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## THE CANADIAN JOURNAL.

## NEW SERIES.

No. XXIII.-SEPTEMBER, 1859.

## NOTES ON LATIN INSCRIPTIONS FOUND IN BRITAIN.

PARTIT.


#### Abstract

BY THE REV. JOHN $35^{\circ} O A D L$, LLID., PRESIDENT OF UNIVBISITY COLLEGE, TORONTO.


Read before the Canadian Institute, 26th March, 1859.
12. In the year 1752, some grave-stones* were dug up near Wroxeter, the ancient Urioconium, $\dagger$ on one of which were three panels, two bearing inscriptions and the third left vacant. According to the copy in Gough's Camden, $\ddagger$ Vol. iii. pl. 1, fig. 5 , these inscriptions stand thus:-

| $D M$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| PLACIDA | D M |
| AEV LV | DEVCV |
| CVR AG | SANXV |
| CONIA | RAB'G |
| XXX |  |

[^0]The following notice of this slab is given by Mr. Wright, in "the Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon," p. 321 :-
"A monument found at Wroxeter (Uriconium) meations an office, the exact character of which seems to be doubtful, thongh the curator agrorum or agrarius, may have theen the overseer, or bailiff, of the town lands. The monument consists of a tablet in three columns or compartments; that in the middle contains an inscription to the officer; the one on the left has an inscription to the wife; the other is blank, and it has either been left so for $\mathfrak{a}$ son, or has become erased. The central inscription is:-

| $D \cdot M$ | To the gods of the shades. |
| :---: | :--- |
| DEVCCV | Deuccns |
| S.V.AN•XV | lived fifteen (?) years, |
| CVR•AG | be was overseer of the lands |
| RA TRE | of Trebonius. (?) |

"The number of years is perbaps not correctly read from the stone, which seems to be in bad condition. The others inscription is:-

| D.M | To the gods of the shades. |
| :---: | :--- |
| PLACIDA | Placida |
| AN•LV | lived fifty-five years, |
| CVR•AG | of the overseer of the lands |
| CON•IA | she was the wife |
| XXX | thirly years." |

Independently of the objections, that there is no authority for the office of curator agrorum, and that no account is taken of $A$ in the 5th line of the central inscription, I am unable to perceive any grounds for passing over the obvious interpretation of CVR•AG scil. cur[am] ag[ente]. The form is found in many sepulchral inscriptions; and on p. 315 of Mr. Wright's work we have an example :-
CVRA[M] AGENTE
AMANDA
CONIVGE.

RATRE is evidently either FRATRE, the F and $R$ being ligulate, or PATRE, the $P$ having been mistaken for $R$.

In an able and timely* summary of information relative to Urioco nium by the Rev. H. M. Scarth, of Bath, which has recently been published in the Journal of the Archcological Institute, this with

[^1]the other inseriptions found at Wrozeter is given, and PATRE is adopted as the true reading of the word in the fifth line, but the letter which follows $A$ in the 4th line is read $C$ instead of $G$. In the other inscription on this tablet, the I of the fifth line is read by Mr . Scarth as J , and the A in the same line is omitted, whilst the three marks XXX at the bottom are regarded as "more probably merely an ornament, like a leaf introduced at the end of the next inscription." Adopting his readings, with the exceptions of $\mathbb{C}$ for $G$ and $J$ for I, I would give the inscriptions in extenso, thus:-

| $\mathrm{D} \cdot \mathrm{M}$ | D[iis] M[anibus]; |
| :---: | :---: |
| PLACIDA | Placida, |
| AN•LV | an [norum] LV, |
| CVR-AG | $\operatorname{cur}[\mathrm{am}] \mathrm{ag}$ [ente] |
| CONI | conj[uge]. |
| $\mathrm{D} \cdot \mathrm{M}$ | D[iis] M[anibus]; |
| DEVCCV | Deuccu- |
| $\mathrm{S} \cdot \mathrm{AN} \cdot \mathrm{XV}$ | s, an[norum] XV, |
| CVR.AG | cur [am] ag[ente] |
| Patre | patre. |

If A and XXX be retained in the first inscription, I would expand the contractions in the 5th and 6th lines, thus:-

| CONI A. | conjuge annorum <br> triginta. |
| :---: | :--- |

i.e., her husband for thirty years.

We have a similar construction in Maffei, Mruseum Deronense, 152, 6:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { C. CASSIVS. } \mathrm{CF} \\
\text { VESPA } \\
\text { MANLIA. T•F } \\
\text { REPENTINA } \\
\text { VXORAN•XXX. }
\end{gathered}
$$

It only remains to add, that I concur in Mr. Scarth's opinion, that the vacant panel was left by the father of Deuccus and the husband of Placida "for his own name and age at his decease."*

[^2]13. On another of these gravestones is the following inscription:

| O MANNIVS | C[aius] Mannius, |
| :---: | :--- |
| CF POL SECV | C[aii] f[ilius], Pol[lia]tribu, Secu- |
| NDVS POLLEN | ndus, Pollen[tia], |
| MIL LEG XX | mil[es] leg[ionis] XX, |
| ANORVLII | an[n]oru[m] LII, |
| STIP XXXI | stip [endiorum] XXXI, |
| BEN LEG PR | ben[eficiarius] leg[ati] pr[incipalis]s |
| H SE | [hic] [situs] e[st]. |

Mr. Scarth remarks, that thris inscription " may be thus rendered: -Caius Mannius Secundus,* son of Caius, of Polleatum, a soldier of the twentieth legion, aged 52 years; laving served 31 years in the legion and being the beneficiary of the principal legate. He resty here."
i
Of this rendering I would suggest the following emendations:the insertion of the words " of the Pollian tribe" after "son of Caius," "Pollentia" for "Pollenturm," and "principai† beneficiary of the legate" for "beneficiary of the principal legate." As to the first of these, it is plain that the words proposed to be inserted were inadrertently omitted. The sabstitution of Pollentia for Pollentuns is recommended by the consideration, that there were three ancient towns so called,-one in Liguria, another in Picenum, and a third in the Balearic isles ; whilst there is no authority, so far as I am atware, for Pollentarm. In the follorring inscription found at Zurzach ins Switzerland, (Orelli, n. 455,) we have the name almost complete:-

```
....GIACVS
    POLTASVFERR
PO . . ENTITA MILES
TEG·XICC.P:TT TALNE
MAXIMI ANNORV
XXXV:STLP . . 
```

[^3]'The third emendation is confirmed by reference to Orelli, n. 3461, where we have PRLNCIPALIS BENEFLCIARIVS IRRIBVNI, and Henzen, n. 6791, where we find PBP for principalis beneficiarius prefeieti; but in consequence of the collocation of the abbreviations in this inscription, it is doubtful whether we should not here read, Beneficiarius legionis prafecti.
14. A third stone bore the following inscription :

| M PEILEONIVS | M[arcus] Petronius,* |
| :--- | :--- |
| L FE MEN | L[ucii] f[ilius], Men[euia] tribu, |
| VIC ANN | vix[it] [ann[is]. |
| XXXVIII | XXXVIII, |
| MII LEG | mil[es] leg[ionis] |
| XIIII GEM | XIV gem[inæ], |
| MILITAVIT | militavit |
| ANN XVIII | ann[is] XVIII, |
| SIGN FVIT | Signifer] fuit, |
| H S E | h[ic] s[itus] e[st]. |

Mr. Scarth notices the ingenious corijecture of a friend :-


#### Abstract

"That Petronius was a bearer of one of the Signa of the fourteenth legion in the famous victory over Boadicea, A.D. 61. This legion arrived in Britain in A.D. 43, when Petronius being only twenty years old was a Miles gregarius, and subsequently for his valour, perbaps under Ostorius Scapula, raised to the rank of Signifer. It could not have been much Inter, for in A.D. 68 the fourteenth legion was quartered in Dalmatia, (Tacitus.) He may have died in consequence of his. wounds in the year 61."


It is manifestly impossible to prove the truth of this conjecture, for the fourteenth legion, after their recal from the island under Nero, were sent back in the year 69, and Petronius may have come with them then and died before they were again recalled in the year 70. The conjecture, however, is countenanced by the coincidence, that his period of service, viz.: 18 years, is the same as the intreval between the first arrival of the legion in A.D. 43 , and the battle in A.D. 61. But how shall we account for his burial at Urioconium? We have no evidence that the fourteenth legion was ever stationed:

[^4]there, and it is far distant from the scene of the battle, which probably took place not far from London. Can it have been thet the fourteenth legion was with Suctonius when he crossed over to Mona (Anglesey), and that on his hurried march back from Wales, Petronius was killed, or died of fatigue, at or near Urioconium, by which route it is probable that Suetonius proceeded to London? But it is scarcely worth while to divell on conjectures formed on such slight foundations; it is more important to observe that this inscription is the only extant British memorial of the "domitores Britannio."*
15. Of the many inscriptions found at Risingham, (the ancient name of which is supposed to have been Habitancum, $\dagger$ one of the most interesting is an ornamented slab, six feet in lengthhaving an inscription which it is more than usually difficult to decipher in consequence of the great number of ligulate letters, and the injuries which the stone has sustained It is figured in Dr. Bruce's Roman Wall, p. 287, and in Dr. Surridge's Notices of Roman In-

[^5]soriptions in Northumberland, plate iii.; but the first of these is indistinct from the smallness of the scale: and the second is disfigured by the introduction of absur ${ }^{\text {a }}$ conjectures.* The following is the reading given in the Monumenta Historica Britannica, p. cxvi. $102 a$; and adopted by Henzen, n. 6701 :-

> COSIII ET M AVREL ANTONINO PIO COS II AVG * ** * PORTAM• CVM• MVRIS VETVSTATE DI LAPSIS IVSSV ALTEN SENECINIS VO COS CVIAANTE COL ANITI ADVENTO PRO AVGG NN C*I VANGON OPIS CVM AEMI SALVIAN TRIB SVO A SOLO RESTI.

At first sight it is plain, that the emperors, named in this inscription, are Severus and Caracalla, and that the defect in the third line, after COS II $A \nabla G$, was caused by the intentional obliteration of the name of Geta,-an erasure common in similar memorials of the period. Accordingly, Henzen restores the commencement with the formula: Impp. Caess. L. Sept. Severo pio pertinaci Aug. Arabico Adiabenico ParthICO MAXImo p. m. tr. pot. . . . and supplies the defect in the third line with et $P$. Sept. Geta nob. Caes. As there is no room in the first line for any addıtion after MAXI, Henzen's suggestion " mo p. m. tr. pot. . . "" must be rejected; but his reading in the fifth line, VC for VO, should, in my judgment, be adopted. Vide Canadian Journal for May, 1859, p. 178, where I have suggested a similar emendation is an inscriptiou also mentioning Alfenus Senecio. For COL in the sixth line, he proposes CL, i.e. Claudio; and O P F S he regards as the initials of the cognomina of the cohort, scil. 0 (for 8 or $\oplus$ ) miliaria; P, Pia; F, Fidelis; and S, Severiana; but he admits that there is no authority in inscriptions for any cognomen of this corps.

In the MINumenta FIistorica Britannica, the commencement is. restored by the words: $\ln n p p$. Ceess. L. Sever. Pio Pert. P, ML. Arab.

[^6]Parth, AdiabenICO,* and the defect in the third line is supplied by Et. P. Sopt. Geta nob. Cas, Cos. $\dagger$ In the Index Rerum et Nominum, p. cxlvi., viri consularis seems to be suggested as the explanation of VOCOS; and C. Antistio Advento as another reading of COLANITI ADVENTO.
From what has been stated, it is evident that the parts of the inscription as yet not satisfactorily explained, are the names COI ANITI, and the letters 0 PFS. It appears to me that the difficulties as to the first of these have arisen from mistaking $O$ for C , and vice-versa, i.e. reading COL for OCL; and from inverting the order of the first three letters in the ligulate group $\mathbb{N}$, i.e. reading NIT for TIN; for I have no doubt that the individual here named is the same Adventus who, some years afterwards, in A.D. 218, was Consul with the Emperor Macrinus. His nomen gentilicium is variously given ạs Coclatinus, Oclatinus, and Oclatinius. He is named in the following inscriptions:

VICTORIAE. REDVCIS •DD•NN

(Fabretti, p. 339, and Relandi Fast. Consul. p. 137.)

[^7]DEDIC • PR • ID • MART
IMP * $*$ AUG $\cdot \mathrm{COS}$

## ET

OCLATINIO ADVENTO
(Masson Hist. Crit. 6, p. 215, and Orelli, n. 945.)

DIANA<br>CARICIANA

## M AVRELIVS CARICVS

## AQVARIUS HVIVS LOC

CVM LIBERTIS ET ALUM
NIS

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{M} \cdot \mathrm{D} * * * \mathrm{D} \cdot \mathrm{AUG} \cdot \mathrm{ET} \\
\text { DEDIC } \cdot \text { IDIB } \cdot \mathrm{AVG} \cdot \\
\text { OCLATINO } \cdot \mathrm{ADVENTO} \cdot \mathrm{COS} .
\end{gathered}
$$

(Muratori, Nov. Thesaur, p. 354, n. 1; Vide also Henzen, ii. 6058, and Marini, Atti di Frat. Arvali, pp. 648-9.)

Muratori, in a-note on the last inseription, enquires whether the name should be read COCLATINVS or OCLATINUS, and decides in favour of the latter; but from the second inscription, compared with that on the Risingham tablet, I am :nclined to prefer OCLATINIVS. For other notices of this individual, compare Herodian, Hist. iv. 12 and 14; and Dio Cassius, Hist. 78, 14,* who was probably personally acquainted with him, as they were at the same time members of the Senate. Oclatinius Adventus was one of the most rema-kable men of his time. He entered the army as a common soldier, serving amongst the Speculatores and Exploratores, who werc held in very low estimation, especially as they had occasionally to discharge the

[^8]duty of executioners. Then he became successively a tabularius and cuthicularius, from which he was raised to the office of procurator. Subsequently to his serving. in England, he accompanied Caracalla in his Parthian expedition as colleague of Macrinus the prafectus prctorio, and was, I suspect, privy to the murder of the Emperor. After that, he was despatched by Macrinus to Rome, ad funus Caracalli ducendum as Reimar states in his note, but in reality to get rid of his pretensions as a rival aspirant to the imperial throne, for Adventus did not scruple to tell the soldiers, after the death of Caracalla, that the sovereignty properly devolved on him as the senior of Macrinus, but that in consideration of his advanced age he would give place to his junior. After his return to Rome he was in great favor with Macrinus, who elevated him to the rank of Senator, and to the office of Prafectus Trbis, a remarkable elevation, not only with a view to his antecedeuts, but also because at the time be was not of consular rank. Then he became consul with Macrinus, and after the death of that Emperor, in June 218, finished his year as colleague of Elagabalus.

