommodate several regiment of soldiers, at the same time making a picture of wild sublimity.

The bed of ashes spoken of presented the same appearance sixty-five years ago, when this secluded spot was first penetrated, that it does now, and how they ever came, and who brought them into existence, is a problem too profound for solution by either scientist or historian, being probably the work of the mound-builders, or some other prehistoric race. They are well-protected from the rains and inclement weather by the over-topping rocks, and are dry as powder, of a bluish white, lustrous color, and strong in the elements of potassium, which made Ash Cave a great rendezvous for soap-makers in the days of the early settlements.

There are many lugubrious incidents connected with the place, that have been handed down from generation to generation, through cobwebby tradition, that have enshrouded the neighborhood in weirdness and gloom, and it is seldom visited save by the ambitious explorer or reckless picnicker. One old story is to the effect that the cave was the burial place of a tribe of gigantic men, who had existence long prior to Sitting Bull's ancestors, who disposed of their dead by cremation. What truth there is in this tale is commensurate with the credulity of its hearers.

Professor Andrews and Judge Wright spent a

whole day with their explorations in and about the cave. After a careful examination of the strata they dug a trench, about four yards long, and about two in width, in the middle of the ash-bed to see what depth it ran and what its nature was beneath the surface. For a foot they dug through pure ashes, when they reached a strata of about fourteen inches in thickness, made up of decayed and petrified vegetable matter, intermixed with charcoal, siliceous arrowheads, animal bones and broken pottery. Immediately under this deposit they found the dessicated skeleton of a human being. He had been entombed in a sitting posture in a mausoleum of sandstone, and surrounded by the thickness of a foot or more with dry ash similar to those found on the surface. Close to the skeleton, in a hole scooped out of the granitic rock, was found over a bushel of tiny black seeds, somewhat similar to flax, but infinitely smaller. Also the valuable relics were carefully gathered up, preserved, and Professor Andrews has forwarded a quantity of ashes and the unknown seed to the Peabody Institute in Massachusetts for analysis and exhibition.

Further search was made, other excavations made, and although no more skeletons rewarded their labors, a number of curious utensils of flint, bone and clay, were found. Among the bone implements unearched were three or four stone shaped concerns, instruments probably used in the manufacture of clothing, and so forth. No earthenware was found only in small fragments and no conception can be formed of their original shape or design.

Professor Andrews intends to visit Ash Cave again at an early day, and more thoroughly explore the whole region, and his efforts doubtless result in some very important and valuable discoveries, especially to geologists and archaeologists.

Chronology of some Importance.

Maps, globes and dials were first invented by Anaximander, in the sixth century before Christian era. They were first brought into England by Bartholomew Columbus, in 1489.

Comedy and tragedy were first exhibited at Athens, 562 years B. C.

Plays were first acted at Rome, 239 B. C.

The first public library was founded at Athens, 526 B. C.

The first public library was founded at Alexandria, 167 B. C.

The first public library was founded at Alexandria, 284 A. D.

Paper was invented in China, 170 B. C.

The calendar was reformed by Julius Caesar, 45 B. C.

Insurance on ships and merchandise first made in A. D. 43.

Saddles came into use in the fourth century.

Horse-shoes made of iron were first made in A. D. 481.

Stirrups were not made till a century later.

Manufacture of silk brought from India to Europe, 551 A. D.

Stone buildings and glass introduced into England, 674 A. D.

Pens first made of quills, D. A. 635.

Pleadings in courts of judicature introduced in D. 788.