Dio Cassus speaks of him very contemptuously, and derides his want of qualifications for the high positions to which he bad attained, but his career proves that he must have been a man of very uncommon ability.

This inscription confirms the accuracy of the historian as to his having held the office of procurator and disproves the conjecture of Reimar, that he had been procurator rei privata. I have already mentioned Henzen's conjecture as to O P FS; it is very ingenious, but must, I think, be rejected on the ground, that there is no authority for the application of any one of the designations, miliaria, pia, fidelis, or Severiana to the first cohort of the Vangiones. I interpret the letters OPES as the abbreviation of operibus perfectis, or fuctis,*-i.e., having executed or completed the works. We have a similar form of expression in Gruter, cxc.n.4: OPERIBUS AMPIIATIS RESTITVIT; and also in Morcelli, vol. ii. pp. 129 and 134. I am inclined to venture on the following restoration :

[^9]| IMPP - CAESS | [eratoribus] Cxs[aribus] |
| :---: | :---: |
| L-SEPT'SEVERO PIO | [ncio] Sept[imio] Severo Pio |
| PERTINACI AVG - ARABICO | - Pertinaci Aug[usto] Arabico |
| ADIABENICO Parthico maxi | - Adiabenico Parthico Maxi[mo] |
| COS IIT ET M•AVREL•ANTONINO PIO | - Consuli tertium et M[arco] Aurel[io] Antonino Pio |
| OSII AUG ET P SEPT GETAE $N \cdot C A$ | - COS ${ }^{\text {- Consuli sceundum }}$ Aug[usto] et |
|  | P[ublio] Sept[imio] Getre N[obilissimo $]$ |
|  | Cas[ari] consuli* |
| M CVM Muris vet | portan cum muris vetustate di |
| LaPSIS IVSSV ALFEN SENECINIS V•C | - lapsis jussu Alfen[i] Senecilo]nis .ri] C[larissimi] C[larissimi] |
| COS CURANTE OCLATINI ADVENTO PRO | Consularis curante Ociatini[0] Advento pro[curatore] |
| AUGG NN COH I VANGON OPFS | - Aug[ustorum] n[ostrorum] coh[ors] prima Vang[i]on[um] o[peribus] p[er] f[ecti]s |
| LVIAN TRIB | cum Xmi[lio] Salvian[0] tribfun |
| SVO 4 SOLO RESTI | suo a solo resti[tuit]. |

SVO $\triangle$ SOLO RESTI - - sno a solo resti[tuit].

## EARLY NOTICES OF THE BEAVER, IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

BX DANIEL WILSON, LL.D.,

Read before the Canadian Institute, 4 th December, 1858.
By common consent the beaver appears to have been recognised at a comparatively early date, as one of the most characteristic Canadian emblems, and it now shares with the maple-leaf such heraldic significance as pertains to our provincial cognizauce. It is scarcely necessary, however, to observe that meither an exclusively Canadian nor American nativity can be assumed for this animal. It is referred to in the laws of the ancient Britons under the name of Llosllydan y

[^10]befyr:* It had its name beofer, or befer, among our Anglo-Saxon ancestors also, centuries before the European discovery of this continent; and a designation more or less closely resembling this, is found in the elassic Latin, the Sclavonic, the Lithuanic, the Scandinavian, and Grermanic, and in the Romance Languages. The solitary exception to this uniformity of name appears to be the Greek $\chi$ áctop; but the reference to it, and to the special object of the hunter's chase, in the Fable of the Beaver, ascribed to Fsop, points to the secognition of some of its most highly esteemed virtues at a period of remote autiquity.

Sir Thomas Browne in nis "Enquiries into Vulgar Errors," discusses the Greek etymology, along with the popular idea involved in the Apologue of 鹿sop, and he remarks of it as " a tenet very ancient. For the same we find in the hieroglyphics of the Egyptians. The same is touched by Aristotle in his Ethics; but seriously delivered by Alian, Pliny, and Solinus; the same we meet with in Juvenal:
> —_____ imitatus castora, qui se Eunuchum ipse facit, cupiens evadere damno Testicuiorum, adeo mediantum intelligit inguen.

Jit hath been propagated by emblems; and some have been so bad grammarians as to be deceived by the name, deriving castor à castrando; whereas the proper Latin word is fiber, and castor but borrowed from the Greek, so called quasi $\gamma$ as $\omega \zeta$, that is animal ventrico. sum, from his swaggy and prominent belly."

The discovery of America with its prolific beaver-dams only multiplied the means for meeting demands already partially supplied. by the resources of the old world; nor is the use of the beaver as a. heraldic bearing, a novelty of American or Canadian origin.

Beverley, or Before-leag, i.e. beaver place, is the ancient AngloSaxon designation of the capital of the East Riding. of York; situated in a country abounding with mere and forest in olden time, before the beaver colonists of Befor-leag were transferred from their dams to the borough arms. The oldest armorial bearings of Beverley emblazon Saint John of Beverley, seated on the fridstol, and trampling on the ancient ewblem of the town: the beaver. The present seal of the corporation is: Argent, three waves, sable; On a chief, sable, a beaver statant regardant, argent.

The ancient history, and present distribution of the beaver

[^11]throughout Einrope and in Asia Mrinor, have recently been illustrated with great research and ability, in a paper communicated by Dr. Charles Wilson to the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal ; in which also he treats of its ancient and modern relations to pharmacology and medicine, in the use of the Castoreum.*

In referring to the origin of the mames, both of localities and individuals, naturally traceable to the presence.of the bearer he remarks: " Biberach or Biberbach, in Suabia, Merian writes, had its designation from the beavers which had their colonies in a brook or stream In its vicinity. This town was an old Reichs-stadt, and, like our Beverley, had long carried the beaver in its armorial insignia. The animal we are told, was first borne asure, with a crorn gules, on w field argent f but, in 1487, in consideration of an important servic rendered to the Archduke Maximilian, afterwards the Emperor Maximilian I., the citizens acquired the right to have the field azure, and the beaver and crown or: a guerdon which we must suppose them to have considered adequate, as they obtained it on petition. There is besides a Bieberach on the Kinzigg a tributary of the Rhine; and on the Rhine itself we have Biebrich, probably the analogue of our Beferige, whence our patronymic Beveridge."

The ingenious architecture and the social and provident babits of the beaver supply very satisfactory reasons for its selection from among the North American fauna, as the fittest for taking its place among the ordinaries or charges of our provincial escutcheoti ; buit this was probably less thought of tban its great importance in the early trade of Canada, and the British American Colonies.

Nevertheless, thongh the beaver wool of the fastionable hats, to which it gave name, is scarcely less exclusively associated with the early exports of the New World than its tobacco, we have good proof of the use of the beaver's fur for such a purpose, and of a regular European traffic in beaver shins, long prior to the discovery of America, in the fifteenth century. The beaver skin appears indeed to have been from ancient times a royal furr, and her Majesty is still entitled, by royal prerogative, to the skin of the martin, the beavers, and the ermine, though the latter alone has maintained its royal associations. OII the continent, the use of the bearer's skin appears to be traceable in the middle of the lith century; and in "the Tes

[^12]tatement of Crescide" printed in all the earlier editions of Chaucer's works, but assigned by Urry and later editors to the Scottish poet, Robert Henrysone, (cir. 1450,) we find the costume of one of his characters thus described:

> Whan in a mantell and a bover hat, With cuppe and clapper wonder priuely He opened $n$ secrete pate and out thereat Convesed her, that no man should espie.

It was not however, till the vast resources of the forests of the new world had become known, that beaver wool became the indispensable material for the fashionable European hat. Nearly a century and a half after the discovery of America we at length find Charles I. in 1638, by royal proclamation prohibiting the use of any materials except beaver wool in the manufacture of hats, unless made for exportation. This roynl prohibition amounted to a declaration of war by the king of England .gainst the beaver settlements of his North American Colonies and the Hudson Bay Company's territories; and within less than a century thereafter, they appear to have been almost totally exterminated from the colonies to the south of the St. Latrrence and the great lakes. The French traders in 1743, imported into Rocheile, 127,080 beaver skins, and the British Hudson's Bay Company sold 26,750 skins the same year. Within less than half a century thereafter, when Caaada had become a British possession, the trade in beaver peltries seems to have reached its maximum, and to have been maintained with ouly a slight decline till the commencement of the present century. In 178S, upwards of 170,000 beaver skins were exported from Canada, and the value of those forwarded to Fingland from Quebec alone, in 1808, is estimated at nearly $£ 119,000$ stg. The effect of such a wholesale destruction of the poor beaver could not fail to become apparent, notwithstanding the vast regious of the North-West over which the Hudson's Bay trapper and the Indian bunter ranged in pursuit of their defenceless prey. The great fur companies at length became impressed with the danger this profitable branch of their trade was exposed to, and even the improvident Indian learned to systematize his mode of beaver trapping so as to avert its total extermination. The Iroquois and Hurons,--among whom the beaver was known as the Tsoutayè,were especially skilled in its pursuit, and their habit was always to leave at least one pair in the beaver-dam, and to let this remain un-
molested for four or five years, while they pursued the chase in other localities.

In addition to this, however, the imperfect weapons of the Indian hunter, formed no slight protection to the Beaver; and so long as it was pursued alone by the native, unaided by the traps and guns of the European, its numbers suffered no very material diminution. Its settlements formed accordingly a singularly characteristic feature of the New World, which could not fail to impress the observant traveller. I find it, indeed, assigned as the rival of the Indian in the occupation of the soil, in the manuscript journals of the late Mr. David Thompson,* who upwards of sixty years ago explored the Great North West, and was the first discoverer of the passes in the Rocky Mountains, the importance of which is only now being recognised. Writing in 1794, he thus observes in reference to the beaver, and its native hunter:-
"Previous to the discovery of Canada, about 320 years ago, this Continent from the latitude of forty degrees north to the Arctic Circle, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, may be said $\omega$ have been in the possession of two distinct races of beings,-man and the beaver. Man was uaked and had to procure clothing from the skin of animals; his ouly arms were: a stake, pointed and hardened in the fire; a bow with arrows, the points hardened with fire, or headed with stone or bone of the legs of the deer; a spear, headed in the same manner, and a club of heary wood, or made of a round stone of four or five pounds weight, in 4 closed in raw hide, and by the same wound round a handle of wood of about two feet in length, bound firm to the stone. Such were the weapons man bad for self-defence, and with which to procure his food and clothing. Against the bones of an animal his arrows and spear had little effect, but the flank of every animal is open, and thither into the bowels the Indian directed his fatal and unerring arrows.

* Besides his weapons, the snare was much in use, and the spear to assist it for large animals; and by all accounts the deer and fur-bearing animals were very numerous, and thus man was lord of the dry land and all that was on it. The other race was the beaver, they were safe from every animal but man and wolvereens. Every year each pair baving from five to seven young, which they carefully reared, they became innumerable; aud, except the great lakes, the waves of which are too turbulent, occupied all the waters of the northern part of the Continent. Every river where the current was moderate and sufficiently deep, the banks at the water edge was occupied by their houses. To cvery small lake

[^13]and all the ponds they builded dams, and enlarged and deepened them to tho height of the dams. Even to grounds occasionally overflowed by heavy rains they also made dams, nod made them permanent ponds, and as they heightened tho dams incrensed the extent and added to the depth of water; thus all the low lands there in possessiou of the beaver and all the lollows of the higher grounds; small streams were dammed across, and ponds formed on the dry land, with the dominion of man contracted. Every where he whs hemmed in by water without the power of preventing it: he could not dimivish their numbers half so fast as they multiplied, their houses were proof agaiust his poiuted stake, and his arrows could seldom pierce their skins.* In this state man and the benver had been for many centuries, but the discovery of Canada by the Freuch, and their settlement up the St. Iawrence, soon placed the natives far superior to the beavers. Wilhout iron man is weak, very weak, but armed with irou he becomes the lord of the earth; no other metal can take its place. For the furs which the natives traded they procured from the French, aves, chisels, kuives, spears, and other articles of iron, with which they made good huats of the fur-bearing animals, and procured woollen clothing. Thus armed the houses of the beavers were pierced through, the dams cut, and the water of the ponds lowered or wholly run off, and the houses of the beaver and their burrows laid dry, by which they became an enay prey to the kuinter.
"The average weight of a full grown male beaver is about fifty five pounds, his meat is agrecable to most, although the fat is oily; the tail is a delicacy. They are always in pairs, and work tagether. Their first business is to ensure a s.mflcient depth aud extent of water for the winter, and if nature has not done this for them they make dams to obtain it. If there are more families than one in a piece of water they all work together, each appearing to labor on a particular part. The dam is made of earth, and pieces of wood laid oblique to its direction. The wood employed is elways of aspen, poplar, or large willows and alders; if pine is used it is through necessity not by choice; the bottom is well laid, and if small stones are at haud they make use of then for the bottom of the dam; the earth is brought between their fore paws and throat, laid down, and by several strokes of the tail made compact; the pieces of wond are with their teeth, which are very sharp and formed like small chisels, cut in:o the lengths they want, brought to the dam and worked in, and thus the dam is raised to the height reguired. It is a remark of many that dams erected by the art of man are frequently damaged or wholly carried arvay by violent freshets, but no power of water has ever carried away a beaver dam. Having secured a sufficient depth of water each family builds a separate house; this is in the form of a low dome; from the doorway, which is a little way in the water, gradually rising to about thirty inchesin height and about sis feet in diameter; the materials are the same as those of the dam and worked in the same manner, only the pieces of wood are much shorter, and if at hand small flat stones are worked in. The coating of tire first year may be about four to five inches thick, and every year an additional coat is added, until it is a foot or more in thickness, grass then grows upon it and

[^14]it looks like a little knowl. The next work is to make burrows of retreat the first yeur seldom more than one or two can be made, and sometimes none. These are carried on from a few inches below the surface of the water, direct from it, gradually rising, of about a foot in height by twenty inches in breadth, so that a benver can turn in them; their length depends on the ensiness of digging the ground, the general length is about ten feet, but in good earth they often are of twenty feot or more. The second and third year the number of burrows are augmented to five or six, and where the beaver have been a long time the ponds and small lakes have numerous burrows.
"The Indians think the male and female are faithful to eack other. They bring up their young for the first year with care and protection, until the next spring, when the female is about to litter she drives them all away, and some of them before they can be made to stay away receive severe cuts on the back from the teelh of the old ones. The young benvers are very playfal and whimper like children. The heaver is supposed to attain to the age of fifteen years, some think twenty years. The beaver hurter is ofteu at a loss what to do, and sometimes passes a whole day without coming to a determination. His shortest and surest way is to stake up the doorway of the house. the stakes he carries with him ready for the purpose; but the beavers are so watchful that his approach is heard, and they retire to their buriows. Some prefer first finding the burrows and closing them up with stakes, and cutting off retreat from the house. Whichever method he takes difficulties and hard labour attend him. Too determine the place of the benvers, as the whole family of seven or nine are seldom all found in the house, the Indian is.greatly ussisted by a peculiar species of small dog, of a light make, about three feet in height, muzzle sharp and brown, full black eyes, with a round brown spot above each eye, the body black, the belly of a fawn color; its scent very keen and almost anerring. This dog points out by emelling and scratching the weakest part of the beaver house, the part where they lie, and the same in the burrows, which are then doubly staked. The Indian with his axe and ice chisel makes a hole over the place shown by the dog. The beaver having changed its place, to find to which end of the burrow it is gone a crooked stick is employed until it touches the beaver, another hole is made and the beaver is killed with the ice chisel, which has a heavy handle of about seven feet in length. When the dog smells and scratches at two or three places on the beaver house it is a mark that there are several in it; the doorway being doubly staked, the Indian proceeds to make a hole near the centre of it to give full range to his ice chisel, and not one escapes; butall with hard labor. Such was the manner of killing the beaver until the introduction of steel traps, which, baited with Castoreum, soon brought on the almost total cestruction of these numerous and sagacious animals."

Such were the reflections of an acute and sagacious observer upwards of sixty years since, when the speedy extermination of the beaver seemed inevitable. Before, however, the substitution of silk for the beaver wool had procured for the ingenious rodent, some respite from anihilation, other materials were brought into use for the same pur-
pose. One of these was the fur of the Coypou, (moyopotamus Bonariensis of Commerson,) an aquatic rodent, somewhat smaller than the beaver, which abounds in Chili, Buenos Ayres, and other parts of South America. Like the beaver and the seal, it has two kinds of fur : a long and coarse ruddy hair, with soft and downy fur underneath. Its commercial value is dependent on the latter, which supplies the place of the beaver down, and the demand became so great, that within recent years the exportations for Great Britain alone, in a single season, principally from the Rio de la Plata, have been stated as high as 800,000 skins, besides those sent to France and other countries. Even those, however, in addition to the immense importations of the true beaver fur, proved inadequate to the demands of commerce; and by their great cost contributed to the introduction of silk as a substitute, which has now to a considerable extent superseded the beaver down. The ultimate consequence has been the greatly diminished zeal in the chase of the beaver, owing to the constant decrease in the value of the skin. Nevertheless, the beaver skins imported into Britain from Canada and the United States, so recently as 1829, were valued a. upwards of $£ 70,000$ stg. Compared with the value of importations forty years previously, this shows a decrease of considerably more than one half; but the existence of sources for such a supply, after the relentless warfare waged against the beaver settlements, without intermission, for upwards of two centuries, proves how prolific the beaver is, and how numerous and widely diffused the species must originally have been. Traces of ancient beaver villages are said to have been noted as far south as Louisiaua, and from that southern latitude their disappearance has gradually preceded that of the red Indian, in his escape from the exterminating pressure of the white man, into the wilds of the north-west.
The geographical range of the beaver commences about latitude $70^{\circ}$ extending across the continent wherever the soil is sufficiently fertile to furnish a wooded retreat, and the requisite vegetable food. Dr. Richardson describes them on the banks of the Mackenzie, the largest and best wooded of all the rivers falling into the Polar Sea,and as still pretty numerous to the northward of Fort Franklin, in the swampy grounds near the Great Bear Lake. There it is probable that some remnant of the beaver tribe, which once built its hats on the banks of the Ohio and the Mississippi, may escape extermination; but throughout the whole of Canada proper, and far beyond its
boundaries the sole memorial of the beaver will probably be preserved, ere long, only in some rare "Beaverton," ".Beaver Creek," or other topographical indication of a former settlement of the acquatic builders, like the ancient Beverley of Yorkshire, or the sepulchral mound still marked with the totem of its Indian hunter on his grave post.*
The country lying between Lake Ontario and the Georgian Bay, and extending enstward to the Ottawa, appears to have been the head quarters of the beaver in Canada proper, at the time when the sole value of Upper Canada to its European claimants was as a fur-trading area. The old French writers repeatedly speak of it as the Great Beaver Country. The Iroquois from the southern shores of the lake frequently crossed for the purpose of beaver-hunting in the fall of the year; and one of the reasons assigned for the establishment of a French post at Cataraquis was to intercept the trade in beaver skins on its road to the British settlements. The whole country is full of old beaver settlements, almost every stream having a succession of them upon it, which, now that the dams have been broken down, are converted into beaver meadows, from which the lumberers and early settlers drew a large supply of hay. The older settlers speak of the beaver having been almost unknown throughout this district, but since the price of beaver skins has fallen from six or eight dollars, to less than one dollar per pound, while the value of labour has been constantly on the increase, the beaver has only been assailed at irregular intervals by the stray sportsman or Indian hunter, and it has been latterly increasing in some districts much more rapidly than the settlers, by whom it must nevertheless ultimately be displaced.
Were it not, indeed, for the peculiar habits of the beaver, which

[^15]render its continuance incompatible with the aggressive encroachments of the colonist and settler ; the respite which it has thus found, added to its rapid reproduction when left unmolested, might ere long restore it to mainy of its forsaken haunts. Even now beaver dams are to be met with, comparatively near large settlements, as on the Otonabee, within a few miles of Peterborough, and in the Nottawasaga district; and the beaver may even be described as of frequent occurrence to the north of the Ottaina, and in the head waters of the streams which flow southward into the St. Lawrence. By the Indian, however, it is greatly prized as an article of food, while its tail is sought after both by the Indian and the white trapper as a peculiar delicacy; nor can its skin ever become altogether valueless to the fur trader. Under all these combined influences it would be vain to hope that the beaver can long survive the encroachments of the clearings on the chosen scenes of its ingenious labours. The extent, however, to which such labours were carried, in locnlities where the gregarious instincts of ${ }^{\prime}$ the builders had full play, may be inferred from the following note recorded by Mr. David Thompson in 1794; introductory to his teport of a curious dialogue with an old Indian, relative to the native ideas and traditions concerming this favourite prize of the north-west trapper. From this it will be seen that even sixty years ago Mr. Thompsoris speaks of the total destruction of the beaver as inevitable.
"On a fine aftermoon in October 1794, the leaves beginning to fall with every breeze, my guide informed me that we should have to pass over a long beaver dam. I naturally expected we should have to lead our horses carefully over it, When we came to it, we found it a stripe of apparently old solid ground, covered with short grass, and wide enougb for tivo horses to walk abreast. The lower side showed a descent of seren feet, and steep, with a rill of water from beneath it; the side of the dam next to the wrater was a gentle slope. To the southrward was a sheet of water of about oue mile and a half square, surrounded by low grassy banks. Thë forests were mostly of aspein and poplar, with mumerous stumps of the trees cut down ard partly carrieit away by the beavers. In two placeg of this pond were a claster of beaver houses, like miniature villages.
"Wher se had proceeded more thian half.way over tlie dam, which was a full mile in length, we came to an aged Indian, his arins folded across his breast, with a pensive conatenanee looking at the beavers swiming in the water, and cerrying their winter's provisions to their houses. His form was tall and erect, and his hair almost white, the only effent that age seemed to have on him; though we concluded be must be about eighty years of age, and in this opinion twe were afterwards confirmed by the ease and readiness with which he spoke of things long past. I enquired of him how many beavers' bouses there were in the pond before
us, he said there are now fifty-two; we have taken several of their houses; they are difficult to take, and those we have taken were by means of the rise of the water on their houses from a strong wiud which enabled us to stake them in, otherwise they would have retired to their burrows which are very many. Ho invited us to pass the night at his tent which was close by; the sun was low and we accepted the offer. In the tent was an old man almost his equal in age, with women and children; we preferred the open air and made a good fire to which the old men came, and after smoking a while conversation began. I had always conversed with the natives as oue Indian with another, and been attentive to learn their traditions on the animals, on mankind, and on other matters in ancient times, and the present occasion appeared favorable for this purpose. Setting aside answers and questions which would be tiresome; they said:-by early tradition, of which they did not know the origin, the beaver had been an ancient people and then lived on the dry land; they were always beavers, not men, they were wise and powerful, and peither man нor any animal made war on them.

They were well clothed as at present, and as they did not eat meat, they made no use of fire and did not want it. How long they lived this way we cannot tell but we must suppose they did not live well, for the Grent Spirit became angry, and ordered Weesaukejauk to drive them all into the water, and there let them live, still to be wise, but without power, to be food and clothing for man, and the prey of other animals, against all which his defence shall be his dams, his huse and his burrows; you see how strong he makes his dams; those that we make for fishing rivers are often destroyed by the water, but his always stand. His house is not made of sand or loose stones, but of strong earth, with wood, and sometimes small stones, and he makes burrows to escape from his enemies, and he has always his winter stock of provisions secured in good time. When he cuts down a tree, you see how he watches it, and takes care that it shall not fall on him. "But if so wise, for what purpose does the beaver cut down large trees of which he makes no use whatever?" "We do not know ; perhaps un itching of his teeth and gums." Here the old Indian paused, became silent, and then in a low tone talked with the other, after which he continued his discourse. "I have told you that we believe in years long passed away, the Great Spirit was angry with the beaver, and ordered Weesaukejauk (the Hatter,) to drive them all from the dry land into the water: and they became and continue very numerous; but the Great Spirit has been and now is, very angry with them, and they are now all to be destroyed. Abnut ten winters ago, Weesukejauk showed to our brethren, the Nepissings and Algonquins, the secret of their destruction; that all of them were infatuated with the love of the Castoreum of their own species, and more fond of it than we are of fire water. We are now killing the beaver without any labor; we are now rich, but shall soon be poor, for when the beaver are destroyed we bave nothing to depend ou to purchase what we want for our families; strangers now overrun our country with their iron traps, and we and they will soon be pooc."

Some three years ago (1797), the Indiays of Canada and New Brupbwich, on seeing the steel trap so successful in catching foxes and other animals, thought of applying it to the beaver, instead of the awnward wooden traps they made, which often failed; at first they were set in the landing paths of the beaver, with about.
four inches of water on them, and a piece of green aspen for a bait, that would allure the beaver to the place of the trap. Various things nad mixtures of ingredients were tried without success; but chance made some try if the male could not be caught by adding the eastoreum beat up with the green buds of the aspea. A piece of willow of about eight inches in length, bent and bruised fine, was dipped in this mixture; it was placed at the water odge about a foot from the steel trap, so that the beaver should pass direet over it and be caught; this bait proved successful, but to the surprise of the Indians the females were caught as well as the males. The secret of this bait was socu spread; every Indian procured from the trader four to six steel traps, the weight of one was about six to eight pounds; all labour was now at an ead, the hunter moved about at pleasure, with his traps and infallible bait of castoreum. Of the infatuation of this animal for castoreum, I saw several instances. A trap was negligently fastened by its amall chain to the stake, to prevent the beaver taking away the trap when caught; it slipped, and the beaver swam away with the trap, and it was looked upon as losen Two nights after, he was taken in a trap, with the other trap fast to bis thigh. Another time, a benver passing over a trap to get the castoreum, had his hind legg broken, with his teeth he cut the broken leg off, and went away. We concluded he would not come again, but two uights afterwards, he was found iast in a trap; in every case tempted by the castoreum. The stick was always licked or sucked clean, and it seemed to act as a soporific, as they remained more than a day without coming out of their houses. The Nepissinge, the Algouquins and Iroquois Indians, haring exhausted their own districts, now spread themselves over these countries and as they destroyed, the beaver moved forward to the northward and westward. The natives, the Napataways did not in the least molest them; the Chippeways and other tribes made use of traps of steel, and of the castoreum. For several years all those Indians were rich, the women and children, as well as the men were covered with silver brooches, ear-rings, wampum, beads and other trinkets. Their mantles were of fine searlet cloth, and all was finery and dress. The canves of the fur trader were loaded with packs of beaver, till the abundance of the artiele iowered the London prices. Every intelligent man sam the poverty that would follow the destruction of the beaver, but there were no chiefs to control it; always perfect liberty and equality. Four years after almost the whole of these extensive countries became poor, and with difficulty procured the first necessaries of life, and in this state they remain, and probably for ever. A worn out field may be manured and again made fertile; but the beaver once destroyed cannot be replaced. They were the gold coin of the country, with which the necessaries of life were purchased.

This idea of the beaver shins being the current coin, or the dollar bills of the Hudson's Bay territory and the regions surrounding the fur countries, is frequently referred to; and continued to be the case; down to very recent years. It is again noticed by Mr. Francis Assikinack, in introducing some notes of the beaver traditions of his own tribe, the Odahwahs, with which he has favoured me. It cane
scarcely fail to remind the classical philologist of the primary derivation of the Latin pecunia, the oxen of Homer, and still more of the skin currency of the Carthaginians and Spartans; while the Biblical student will recall the sneering comment of Satan on the patience of Job : "Skin for skin, yea all that a man hath will he give for his life.".

In the Odahwah language, a dialect of the Ojibway, the beaver is called, Ahmik,--the Ahmeek, king of beavers, of Longfellow's "Song of Hiawatha." So also a beaver dam is ahmikweesh or ahmikobeeg. No recollection can now be traced of the beaver's tooth having ever been used as a cutting instrument by the Odahwahs; but one of their superstitions seems to point to such a practice. It was believed that the beaver possessed a piece of brass for the purposes of cutting. This tool was said to resemble a wedge, one side of which was very sharp. Sometimes the most celebrated magicians professed to obtain this instrument from the animal, and it was considered a most invaluable treasure, as it answered as a universal charm in strengthening medicine, obtaining the necessaries and luxuries of life, securing success in hunting, \&e. Until very iately these Indians reckoned dollars by the beaver skin, and where the whites say one dollar, two dollars, and so on, the Indians would say, one beaver skin, two beaver skins, \&c. Formerly, also, every section of a tribe had its own beaver hunting grounds; and this property, as it may fitly enough be called, descended from father to son for the benefit of the family exclusively. To encroach upon a beaver ground belonging to another party was looked upon as a serious offence, and the trespasser was liable to lose his life, if caight by the owners of the ground.

According to Odahwah tradition there was an immense beaver in some part of Lake Superior. The Indians pointed out an Island in the Lake, about two miles long, and one and a third broad, and said that the beaver spoken of was the same size. This story must have been invented very early, because in one of the legends relating to Nanahbozho, it is told that this extraordinary personage went in one morning to Lake Superior for the purpose of catching a beaver for his breakfast. When he got there he succeeded in dislodging a young beaver from its hiding place, and chased it towards the Sault Ste. Marie, the animal of course came under the water, until it reached the entrance of the river leading from Lake Superior into Lake Huron. Namahbozho thought that the Sault was an excellent place to catch the beaver, as the water was too shallow to conceal it. So he went there and oc-
cupied the place, standing on the British side of the river. Whilst he stood there, watching closely, a bird flew on the American side, he stooped and picked up a stoue to throw at it; his attention being thus drawn away from the uarrow passage the beaver had an opportunity to dart down the rapids, Nanahbozho threw the stone hastily at the bird, and then renewed the chase. This stone is to be seen at the present day on a sandy beach at the other end of Lake Michigan, being about thirty feet in diameter, where it is the solitary one on the beach. The next place selected by the great hunter is a narrow channel between Manitoulin Island and the mainland, where he took up his position at Ahssine muddwawa, called by the French, LaCloche. He had hardly got there when the beaver showed its head in the middle of the channel. Its pursuer hurled his spear at it, but missing his aim, the weapon went beyond his reach, and being in a great hurry, he did not wish to lose time in going for it. This celębrated spear is also to be seen at present in the shape of a mountain having two peaks, about twenty miles from the place whence it was thrown. About two hours after, he caught the beaver in the Ottawa, and dashed its head on the rocky banks of the river, where the Indians say the marks of blood are still to be seen.

When a beaver kitten as it is called, is taken young, it is easily tamed, and seems to throw off its natural habits and to abandon most of its wild instincts, almost as readily as the dog; and with a much shorter training. In "The gardens and menagerie of the Zoological Society, delineated," a highly interesting account is given of Binny, a tame beaver, domesticated by Mr. Broderip, and which developed its building instincts in the construction of dwellings and imarinary dams for its self with books, brushes, boots, shoes, and whatever lay within its reach. It proved an exceedingly affectionate and entertaining favourite. It does not however, appear to have manifested its peculiar instincts in the destructive form they frequently assume in captivity. A gentleman resident in Lower Canada, informs me, that he had a tame beaver which used to play with the children like a kitten, but as is commonly the case, it took to gnawing furniture. I am indebted to my friend Mr. John Langton for the following account of another tame beaver, domesticated under different circumstances. The owner of this beaver had no furniture to gnaw, being an old trader married to a squaw, and living more.like an Indian than $\Omega$ white man. "His favourite was quite tame, and rery playful, and though he lived on the shore of Buckhorn

Lake, the beaver seldom took to the water. It used to lie before the fire as contentedly as a dog; and it was not till winter set in that it became a nuisance. Poor old Bill McHugh's house was well ventilated, an open chink between the logs being thought very little of, by him and his family; but the beaver was very impatient of such negligence, and used to work all night at making things airtight and comfortable, without much discrimination as to the materials it employed. If Bill or his guests went to bed leaving their moccasins and tichigans drying before the fire, they were certain to be found in the morning stowed away in some chink or cranny; and stray blankets and articles of clothing were torn up by the industrious beaver, for the same purpose. The consequence was that the poor pet was at length sacrificed; its body went into the old trader's pot, and its skin to market." When we consider the peculiar shyness of the beaver in its native haunts,in so much so that, where it is liable to frequent disturbance in the vicinity of the Settlements, it is scarcely possible to get a sight even of its head above water after watching for hours,-the readiness with which it abandons all its wild habits and ratural instincts, and adapts stself to sociable companionship with man, constitutes a trait of peculiar interest.

Such being some of the aspects in the natural history of the beaver, Castor Fiber, as studied in its comparatively recently disturbed haunts in the New World, some interest may naturally be felt by us here, in the recovery of like traces of its former presence in numerous localities of the Old World, from which it has disappeared for centuries. The relations of the European beaver to pharmacology and medicine have attràcied a degree of attention to it in eariier times, to which we owe much of the knowledge now recoverable concerning its early history and wide diffusion. The medicinal virtues attached to the castoreum in early and medieval times were of the most varied and eyen contradictory lind. Hippocrates recommended its employment in uterine diseases, while Dioscorides and many later writers prescribe it for accelerating child-birth. According to Pliny, when applied externally to the head the castoreum induced sleep, but when used in fumigation it removed lethargy. Its uses and virtues might indeed compare with the most wonderful of modern universal quack medicines. Those have been carefully investigated in Dr. Charles Wilson's "Notes on the use of the Castoreum," and to them we can only add, from the New World, two others to which it is applied in the great
region of the North-west, where still it forms an important object of the chace. To one of these reference has already been made in an extract from the Journal of Mr. David Thompson, where it is seen that the castoreum is succssfully employed as a bait in trapping both the male and female beaver. The other use is as an accompaniment of tobacco. Both the Indians and the Hudson's Bay Company's traders frequently place a small portion of the castoreum in their pipe along with tobacco. The fiavour is very peculiar, and the smell of the smoke totally different from that of the castoreum itself, but by no means unpleasing. No special effects, however, seem to result from its use in this mammer, so diverse from any of the ancient or modern European modes of prescription. That the beaver was at one time indigenous to the British Gslands is well known. Its remains have been discovered under circumstances indicative of an antiquity coeval with the extinct mammoth (Elephas primigenius.)* But their most frequent situation is at the bottom of the peat-bog; as in the Nerbury peat-valley, where they were found twenty feet below the present surface, associated with the remains of the wild-boar, roebuch, goat, deer, and wolf. The Castor Europaus accordingly occupies an interesting place among the extinct animals referrible to the primeval transition of the British Archæologist, as it is proved to have existed as a living species, both in Scotland and Wales, down to the twelfth century, and as we shall see is referred to so late as the fifteenth century. + In 1788 , Dr. William Farquharson presented to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the skeleton of the head, and one of the haunch bones of a beaver, dug up in Martic's Loch of Kinloch, near Coupar Angus, Perthshire. The bones are dyed of a deep brown color, derived from the peaty marle in which they were found embedded; and the cranium is imperfect. But the remains of the remarkable incisors so characteristic of the beaver, still exist in the lower jaw bone. This interesting palæontological relic I recalled to mind with lively interest when exploring a deserted beaverdam on the Eagle River, Lake Superior, in 1855, and all the more from the recollections of a conversation with Hugh Miller, on the primeval archæological era of Scotland, to which it gave rise, when accompanying that distinguished geologist on one occasion over the Muscum of the Scottish Antiquaries. From the nature of his speculations concerning the ancient life of the New Red Sandstone, the fossil beaver spoke to

[^16]him of very modern times, while to his companion,--then occupied with investigatious exclusively confined to the era of man as an occupant of the globe,-it was a memorial of ages belonging to a transitional era during which the ancient earth gave place to that of which man was henceforth to be the chief denizen. The most memorable result of that conversation, was, the explanation then given of ideas he had formed, relative to a chronological key to the age of the existing and ancient Scottish coast lines, based on the height from the present sea level of the caverns abounding along its rocky shores, when taken into consideration with the relative depths of excavation of these sea-worn recesses, some of which may be seen in process of formation, especially where the long roll of the Atlantic wave is abruptly arrested by the rockbound coast of the western Highlands. This, with so many other ingenious speculations and profoundly suggestive thoughts, of which such mere hints survive, were doubtless intended to be embodied in the great work on Scottish Geology, which now remains an unaccomplished idea.

But such reminisences tempt me away from the subject in hand; though in returning to it, I am again reminded of old Edinburgh associates and friends, in naming the late Dr. Patrick Neill. In 1819, Dr. Neill read an interesting paper before the Wernerian Natural Fistory Socicty of Edinburgh,* in which he referred to the specimen of the extinct Scottish beaver, preserved in the museum of the Society of Antiquaries, describing the circumstances under which it was found, and specially noting the discovery in a neighbouring marl-pit of the two metatarsal bones, and a pair of branched horns of a large extinct species of deer. In the same paper, Dr. Neill drew attention to another disclosure of similar fossil remains, the recent discovery of which had then led to the revival of the subject. These, which were found in October, 1818, included the entire skeleton of a beaver, lying partially embedded in marl, under an accumulation of peat moss seven feet in thickness. In this were recognized the shells of filberts, with the wood of the birch, alder, and oak. Only the skull and lower jaw were recovered, the other bones having been found in too soft and fragile a condition to admit of removal, aud they are now preserved in the Museum of Edinburgh University. Here also were found, a gigantic pair of decr's horns; and, what is of more interest, the writer

[^17]of the statistical accomnt of the Parish of Edrom,* states that several other heads of the beaver were recovered from the same deposit. INere therefore, it is not presuming too much to assume was the marle deposited from the lake where in ancient centuries a colony of Scottish beavers had constructed their habitations; while the accumulated vegetable moss with its enclosed relies of the ancient forest, might help us to some guess as to the probable era of their extinction : not necessarily one prior to that of man, for the rude monexylous British canoe, hol. lowed by fire out of a single tree, like those in use by the Indians on the Columbin River, has been found at as great a depth in more than one of the Scottish mosses. $\dagger$

But the traces of the former existeunce of the beaver in Scotland have received additional illustration from the researches of Dr. Charles Wilson, in the paper already referred to, in the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal. In this the autlior thus describes a third instance of the discovery of the remains of the beaver in Scotland, with the traditional associations of the locality where it was found :-
"On the verge of the parish of Linton, in Roxburghshire, there is a remnant of What has evidently ouce been a far more extensive loch, which had skirted for some distance the outer range of the Cheviot Hills, but which, from some alterntion of the levels, has now, for the most part, gradually drained itself off to the westward. Iuto this loch had flowed the waters of the Cheviots, entering it, as the little river Kail, by a narrow gorge towards the eastern extremity : ant it is doubtless through the agency of this often impetuous current, that those alteratious have chiefly been effected which have diverted the stream from what is now the narrow limits of Liuton Loch; and left it contracted to $n$ few stagnaut pools, imbedded in a deep but not exteasive morass, from which, however, still flows a considerable boly of water by an artificially constructed chanuel. The near vicinity of the loch presents many localities of interest, as well in legendary lore as from later associations. The hollow at Wormington, still known as the 'worm's Hole,' marks, according to fimiliar story, the ancient haunt of a monstrous serpent or dragou, the destruction of which, by William de Somerville, obtained for him the gift of the surrounding barony from William the Lion. The little knolh, consisting wholly of fine sand, on which the church of Linton is built, bas seemed to the peasaut to justify the tradition, that its elevation was the work of two sisters, who sifted the heap as a voluntary penance, to expiate in a brother the crime of murder. The traces of the foundations of the neighbouring fortalice, still lurking under their covering of green sward, recal the memory of more thau one of the seareely less stirving, while more authentic scenes of border warfare;

[^18]nad closer to the loch, perched above its southern marglu, we have the little possession of Wideopen, the thheritance of the poet 'thomson, who is snid to have gathered here, among the storms of the bills, many of the muterials for tho admirable descriptions in his poem of Winter. Through the adjoining tract of the Cheviots, spreads that range of which it could be said, as in the ballad of the Battlo of Otterbourne:

> The deer runs wild on Iill and dale, The blrds fly wild frae tree to tree.

Few places, therefore, could be more appropriate for the discovery of any remains twieh were to aid in giving body to our traditions, as in forming a link between remote and existing states of civilization.

The moss, which constitutes the body of the Lintou morass, is variable in depth, and covers a very extensive deposit of marl, to obtain which, for agricultural purposes, operations on a cousiderable scale were undertaken by the temunt, Mr. Purves, by whom the relic of the iuteresting animal, found in the course of these was placed in my bands, and to whose intelligent observation I am chiefly indebted for the particulars of its discovery. In digging about twenty yards from the margin , and after penetrating a thickness of moss of about eight feet, the marl was renched, and upon its surface was found a skull in excellent preservation,* ensily recognised by me, on examining it, as that of a beaver. Either no other parts of the skeleton had remained preserved in its contiguity, or they had failed to attract the attention of the wormmen; the probability being, that from the slighter texture of most of the other boues, they had been less able to resist entire disintegr.tion, or had crumbled on exposure. The remains of deer and other animals were also discovered on the surface of the marl, at about the same distance from the margin; but at other places, the horns and bones of deer, and among these a lower maxilla, were found fourteeu feet beneath the marl itself, yet still within its layers, or at ebout an aggregate depth of twenty-two feet. Among the remains preserved and placed before me were horns of the red decr, with metatarsal bones, evidently also of auimals of the deer species, all betokening individuals of once stately dimensions; while the left tibia of an ox, doubtless the Bos primigenius, which was found imbedded at a depth of seven feet within the marl. I computed must have belonged to an auimal measuring at least six feet, or with the hoof and soft parts entire, fully half a foot more to the summit of the shoulder. The moss, at the part covering these remains, might be viewed as divided into three layers. The upper of these, approaching to about three feet in thickness, consisted of the traces of comparatively fresh vegetation: the second layer, measuring about two feet, had a less firm consistence, and clanged its colour of a greenish brown, when moist and newily exposed, to almost a white when dry: the third layer extended to about four feet, but in some places to a much greater thickness, and was almost blach, bolding imbedded, in various grades of preservation, many and not mean remains of the primeval forests, such as trunks of trees, for the most part hazel and birch, with sa iutermingling of onk, some measuring from two to even four feet in

[^19]diametor; nud, nlong with these, lr. se quantities of hazel nuts, heaped into masses, ns if gathered and swept from the upper woodlnads by the mountniu freshets. In some places gravel was found deposited above the moss, bearing testimony to the netion of similar currents.

The stratum of marl varied from two, to almost eighteen feet in thickness, and consisted of the usual fresh-water shells, but mainly of Planorbis and Limnaca; the greater part being of almost microscopic dimensions, yet often in the most entire preservation. Where the relic of the beaver had been deposited, the marl, however, to judge from portions taken from within the skull, seems to bave been largely, if not entirely composed of infusorin. On the application of an acid, after a smart effervescence, with the disnppearance of a conaiderable bulk of the material, there remained amorphous, ferruginous-like masses, aud abuadantly intorspered with these, the silicious coverings of the animalcules, if they be renlly animal organisms. Among them I distinguished Epithemia Argus, sorex, turgida, and longicornis; Cyclotella operculata; Gomphonema constrictum; Nitzschia sigmoidea; Surirella craticula; Oymbella helvctica; Navicula lanceohata; nad, probably most abundant of all, Himantidium arcus. The remains of the mammals found in contact with the pent, including the skull of the beaver itself, were of the usual dark tint acquired from that substance: those deposited in the marl preserved more nearly their natural colour. Near the margiu of the loch, and aboit seven feet deep in the moss, were found an arrow-hend, and two or three iron hurseshnes; the latter of small dimensions. Could we regard these horse-shoes, and this individual beaver, thus found at nearly the same depth in the moss, as having, reached their position there coctaneously, as, perhaps, approximatively we may, the furthest limit to which our archrological experience would entitle us to go back for this would probnbly be the Angln-Saxon period; but our surmise as to the era would still be a rude oue, and within it, or even possibly long after it though searcely before, we must be prepared to allow a wide range."

Corresponding evidence derived from a variety of sources, in like manner prove the ancient presence of the beaver in the Cambridge and Norfolk fens, and where the peat mosses of Berkshire and other English localities have accumulated for ages.
"Other discoveries, at Mundesley, Bacton, Southwold, and Happisburg in Norfolk, and at Thorpo in Suffolk, appear under relations which seem to carry the antiquity of the beaver in England farther back into the tertiary periou, and ought probably to be referred to a different, yet closely allied speeies. In Deamark, we learn from a highly interesting communication by Professor Steenstrup,* that a lower jaw, with the greater part of the extremities of a beaver, evidently belonging to an individual animal, were discovered in the moss of Christiansholm; and that a tooth has also been found in Fyen, all the other traces hitherto of its former existence within the Danish territories having been limited to Sjælland. Specimens of stems, evidently gnawed by the beaver's teeth, were taken from Mariendals

[^20]moss, the specinl locality being regarded by tho Professor as protnbly occupying the former bed of a strenm, which had been onco its habitat. Similar stents, from two to four inches thick, with benver marks, were seen in Brönsholm moss, in grent quantity, and laid with remarkable regularity; while a like deposit, at a depth of about three feet, accurred in a moss near lyygsbye. In these interesting facts, we appear to recognise distinctly the remains of the dans of the beaver, and the familiar evideoces of its singular constructive faculties. Perhaps two may further refer to a period not remote from that of these relics in the mosses, the location of three benver's teeth, in a greatly damaged condition, at the side of a human skeleton, which was found in a tomb of an ancient Lap, opened recently* at Mortensnas, on the Varangerfjord, in the extreme north-east of Norway. A stone hammer, bearing mariss of use, lay in the same grave."

The discovery of the teeth of the beaver, alongside of the rade stone hammer of a primitive Scandinavian grave is of peculiar interest to the archæologist and ethnologist, as supplying another of the many interesting examples of analogies in the resources of primeval arts. The incisor teeth of the beaver are broad, flattened, and protected in front by a coat of very hard enamel, so that in the process of wearing, they retain a sharp cutting edge like a chisel. The beaver tooth accordingly furnished to the American Indian one of his best cutting instruments, edged by a sharp and very hard enamel, previous to the introduction of iron tools. Dr. Richardson informs us, that the incisor tooth of the beaver, when fixed in a wooden handle, was used by the Indians of che North-West to cut bone, and fashion their horntipped spears and arrows, till it was superseded by the English file.

In Norway, the beaver is still indigenous; and indeed the extent of area which this animal still occupies in Europe, has been very imperfectly apppreciated even by the ablest of modern naturalists. From America, the European naturalist has derived his knowledge of the social habits and ingenious arts of the beaver; but careful investigation now satisfies us, that opportunities were not wanting for the study of these before America was discovered, and that such exist in Europe even at the present day. On this subject, Dr. Charles Wilson furnishes the results of extensive and careful research, accompanied with minute reference to his authorities :

[^21][^22]proved of an acquantanoe with the gregations habits and oonstructivo insthots of the beaver, at a time long anterior to the diseovory of Amurian, and to the moro widely dimasod knowlolgo which followod gradually upon tho marratives of the voyagers of the New Continent. It is surprising that Buffan, wheso elegmeo of otyle so raroly appears ae an excaso for arrolessucss and inerndition, should ant only have overlonked this fate bat tho evidence of all the more rovent nathorties wo havo quedod, ne well as of rethors to a liko purport, occurriug in hie own dhy. Tha beavers of Burope, saye thise emituent writer, nover assomble in colonies, and norer construct, but morely burrow; nethough to admits what is not nendy onough, that in Norwny, and other parts of the extrome north, their hats havo boon ceported to be faund within the hast ounturics. Ouvioe appears to havo followed Buffin, in assuming that the buropean boavors, at least in hater ages novor build; and atates tho diflientey ho has had in attompting to determine, whether those which now bavo their burrows along tho Rhone, the Danube, the Weser, and other rivore, aro onigiunlly differenc from the Amorien species, or whethor thay are ideatient, and aro hindered from building solely by their position in the uoarer vionity of man. While grateful that tho eloquenco of Buffon, nud tho comprehensiveness nad prodision of Cuvier, have given a charb mad a solidity to matural history unknown to it before, it is to wonder the more $t s$. $t$ it should have been ensy for us to supploment thoir inguries, on this surious point, from sonress so readily necessiblo. 'To approach oven our own times, Buchstoin, writing so recently as 1801 , telle us that ou the Elbo, near Kithnert, the property of the Prussiau minister, Schulenberg, there wero then many beavers, which construoted dams on the side chnmels, or arms of the river, where thero was calm water. Near Witteuborg aleo, they lived in societios, and formed damis. In the vicinity of Hettiughasen, on tho Lippe, they built their dams, and were found in considorablo numbers; as woll as higher up the river in the territory of Paderboru. In these looalitios, their construations ure stated to have been so skilful as to rival thoso of Canda, though tho colouies were less numerous. The trees they cut down were willows and pophars. Oken mentions a benver-hut on the Yesil, in the duchy of Cloves, which stood six feet high, with two chambers over ench other, the upper having three, and the under four cells; and he refers to a papor by afeyelink, in tho Berlin Natural Mistory Transactions for 1820 , deseribing a colony settled for upwards of a century, on the litto river Nuthe, half a league above its confluence with the Elbo, in a sequestrated cuwton of the district of Mergdeburg. In 1822, it coutained from fifteen to wenty individuals: they had burrows; built huts eight or fou feet higb, usiug tronks and branches of trees, along with earth; and constructed a dyke. Martius, writing in 1837, speaks of colonies ou the Ammer, which were still tended as objects of forestry, or huntsman's crait. An authority; at the close of the last century assigns to them many localities in Germany: as in Mark, especially in the Altmark and Preiguitr, and in the Middle Mark; and in the rivers Spree and Havel, in the vicinities of Berlin, Potsdam, Oranienberg, Liebenwulde, Trebbin, Nauen, and Komigshorst.
"Even close to the present day, the beaver, though sennty in its relative numbers, has a rider tistribution in Europe than is usunlly jamyined. Wagner, writing in 1Sibe mentions it as still not only in the Damube, but in the Amber, Ismr, Iller,
and Salzaob, tributarios of that river; as woll as in tho Elbo and Odor ; whilo in othor rivors it has only rocontly disappenrod. In Nowny, Swoden, aud Poland, ho roports thom ns in groator mumbers, and as distributed over Russia. Sohmardn mentions them as ocourring in Tranaylvania; and Okon anye thoy oxist in the Traun in Austrin, besidos spooifying for North Rassin, the Dwinn amd Potsehora, Blasius roports that a spooimon was taken in Brunswick, in the Schunter, at tho olose of last oentury ; but that a fary years ago thoy wore obsorved in the Lippo in Westphalia; and that thoy are still found on the Fibe, betwoen Megdoburg and Wittenburg, though the colonies, stinco 1848, have been greatly roduced. He alds, that thoy havo boen recently observed in the Invel and Oder in tho Altmark, in tho Vistula, within East Prusin, and in Silesin; and more abumlantly, in Lithuania and Poland, and in North Russia. In North.Wostern Germany it wns found, at lenst formorly, in tho Mosello and tho Mans. Chenu mentimes it as tolerably nbundant in the southern part of the Rhono. Thoy havo been killod near Arlos, Bomenire, Turascou, and ovon Aviguon; and still subsist in such numbers as to olicit his surprise that somo nuthors should have asserted their axtinction in Franco. Of two which Fr. Ouvier had alive, one was from the Danubo, and the other from tho Gardon, in Druphing. In the Norwegian Pharmacopoin of 1854, the Norwoginn eastoreum holds its placo beside that of Russia and of Oanadn. Wylie, in the Russian Military Plarmacopoia, montlons the avimal as common in Russia and Siberia, and more rare in Livonia and Poland. In South Rubsia, Domidoff says that thoy are somowhat searee on tho Danubo, but that they aro more common in tho region towards the Caucasus, and that many have been recently killed in tho districts watered by the Natnuebi and the 'lereck. To tho river habitats alroady noted, Moleschott adds the Inn, the Leelh, the Upper Rhine, the Weser and the Bug, as ench still presentiag rare examples. Upon the whole, the beaver still appoars to bo oncountered, seldom or never plentifully, always in greatly diminished numbers, and generally with an oxtreme and constantly increasing raity, in the Austrian and Prussian States, Bavaria, Russia, Sweden, Norway, Lapland, France, and porhaps Switzerland.

- In ancient as in modern times the beaver was applied to the same uses, for dross, for the table, and for medicinal purposes; and from all of these we derive interesting traces of the presence of this animal in ancient historic localities. We learn from Herodotus, that the Budini employed the fur of the beaver as a trimming for their cloaks; and from anciont lars and local clarters, fixing the duties on exports, we are supplied with indications of its use at various times for similar purposes. In the Welsh code of Hywel Dda, circa A. D. 900, the Llosdlydan, or beaver, is valued at 120 pence. In the Leges Burgo. rum instituted by David I. of Scotland, cirea A. D. 1150, fixing the rate of custom duties on "Peloure,"-or peltries, as we now call them,-beavers' skins are mentioned along with those of the fox, the weasel, the martin, the wild cat, the ferret, \&c., each being charged at
their "'outpassing," or export, fourpence "ilk tymmyr," i. e. so many as are inclosed or packed between two boards of timber, usually amounting to forty skins.* This Scottish code is copied nearly verbatim from the laws and customs instituted for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, by Henry I. and confirmed by subsequent royal charters ; and among the exports from the Tyne, are specified the skins of foxes, martins, sables, beavers, goats and squirrels. $\dagger$ Thus we perceive that the beaver was known in Wales in the tenth century, and its skins were objects of export both in Scotland and England, at least till the middle of the twelfth century. In further illustration of the existence of the Welsh beaver, Dr. Charles Wilson remarks: "Silvester Giraldus, travelling in this country in 1188 with Archbishop Baldwin of Canterbury, who preached there that crusade in which he afterwards followed Richard Cour de Lion to the Holy Land, and perished at Acre, tells us, in speaking of the river Teivi, that it retained a special notability: 'inter universos namque Cambriæ seu etiam Loegriæ fluvios, solus hic castores habet.' He then proceeds to give an account of the habitat of the animal, at some deep and still recess of the stream; describes its dams and huts and its methods of construction, with considerable minuteness; and records the dangers to which it is liable on the score of its skin, which is coveted in the west, and the medicinal part of the body, coveted in the east; while he adds, with evident scruples as to the orthodoxy of the practice, that in Germany and the northern regions, great and religious persons, 'tempore jejuniorum,' eat the tail of the fish-like creature, as having both the taste and colour of fish :" a practise, which, it will be seen bas been transferred, with the races and medieval creed of Europe, to the New World.

To those illustrations of the varied evidence by which the presence of the beaver is traced in Britain from the remotest period, down, at least, to the twelfth century, may be added others of a diverse character, borrowed from different, yet not less interesting and trust. worthy sources than those hitherto referred to, viz.: the pages of our elder poets. They serve at least to show the familiar occurrence of the name of the beaver, in the traditional illustrations belonging to the reigns of Richard II. and the Fourth and Fifth Henries of England, with the contemporary Scottish sovereigns; nd to confirm the evidence derived from other sources, of the probable existence of

[^23]the beaver in the remoter districts of Scotland, England, and Wales, long after it had ceased, from its diminished numbers to be an object of legal or commercial consideration.

The first of these occurs in "Pier's Ploughman's Creed," a poem written by a Wycliffite of the reign of Richard II. and abounding in satirical allusions to the excesses of the clergy. Here he describes the Franciscan, with more cloth in his cape than furnished St. Francis with a frock; and yet underneath this, he wears a coat lined with the fur of the weasel or fitchet, or of the fine beaver:

> "Loke hough this loresmen Lordes betrayen, Seyn that they folwen Fully Fraunceyses rewle, That in cotinge of his cope Is more cloth y-folden Than was in Fraunceis froc Whan he hem first made. And yet under that cope A cote hatho he furred With foyns, or with fichewes, Other fyn bevere."

In the Act of the first Parliament of James I. of Scotland, held at Perth, in 1424, regulating the "Custome of Mertrik skinnes, and uther furringes," the martin, pole-cat, fox, otier, and other skins, have their export duties specified; but the beaver, which figured among the Scottish exports in the reign of David I. no longer appears. Yet an interesting piece of evidence of the most authentic lind, proves that the beaver was not unknown to King James; although it had ceased to be a subject of Scottish taxation, and even perhaps no longer continued to form an object of the chase. In his beautiful poem of the King's Quair, written during his detention at the English Court, prior to 1123, after describing his interview with "Dame Minerve," and the good counsel he received, bo relates his wandering

> "Along a river, pleasant to behold, Enbrondin all with frescle flourys gay, Where through the gravel bright as any gold, The crystal water ran so clear and cold, That in mine ear it made continually $\Delta$ maner sound, meilit with harmony. Of bestis sarw I many dyvers kind: $* * * * * *$ The bugill draver by his hornis great, The martrik sable, the foynze, and mauy mo, The chalk.white crmine tipned as the jet,

> The royal hart, the conyng, and the roe, The wole that of the murder not say ho, The lusty benver, nad the min bear, For cemelot the camol full of hair."

It is to be observed, that in this enumeration of the royal poet, he does not confine himself exclusively to native animals, and this is still more the case in previous stanzas, where not only the tiger, dromedary, and elephant, are named, but even the unicorn:
"That voidis venom with his ivory hom,"
Nevertheless, the mention of the lusty beaver among the other animals enumerated, sufficiently shows that it was not altogether unfamiliar then, although its name disappears in this reign, from the official lists of taxable exports. It probably did not become entirely extinct for a considerable period thereafter.

Reference has already been made to the curious account of the habits of the beaver, as witnessed by Giraldus Cambrensis in the Welsh river Teivi, in 1188; and Drayton 1.vived the story in the early part of the 17 th century, in his "Poly-Olbion," where in the sixth song, he thus embodies old marvels, and "tells what rare things Tivy breeds:"
" Miore famous long agone, than for the salmon's leap.
For bevers Tivy was, in her strong banks that bred,
Which else no other brook of Britain nourished;
Where Nature, in the shape of this now perished beast,
His property did seem t' have wondrousiy express'd;
Being body'd like $a$ boat, with suoh $a$ mighty tail
As served him for a bridge, a helm, or for a sail,
When kind did him command the architect to play,
That his strong castle built of branched twigs and clay:
Which, set upon the deep, but yet not fixed thore,
He casily could remove as it le pleas'd to steer
To this side or to that; the workmanship so rare,
His stuff wherowith to build, first boing to prepare,
A foraging te goes, to groves or bushes nigh,
And with his teeth ents down his timber; which laid by,
He turns him on lis back, his belly laid abread,
When, with what he hath got, the other do lum load;
Till hastly, by the weight, his burden he havo found,
Then with his mighty tail his carriage having bound
As carters do with ropes, in his sharp teeth le gripd
Some stronger stick; from which the lesser branches stript,
He takes it in the midst; at both the ends the rest
Hard holding with their faugs, unto the labour prest,
Going bnckward tow'rds their home their loaded carriage led,
Frow whom, those first here horn, were taught the useful sled.

[^24]> Then builded he his fort for strong and several flghts; His passages contriv'd with such unusual sleighty, That from the hunter oft ho issu'd undiscern'd, As if mon from thls beast to fortify had learned; Whose kind, in her decay'd, is to this islo unknown, Thue Tivy boasts this beast peculiarly her own."

So also Browne, in the fourth song of his "Brittnnnia's Pastorals," representing the consolation of the bereaved Pan , in the memorial tree that sprung

> "Out of the mniden's bed of endless rest,"
introduces Tivy's beavers, as familiar objects of dread to the guardian of the sylvan shades:

> "The many-kernel-bearing pyne of late, From all trees clse, to me was consecrate; But now bohold a rooto woriln more my love, Equal to that which, in an obscuro grove, Infernal Juno proper takes to her.
> This must I succour, this must I defend, And fom the wild boar's rooting ever shend; Here shali the wood-pecker no entrance finde, Nor Tivg's bevers gasw te clothing rinde."

By means of such passages from the elder British poets, we trace the memory of the native beaver, and the popular traditions associated with it, down to a period when the study of the strange habits of this remarkable animal was revived amid its populous haunts in the New World. Then the marvels of the hunter and the traveller effaced the memory of older home traditions, and to this source we may trace the flattering comparison instituted by Gibbon, in the forty-second chapter of his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," between the settled, domestic beaver, and the nomad Tartar hordes of Asia: "They were bold and dexterous archers, who drank the milk, and feasted on the flesh of their fleet and indefatigable horses. Their huts were hastily built of rough timber, and we may not without flattery compare them to the architecture of the beaver, which they resembled in a double issue to the land and water for the escape of the savage inhabitant: an animal less cleanly, less diligent, less social, than that marvellous quadruped."

The hunting of the beaver, appears to have been anciently a favourite sport on the continent, if not in England; though the zeal with which the otter is still pursued in Scotland may suggest the older beaver huntas not improbably one of the ancient sports of that country. The
convenient medieval creed, which converted the amphibious rodent into a suitable lenten dish, when flesh was forbidden, no doubt added to the zeal with which the beaver hunt was pursued, and contributed to hasten its extinction, as it is likely to do in our own Canadian province, where the luxurious bon bouche of beaver's tail is recognised and sanctioned by the supreme ecclesiastieal authorities of the Roman Catholic Church, as maigre, or Lenten fare. On this part of the subject I am informed, on the authority of one of the resident clergy of Lower Canada, that according to the discipline of the Roman Catholic Church the flesh of all amphibious animals is classed in the same category with that of fishes, and as such is allowed to be eaten during Lent and on other days of abstinence from flesh-meat. In this way the flesh of tortoises, frogs, and seals is considered to be meagre, and even certain wild ducks, more than ordinarily aquatic in their habits, enjoy the same distinction.

After the discovery of Canada, the Jesuit Missionaries demanded of the Holy See, whether the beaver might not be ranged in the same category, and from the descriptions sent home by the Reverend Fathers, the beaver was regarded as amphibious, and as such, allowed to be eaten a: eagre diet.

It is not the tail only, so far as I can learn, but the whole of the carcase which is maigre; though on this point I have received contradictory opinions. The musk-rat is also meagre food, but not the otter; a distinction which, in the abseace of any assigned reason seems singularly arbitrary. References to the beaver frequently occur in the journals of the French Missionaries of the seventeenth and eigh teenth centuries, but in very many respects these earlier descriptions of this animal are very incorrect, and mingled with fable. A curious and elaborate memoir upon the subject, prepared by Michel Sarrazin, is to be found in the Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences of Paris.

This source of the continued estimation of the beaver, apart fromits fur or castoreum, whereby it contributes some variety to the canonical fast-day uictetics by right of its aquatic habits; and in virtue of which, its tail--though so rich as to tax the skill of the cook inits preparation for the table,-is authoratatively prescribed as meagre diet: is no modern novelty of the Canadian church. Dr. Charles Wilson notes various proofs of the value attached to the beaver, especially by ecclesiastics, in.aacient times, on account of its having furnished an agreeable variety to the fare prescribed for their fasts and self-denying observances.
"In a German charter dated in 1103, the right of hunting beavers is conferred along with other huntings and fishings; and a Bull of Pope Lucius III., in the jear 1182, bestows upon a monastery the property in the heavers within their bounds. In comparatively recent times, Mylius cites a Prussian royal edict, regarding the beaver in the Elbe, dated 20th January 1714; with a subsequent one, insisting upon its protection under a penalty of no less than 200 dollars, issued at Berlin on the 24th March 1725. It was doubtless under a similar policy, that Frederick II. is reported to have gathered together a large colony of beavers, that he might turn them to economic uses: but with so little success, says Zimmermann, that they became afterwards dispersed throughout Brandenburg, and were soon rarely encountered.

Streso, a Dutch writer, states that the animal was used as foodin Holland, in the time of the Crusades; and he repeats the common notice, that its tail and paws were eaten as fish, with a safe conscience, during the religious fasts. But the monks of a convent of Chartreux, at Villeneuve-les-Avignon, seem to have carried this indulgent notion farther, and to have accounted their entire carcass among the 'mets maigres;' preparing from it large quantities of sausages, which were sold, and highly prized in the adjoining country. Albertus Magaus, however, says that their whole flesh was abominable, except the tail. Gesner describes the mode in which it was rendered savoury by the Swiss, he himself relishing the choicer portions as sweet and tender, 'jure croceo conditos.' Belon also tells us that its tail, which, he says, sometimes weighs four Ibs., was in his day used in Lorraine during Lent, and accounted a great delicacy, having a close resemblance in flavour to a nicely-dressed eel. The northern nations, according to Olaus Magnus, agreed with he rest in considering the tail and paws as highly delicate morsels."

We thus recognise in the beaver, which has disappeared within recent generations from so many of its Canadian haunts, and now lingers in greatly diminished numbers only in the least accessible waters, the survivor of a species familiar to man in remote centuries, rendered popular in the fables of 压sop, and noted by Herodotus, Hippocrates, Pliny, and Strabo. The last relics of the extinct Dodo have acquired a value the living animal never could have possessed; and the same reasons that confer an interest on the evidences of the extinction of species, as illustrating the like process still going on which geology reveals in the whole past economy of life, render the beaver of the Old and the New World worthy of special notice, as destined seemingly, like the Aboriginal Indian of this continent, to pass away from the records of living nature.

# CAPTURE OF TWO BIRDS OF UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE, IN UPPER CANADA. 

RY T. J. COTTLE, F.R.C.S.E.

Read before the Canadian Institute, March 5th, 1859.

## Picus (Dendrocofus: Swainson) Meridionalis. Little Georgian Woodpecker.

Swainson, in a note in the Fauna Boreali Americana, under the above name, thus describes a bird, which he suggests might be found occasionally in the northern parts of America:
"Woodpecker, varied with black and white; crown, black; a broad red bund on the hind head; second quill equal to the eighth; smaller than Picus pubescens; which it resembles in general appearance and rounded form of the tail feathers. The under plumage, however, is hair brown (as dark, but not as yellow as that of $P$. major, instead of white, or whitish, as in P. pubescens. The red band is much broader, and the relative length of quill is different. Inhabits Georgia. As we have seen as yet but two specimens of this, we consider its claims require further confirmation."

In September, 1854, I shot a bird, which I think agrees with the above; and as I can find no description corresponding to it in either Wilson or Audubon, it may be worth while laying it before the members of the Canadian Institute, for their opinion.

I send a rough sketch of my bird, which may serve to show the peculinrities in the marking. It differs so much from $P$. pubescens as to preclude any idea of its being a variety. In addition to Swainson's description, I would give the following: Length, six inches. In my specimen, which I suspect to be a young one of the year, the forehead is black, intermixed with rufous; towards the occiput, the ced predominates, but is spotted with black. I have no doubt but that in the next moult it would answer the Swainson description. From the bill, passing over the eye and round the head, is a band of dirty white; under this, passing through the eye, is another of black-below which, one of light rufous shading, with dirty white, runs round the lower part of the neck, nearly to the centre, where it is separated'from that on the other side by black. The whole of the under parts are of a hair brown. The lateral tail feathers are cinna-
mon brown, crossed by two black bars. The black and white workings on the wings and back closely resemble those of the $P \cdot p u b e s-$ cens, except that in the latter bird the white is purer.

A comparison of the more prominent differences between $P$. meridionalis and P. pubescens :

## p. MERIDIONALIS.

Length, six inches; under parts, hair brown; lateral tail feathers, cinnamon brown, with two black bars; red of head, above the white band which reaches to the bill.

## P. PUBESCENS.

Length, six inches and threc-quarters; under parts white; lateral tail feathers white, with two black bars; red of head below white band, which does not reach to bill

Swainson gives the habitat of $P$. meridionalis as Georgia. I can hardly think so, for Audubon searched that State, and he does not record the bird. It may more probably be Mexico, but if so, it is a long journey for a young bird to Canada.

The other bird I mish to record is the Ortygometra (Rallus. L.) Jamaiciencis, a specimen of which was procured near Ingersoll, I believe, in 1857, and is now in the collection of Wm. Pcole, Esq. Audubon figures it in his Synopsis, Plate cecxlix., and thus describes it: "Head and lower parts, dark purplish grey, approaching to black; the sides and lower wing coverts and abdomen barred with greyish white; hind head and fore part of back dark chestnut; the rest of the upper parts greyish black, tinged with brown, and transversely barred with white; wings inclining to reddish brown. From Louisiana to New Jersey : migratory."

## COMPARATIVE TABULAR METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS IN CANADA, ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

BY W. GRiEME TOMKINS, C.E., P.I.S.

Read bejore the Ganadian Institute, 22nd February, 1859.
The very able and valuable observations, on the meteorological phenomena of Toronto, carried on in the Provincial Observatory under Professor Kingston, have prompted:me to join my feeble endeavours in
such investigations, in this more elerated portion of the province; and having now completed one year's observations, I have prepared the same for presentation to the Canadian Institute, hoping the information they may afford will not be considered unworthy of its attention.
The position of St. Mary's in the county of Perth, Canada West, is in latitude $43^{\circ} 17^{\prime} 57^{\prime \prime} .6$ north, and longitude $81^{\circ} 13^{\prime} 30^{\prime \prime}$ west of Greenwich, and its elevation above Toronto (lake Ontario) is, by the Grand Trunk Railway levels 833.41 feet, to which must be added 24 feet the elevation of my place of observation above the railway, making 855 feet above Toronto; and allowing the l.ake Ontario, to be 235 feet above the level of the ocean, (the usual quantity allowed) this will give St. Mary's a total elevation of 1090 feet above the ocean. It may be well to remark here that it is about 30 miles west of the highest ridge levels of the province, which ridge tuns from Berlin, county of Waterloo, to Woodstock, county of: Oxford, and the height of this ridge rasy be counted about 150 feet above St. Mary's.
The observations have been taken with the greatest care, and read off and registered every moruing at 8 a. m., which is given by Professor Airy as the best mean time for barometric and thermometric data. The quantity of rain fall or melted snow is taken in a large rain guage of nearly one foot in diameter, and the direction of the wind is given as the prevailing one of the preceeding 24 hours, as also the general atmospheric appearance.
To render the observations more interesting from St. Mary's, I have added comparative tables taken from authentic sources, and my own experience. Those from Toronto are from the published papers of the Canadian Institute, and therefore perfectly reliable. I may here call attention to the fact that Toronto is in north latitude $43^{\circ} 39.4^{\prime}$, and west longitude $79^{\circ} 23.2^{\prime}$.
The observations in London (England) are from papers read before the Royal Society, by the late professor Daniell, my respected chemical preceptor in King's College, London, and are received as the best extant.
The St. Petersburgh observations are taken out and reduced from the Imperial Russian Almanac, published by authority of government, and under the ablest professors of that capital. And, the Moscow tables are from my own observations during several years' residence in that city.
The latitude.of St. Petersburg is $59^{\circ} 56^{\prime}$ north and longitude $30^{\circ}$
$19^{\prime}$ east of Greenwich. Moscow is situated in latitude $55^{\circ} 46^{\prime}$ north and longitude $37^{\circ} 36^{\prime}$ east, the former is about 21 feet above the level of the Neva or Baltic sea, and the latter is by the levels of the St. Petersburg and Moscow Railway about 650 feet above the Baltic sea, and is situated 460 miles in the interior, and away from any large body of water.

The tables will better speak in detail for themselves, but in a general way a few remarks may be made on them as follows. In the barometric table it is very remarkable that the rise and fall of each month is the same in each of six cases although not actually equal, indicating some general law of atmospheric density in this northern hemisphere. Thus the highest month is different as well as the lowest, but the difference is slight.
St. Mary's,
Toronto,
Hamilton,
London, (England),
St. Petersburgh,
Moscow,

| Highest. | Lowest. |
| :--- | :--- |
| July, | March, |
| June, | March, |
| September, | November, |
| February, | August, |
| May, | February, |
| July, | June. |

The differences of the elevations will, of course, account for the varied means, or heights in inches which may be briefly recounted thus :

| Place of observation. | Above Ocean level. |  | Bar. height. |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| St. Petersburgh, | 40 feet |  | 29.955 | inches. |
| London, (England,) | 80 | " | 29.885 | ": |
| Toronto, | 235 | " | 29.617 | " |
| Hamilton, | 240 | " | 29.681 | " |
| Moscow, (Russia, | 650 | " | 29.539 | " |
| St. Mary's, (C. W.) | 1090 | " | 28.842 | " |

Nors.-These heights take in the buildinks as well as the level of the land given before
The barometric heights are modifed by local circumstances.
The thermometric tables will be found of considerable interest, from the comparative results of the different months, and the annual means of the various places indicated in Europe and America. By it, it will be seen that St. Mary's is a little the warmest in summer, being in July $74^{\circ} .81$, and Moscow, (Russia, the coldest in February $7^{\circ} .30$, both measured by Fahrenheit thermometer, and it is the same one employedin both cases, being a standard thermometer prepared by Tagliabera of

London in 1842, of tho greatest exnctness, and compared by myself with the standard themometer of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. A short table for the isothermal lines from these data may thus be stated:

|  | North. Lat. | Warmost Month. | Mcan Tomp. | Coldest Month. | Mann Tomp. | Differ. enco. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Hamilton | $4{ }^{\circ} 18.3$ | July ........ | 73.20 | Jnnuary | 27.87 | 15.03 |
| St. Marys | 䖯 17.0 | :1 .......... | 7.481 | Pobrunry ... | 21.68 | 53.38 |
| pbronto | ${ }^{1} 139.4$ | " | 67.03 |  | 28.08 | 91.05 |
| Eondon, (Englind) ................ | ${ }_{81}^{81} 30.0$ | August ...... | 01.30 | J^uuary | 80.10 7.30 | 35.20 88.05 |
| St. Pelorsburg, (Mussia) ......... | 8980.0 | . ........ | 81.80 | " $\quad .$. | 8.80 | ${ }_{68.68}$ |

From which it appears by these tables that the greatest change of temperature on the continent of Europe takes place in Moscow, and the grentest in Cmadn, in St. Mary's, the relative difference being noted above.

The table of rain or melted snow, is also of considerable interest, shewing the amount which our streams and rivers have to carry off.

The annual sums point out that the Peninsula of Canada being surrounded on all sides by lakes or large deposits of water, the air becomes greatly saturated with moisture, which falls upon, and fertilises our fields and lands, and that Toronto is the greatest recipient of such fall being 37.16 inches; St. Mary's, the second, 35.42 ; Woodstock, 34.45, and London, in England, 24.26 inches. The amount at St. Petersburgh is yery small, and as we know it to be in high northern latitudes, viz: 16.49 inches.

This table for St. Mary's being for only one year will have to be corrected by future observations, which I am making daily, and shall transmit to the Institute as soon as completed, if deemed of sufficient value.

The table of atmospheric phenomena for the year 1858 in St. Mary's, shews in a forcible manner the genial nature of the climate in this part of the province. We have by these tables following, 42 per cent. fine, clear days, and very nearly 24 per cent. changeable and cloudy days, as also 19 per cent. quite dull, cloudy days, and only 15 per cent. absolutely snowy or rainy days, this must be admitted to be a very farourable view meteorologically of our Canadian climate.

The direction of our air currents is also of great importance for this elevated part of the Province, and the obserrations shew, that the great majority of them are from the westward, being 38 per cent. on
the yenr, 24 per cent. from the north, 20 por cent. from the south, and 18 per cent. from the cast.
In conclusion, I have to regret the absence of other important points, owing to the want of instruments, viz: the position of the dew point, the greatest extremes of heat and cold by a registering thermometer, and the fore or velocity of the air currents; all of which I greatly desire to add to render my observations more perfect, but being at present unprovided with the necessary instruments, I must therefore apologize for what I am aware are great defects, aud submit the tables to the Institution in the best form I can offer them.

METEOROLOGIOAL OBSERVATIONS AT ST. MARY'S FOR 1808.

DE W. G. T.

DIRECTION DF WIND.
Tadee showing the number of days that the winds from the four chicf polnts prevailed in each month.

| - Month. | West. | East. | North. | South. | Days. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 7 10 | 78 | 5 | 12 8 | 31 31 |
| Q February ............................. | 11 | 7 | S | 4 | 23 |
| ( March ................ | 21. | 3 | 3 | $\delta$ | 31 |
| Spring. \{ April ................................... | 9 | 11 | ${ }_{5}$ | 8 | 30 |
| (May............................... | 8 | 15 | 2 | G | 31 |
| Sumpe .......................... | 20 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 30 |
|  | 13 | 4 | 13 | 1 | 31 |
| ( $u$ ugust ......................... | 12 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 31 |
| September ................... | 10 | 2 |  |  | 30 |
| Autumn. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Octover } \\ \text { Novembe...................... }\end{array}\right.$ | 11 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 31 |
| Q November......................... | 7 | 9 | 16 | 0 | 30 |
| Sum of direction, | 130 | 75 | $88^{\circ}$ | 07 | 385 |

Or from Westward; 38 per cent.
" Eastward, 20 "
" Northward, 25 "
"Southward, 18 "

METEOLROLOGIOAL OBSERVAMIONS AT ST. MARY'S FOR 1808.
JX: W, G. T.

## atmosphemo aprbaranoe.

| Month. | Fine. | Clinugo. | Dull. | Runin. | Days. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \{ Decembor..................... | 10 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 31 |
| Whator. \{ Jmunry....................... | 10 | 18 | 5 | 7 | 31 88 |
| CMrarch | 15 | 0 | d | 3 | 31 |
| Spring, \{ Ajprl ..................................... | 10 | 0 | ¢ | 7 | 30 |
| Spre | 11 | $\therefore$ | 0 | 6 | 31 |
| \{ Juno ........................... | 91 | 1 |  |  |  |
| Summer. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Juldy ................................. } \\ \text { August }\end{array}\right.$ | 20 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 31 |
| (Aukust ........................ | 10 | 7 | 3 | $\bigcirc$ | 31 |
| Autumi S Soptember ................... | 18 | 0 |  | 3 | 30 |
| Autumm. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Ootober } \\ \text { Novernbr................................ }\end{array}\right.$ | 1.4 | 0 | 7 10 | 8 | 31 30 |
| Anumal smm, number or days. | 158 | 87 | 03 | 65 | 305 |



THERALOMEIRIO COMPARATEVG TABULAR RESULT OE ANNUAL METEORO. LOGIOAL OBSERVATIONS IN GANADA, ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

| Month. | St. Mary's, | Torouto X1еan, 20 years. | Hamilton, Mean, S y. | Lroudon, (Eugland, 20 years. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { St. Potors- } \\ & \text { (Rurg, } \\ & \text { (Russia.) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Moscow } \\ & \text { (Russia. }) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \{ Decmuer... | 30.40 | 26.35 | 31.05 | 30.90 | 17.75 | 7.65 |
| Winter. \{ Jnumary ... | 31.00 | 2392 | 97.57 | 30.10 | 3.0.4 | 7.30 |
| Sebruary ... | 21.58 | 28.88 | 27.77 | 38.00 | 10.76 | 22.10 |
| ¢ March ...... | 29.71 | 99.53 | 35.03 | 43.90 | 22.44 | 15.67 |
| Spring. \{ April ......... | 48.40 | 41.08 | 14.16 56.38 | 40.00 | 838.50 | 18.09 80.00 |
| 人 May ........ | 50.55 | 51.37 | 56.33 | 8 8.00 | 48.74 | 59.00 |
| (June ......... | 74.55 | 61.16 | 70.2\% | 58.70 | 83.13 | 02.53 |
| Summer. July ........... | 7.151 | 87.03 | 78.20 | 61.09 | 01.50 | 70.25 |
| August ...... | 71.74 | 66.08 | 70.56 | 01.50 | 00.62 | 60.30 |
| Scoptember.. | 68.70 | 58.07 | 62.35 | 57.80 | 50.38 | 30.40 |
| Autumn. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { October..... }\end{array}\right.$ | 80.50 | 45.20 30.02 | 10.82 37.95 | \$88.90 | 39.96 33.13 | 29.83 17.80 |
| Annual Mean. | 45.95 | 41.07 | 48.01 | 49,36 | 37.27 | 86.76 |

banombirio comparativi tabular result of annual meteonolo. Gloaf obsbrvations in oanada, meghand and hussia.

| Month. | St. MInry's, | 'Joronto, Mean, 20 y . | Inuilton, Monn, 8 y. | Iondon, (haygland, 20 yoars. | 8t. I'uters. burgh, (Russif.) | Moscow, <br> (R14ssia.) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Ducomior... | 28.803 | 20.600 | 20.070 | 20.770 | 30.210 | 20.187 |
|  | 28.1931 | 20.710 | 20.710 | 20.020 | 29.650 | 20.697 |
| F Fobrunry ... | 28.751 | 20.580 | 20.076 | 30.070 | 20.005 | 20.131 |
| Suriug \{ Mnrch ..... | 98.710 | 20.653 | 20.051 | 20.834 | 20.805 | 20.731 |
| Spring. \{ April ......... | 28.725 | 20.609 | 29.001 | 20.881 | 80.123 | 20.680 |
| Q Mny ......... | 28.812 | 20.608 | 20.057 | 20.808 | 00.164 | 20.304 |
|  |  | 29017 | 20.070 | 30.020 | 20.740 | 29.058 |
| Summor. \{ July ......... | 28.051 | 20.005 | 20.700 | 20.870 | 29.1881 | 29.757 |
| Sungust ...... | 28.910 | 20.500 | 20.724 | 20.750 | 20.803 | 20.008 |
| ( Sontomber.. | 28.885 | 29.050 | 20.700 | 20.031 | 30,085 | 20.803 |
| Sutumn. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { October...... }\end{array}\right.$ | 28.0105 | 29.604 | 20.606 | 20.000 | 20.042 | 20.871 |
| ( Novombor... | 28.778 | 20.020 | 20.037 | 20.776 | 30.042 | 20.498 |
| Mram, yoar. | 28.8:4 | 29.017 | 20.082 | 20.885 | 20.955 | 20.538 |

Mnad.-Remarkable coincidence in monsund riso and fall in acarly all coses.

RAIN on SNOW, (mbleted) in incies.
comparative tabular result of annual meteorological obser. vations in canaida, fingland and russia.

| Month. | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { St, Mary's, } \\ 1858 . \end{gathered}\right.$ | Toronto. 18 years. | London, (England, 20 years. | St. Petersburg, 10 years. | Wood. stock, C 185 j. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| S December | 3.29 | 3.040 | 2.40 | 0.04 | 1.66 |
| Winter. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { January ................... }\end{array}\right.$ | 2.29 | 2.890 | 2.48 | 2.34 | 2.81 |
| Q February................... | 2.05 | 2.863 | 0.76 | 0.05 | 1.78 |
| - March ..................... | 2.38 | 2.483 | 1.44 | 0.80 | 2.18 |
| Say ........................ |  |  | 1.85 | 0.75 | 1.71 |
| Summer $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { June........................ }\end{array}\right.$ | 7.38 | 8.103 | ${ }_{2}^{1.83}$ | 1.88 | 5.07 |
| Summer. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { July } \\ \text { dus..................... }\end{array}\right.$ | 1.24 | 3.502 | 2.52 | 1.81 | 4.08 |
| (August...................... | 2.37 | 2.807 | 2.54 | 1.11 | 3.80 |
| S September ................ | 1.34 | 4.333 | 2.10 | 2.35 | 4.21 |
| Autumn. October .................... | 1.01 | 2.803 | 2.07 | 2.15 | 3.56 |
| Q November ............... | 2.92 | 3.208 | 2.40 | 1.35 | 2.01 |
| Annual sum, inches. | 35.42 | 37.157 | 24.20 | 16.40 | 34.45 |

W. GREME TOMKINS, C.E., P.L.S., \&ic.

St. Mary's, January, 1859.

# THE SENSATIONALIST PIILLOSOPHY. 

BY REV. WILLAMM MINCKS, F.I.S.S bhofrseor op natumat mistory, univensity colligb, tomonto.

## Read before the Canadian Institute, 22nd Februeary, 1850.

I nm almost afraid that this paper may bring some discredit on our society, as it will be a subject of wondering inquiry, in what remote corner of the globe, in what peculinely unenlightened region, the man is to be found who is willing to avow himself a Sensationalist, undeterred both by the geacral opinion of those at present most engnged in these studies, and by the anything but complimentary epithets with which his system and its advocates have been assailed, not merely by special opponents but even by those who assume the character of calm and impartial historians. I can only account for my obtuseness by observing that I am by no means a young man, that at the distant period when I entered with ardour on the study of the human mind, the Sensationalist philosophy stood well in public estimation, and was powerfully defended by men of acknowledged talents. After much reading, study and veflection I formed my opinions, and having done so I camot change with changing fashions, see with new eyes, or even patiently sit down under the rebukes and imputations of any one who has himself drank from German fountains, and believes all wisdom to be with his masters. I may not hope in the present state of things to produce conviction in others, but I may perhaps claim to have the opportunity of expressing my views in a form which shall, at least, be free from the perversions of adversaries, and of openly refusing my assent to the prevalent dogmas, however weighty the names by which they are sanctioned. As this short paper relates to a subject upon which one interested in it might easily write a volume, upon which indeed I feel that a volume must be a large one to give space for doing justice to the discussion, I must begin by apologizing for offering so slight an attempt at the treatment of a great question, whilst at the same time I feel myself to be in danger of trying the patience of many who have not given attention to these pursuits, or to whatever degree they have doue so, have been carried in the very contrary direction to that in which I persevere in working my way, and may therefore be
little prepared to appreciate what I shall offer. It is a sense of the injustice with which those who hold my views have been treated, that induces me to say something in their defence, although I must candidly confess that my philosophical rending is not quite up to the times, and that my attention has of late yenrs been much diverted to other subjects. If, however, I should feel incompetent to discuss with you the various modifications of German Idealism, and to manage with ease its peculiar phraseology, I believe that I do understand what was really meant by the leading writers of the school, for which I shall accept Mr. Morell's name: Sensationalist, and that I know what inferences from their doctrines they who had carefully studied it admitted. When therefore $I$ see these things totally misrepresented by popular authorities I feel entitled to offer a few words of explanation.
The philosophical system, now called Sensationalism, is regarded by its supporters as being no more than the fair carrying out of Mr. Locke's principles. Bishop Law prepared the way for $i t$, whilst the philosophic physician, David Hartley, fully developed it and set it forth as a finished work, complete in all its parts, and even exhibited in its application to the conduct of life. Dr. Priestley perecived that Hartley's account of the physical cause of sensations and their corresponding ideas was misunderstood by many, and disapproved by others to a degree that made it an impediment to the fair consideration of his great doctrine of the association of ideas, and thence was induced to publish what related to the latter in a separate form, with some illustrative dissertations of his own, and in other works he defended in connection with Hartley's theory a peculiar modification of materialism. The speculations of Darwin went to such an extreme, and were so generally thought both false and pernicious as to bring no small odium on the whole system with which his extravagances seemed to be connected. For a time Sensationalism languished, cherished indeed by some learned and thoughtful men, but neglected by the crowd, and doing little to defenc itself against adversaries or conciliate public approbation. At length Dr. Brown arose, belonging indeed to the Scotch idealist school,-of which Reid and Stewart were principal orna-ments,-but adopting the great larr of association, and in his various ingeuious analyses of mental states manifestly following the method of the Sensationalists, whilst he rejected the name by which Hartley had expressed his theory, and pursued with ridicule and scorn the

[^25]physical part of it, as if hoping thus to conceal his extensive obligations to this great philosopher, or rather perhaps to avoid the imputation of any comnection with a system unpopular in his country, and long denounced in the scene of his public teaching. I know of no ground for preferring the term suggestion, employed by Brown to association, the older name ; the distinction between simple and relative suggestion does not appear to be founded on any essential difference or to be practically useful, and the laws of suggestion were soon shown to be reducible to much greater simplicity. Yet Dr. Brown appreciated and exhibited in a peculiarly pleasing manner some great truths, and displayed a power of thought joined with ingenuity and sagacity which command admiration. He has fallen under the imputation of inclination towards Sensationalism, and he is one whose aid, as far as it goes, any party might be proud of. Not to dwell on writers of secondary importance, we come next to James Mill, one of the clearest of writers and closest of reasoners. He put aside, as not immediately needed, all inquiry respecting the physical cause of sensations and their physical relations with ideas, in which respect his judgment may be called in question; but beginning where he did, his work is a noble contribution to philosophy. He fully adopts the Hartleyan doctrine of association, and by simple and well chosen terminology, clearness of style, vividuess of illustration, and a lucid order in his thoughts he has rendered the theory intelligible and interesting, whilst his admirable original views respecting language, and his beautiful analysis of some of the most complex ideas conveyed by it have thrown a new and bright light on the whole subject. I cannot feel satisfied r.ith his account any more than with Hartley's, of the emotional part of our nature, to explain which, something more than he admits seems to be required, and I have a method of my own for endeavoaring to complete in this respect the theory of the mind, but Mr. Mill's work seems to me, entitled to a place among the finest that have been produced on the philosophy of mind, and deserving of far more attention than has yet been bestowed upon it.

I need not here dwell on the abuses of sensationalism in France, or on the peculiar forms which it assumed in the hands of Elelvetius, Condillac, Cabanis, and De Stutt de Tracey; the last mentioned beyond comparison, the best French writer of this school. I camot but think the phraseology of Condillac more objectionable than what I take to be his real meaning. The Ideologie of De Stutt de Tracey, is both in-
teresting and instructive, and seems to me worth many volumes of the French school which has succeeded him.

The Germans have added nothing to the literature of Sensationalism which is too much opposed to their mystical tendencies ever to have secured any portion of their favour.

Let me now endeavour to explain the connection of the Sensationalist doctrine with Locke's philosophy, which you must be aware does not directly favour it. Locke rejected innate ideas, maintained that the first and the simplest mental states are sensations, and that from them as materials, the mind forms all its other states. Tho question arises, and may appear not to have been satisfactorily answered by Locke himself, how these other states, by him called ideas of reflection, are formed. We all recognise certain remnant copies or revivals of sensations recurting singly or in clusters, as the case may be, differing sufficiently from the actual sensations, yet irresistibly referred to them, as specially connected with them, and implying their previous existence. The inquirer asks, do these, variously combining together according to natural laws, produce all possible mental states; or are they altered by an action upon them of certain faculties inherent in the mind; or again, are they so altered and acted upon after being united with other states necessarily existing, though only made perceptible by such union and which thus constitute an equivalent of the supposed innate ideas? I know not that any other supposition than these three is possible in connection with Mr. Locke's primary principles. The latter must be adopted by the pure idealist if he at all followed out Mr. Locke's course of thought or admitted the first principles. The second was probably Locke's own view, but could not be sustained, if the first and simple supposition explains all the phenomena, or if the alleged faculties are shown by analysis to be mere cases of a general law. The first supposition is that adopted by the Sensationalist, who maintains that assuming only the uniform operation of certain very simple laws derived from a wide induction and shown to have at least a probable connection with the physical cause of sensations, he can show how all possible mental states, intellectual and emotional must arise from sensations and their revivals above referred to. He offers proof that what are described by writers of other schools as distinct faculties of mind are only cases of the results of the great laws, not at all requiring any supposition of distinct powers, and he undertakes, to exhibit the composition and gradual formation of those very ideas,
in his view highly complex, which are usually referred to as examples of ideas incapable of being analysed, which must therefore have a necessary origin in the mind. For myself, I will only now say on this subject, that if any one capable of reasoning on such matters, and at all prepared by previous inquiries, can read Dr. Law's notes on the ideas of space, time, immensity, and eternity, in his celebrated edition of Archbishop King's origin of evil, and afterwards study James. Mill's clear and masterly analysis of what is implied in these terms and still maintain that they represent simple ideas inherent in the mind and independent of external things; he and I differ so fundamentally and approach these inquiries from such different points that I know not where to seek any common ground, so as to see where our differences begin, or how they are to be settled.

Proceeding on what seemed to me the plainest possible principles, and unwilling to break the continuity of my reasoning I stated the relation of the ideas corresponding to sensations to the sensations themselves, as implying their previous cxistence, as something certain and generally admitted. I do not wish however to overlook the fact, that manifest and indisputable as this appears to my mind, and genexally as it seems to be received as among the most certain truths, it is denied by those who have made a certain progress in the German idealist school of philosophy. As an example I refer to a man of great powers and great attainments, as well as of conspicucus position in the world of science, Dr. Whewell, of Cambridge, in his 'Philosophy of the inductive Sciences,' a work containing so much that is practically valuable, as to be greatly admired even by those who think its philosophical principles fundamentally erroneous. For the sake of conciseness, I quote from the author of the Historical and Critical Review of the speculative philosophy of the nineteenth century, the following, as the first of the points in which Dr. Whewell's work shows the transition which according to this writer philosophy is undergoing, from the Sensationalist to the Idealistic tendency: "In the broad distinction laid down between sensations and ideas; a distinction in which (unlike that of Locke, Mill, and many others,) the latter are shown to have no direct dependence upon the former, but an a priort existence of their own, as original forms or categories of the understanding."

It seems then according to these authorities that the idea arising in my mind of any particular object of sense is not a consequence of a previous sensation, is not derived from the sensation, but belongs to
the mind independently of it. Applied to general and abstract ideas, this is realism revived in full force, when we might have thought that it had received its final blow, and belonged only to history; but the language used carries us much further, and expresses something so contrary to familiar facts and plain evidence that I hardly know how to treat it.

When a Berkleyan denies altogether the existence of anything external to the mind, I understand his reasoning, and perhaps think it plausible, though I may fancy that I can see the fallacy of it, but if a material universe and a bodily frame of man furnished with senses, be admitted at all; if sensations themselves have any reality: I cannot comprehend the denial that the mind's copy of the semsation is derived from the sensation. The doctrine maintained on my own side I shall explain more fully as I proceed; the assertion incapable of evidence and made to give consistency to a theory, which I have brought under your notice, scarcely admits of argumentative treatment. It seems to me to be in itself a condemnation of the system which requires it.

Tt appears from what has been stated that Sensationalism professes to be a carrying out of Mr. Locke's leading ideas, by further i xamination of the nature and origin of that class of mental states of which his explanations are obviously incomplete or unsatisfactory. Some supporters of the doctrine, like James Mill, prefer not to meddle at all with the physical part of the question. To others this appears of no small importance in the way of evidence, and fairly within the reach of investigation. The actual dependence of sensation-though the sensations themselves belong to the mind,-on the neryous system, and this part of the frame forming the link of connection between mind and body, are truths physiologically established, generally ad-- mitted, and indeed only to be questioned by those who deny that we know anything but mind, and run into all the extravagances of a spiritual scepticism. 'Sensations then depend upon or uniformly accompany some kind of action or excitement of the nerves; and through them of the brain. But there are good and well known proofs that a sensation is not instantaneous, but continues as a mental state when the object no longer affects the nerve, and gradually fades away; which fact implies, of course, the continuance in the brain of the action whatever it be which caused the mental change called the sensation. We also know that there arise in our minds states which we recognise as copies or revivals of the sensations when no external
impression exists; it seems then reasonable and even necessary to conclude that these depend on a revived similar, but less vivid or less extended action of the nervous system, probably confined to the brain itself. We may be the more confident of this, from knowing as we do, that in some kinds of madness, and in some other forms of disease, which, though affections of the body, extend their influence to the mind, as well as in sleep, the revived sensation or idea may be so vivid as to create belief in an external impression, although none actually exists. Philosophers of this school have found it convenient to use the word idea to express the copy or revival of a sensation such as we have spoken of, and some have deemed it very important to trace the physical action as far as possible. The wdeavour to refer the different kinds of mental action to different regions of the brain constitutes the basis of Phrenology, in which effort there has been some apparent success, and as 'it readily accounts for the different natural mental tendencies and capacities modeniably existing in differcut individuals, there might possibly have been much more complete success, if auatomical examination and patient observation of facts had been aided by juster views of the general laws of mind and the proper distinction of its so called faculties. We must not now, however, pursue this branch of the subject.

Dr. Hartley attempted the examination of the physical action introducing sensations with the best lights his age afforded, and concluded that there was reasou to belicve the nervous action to be vibratory. He consequently spoke of sensations as depending on vibration, whilst to express the less vivid or less extended action which he regarded as the corresponding paysical cause of the ideas or revivals of sensations he invented the term vibratiuncles or lesser vibrations.

His object was to bring out strongly the relation between the seusations and their revivals, and thence the possibility that a principle of physical sympathy, strictly malogous with other known facts respecting the human frame, would explain and confirm the observed law according to which ideas are produced. The particular kind of action supposed was of no real importance to the theory-but,in truth, the objections commonly made to Hartley's explanation were dramn from strange perversions of his meauing by those who had never taken the trouble to study his statements. Think, for example, of men pretending to philosophy, ridiculing him for representing the nerves as acted upon like strings under tension, for which notion he never gave
the slightsat pretence. What he thought of was communication along a line of minute particles some impulse, given at the external organ of sense, much in the manner of what we see to take place in a series of elastic balls. Our modern knowledge might suggest ideas of communicated action, not mechantcal, which might help us on this subject and have indeed more recently been applied, though not always wisely, and within proper limits. But what Hartley proposed gave as good a notion of the real nature of the process $n \mathrm{~s}$ has ever yet been obtained, although modifications in the mode of expression might now be found expedient. We must, however, always recollect that the whole real importance of Hartley's physical theory is contained in these propositions: 1. That sensations belong to a specific action of the nerves and brain. 2. That revivals of sensations, called ideas, depend on a similar but less vivid or less extended action. 3. That ideas arise according to regular laws depending on the nature of nervous matter, and on a physical sympathy between similar contemporaneous or immediately successive excitements-giving them such mutual power over each other that the recurrence of one will bring up the idea of the other. These are propositions in themselves by no means improbable, and which have been independently supported by much curious evidence.
Whether the system be right or wrong we may safely conclude that the ridicule heaped upon Hartley's physical theory was totally misplaced, and originated in the blundering ignorance and prejudice of those who employed it.

I readily acknowledge that Dr. Hartley's attempt to digest his system into propositions and corollaries in mathematical form was injudicious; that his frequent recurrence to his vibration theory after he had once explained its evidence and purport was tiresome and repulsive, and that his style was far from being attractive; but I contend at the same time that in educing all mental states from sensations according to one fixed law, of which all supposed distinct facultics are but special cases, he has attained to the true interpretation of the nature of the mind, and has presented the principles of philosophy in their simplicity and grandeur in a way which ought to command the attention of thoughtful men, and which affords the best foundation for practical usefulness.

The mind which first perceived the real importance and extent of application of the larv of association must have belonged to the highest
order, and might well claim to rank with the immortal discoveror or the lav of gravitation, among the benefactors of science and of mankind; yor do I despair of a more enlightened age which shall have freed itsclf from the tramels of false systems now triumphant and fashionable, bestowing the honour which is due.

But the modern Sensationalist attempting to start in the manner I have indicated from Mr. Locke's fundamental principles, is probnbly told at once by his oppouent that Locke was utterly mistaken in his rejection of imnate ideas. It may be true, it is said, that the mind has uo consciousness until the first sensation, but it has a constitution which determines the manner in which that sensation shall affect it, which gives to it a certain form and accompaniments. Our conscious. ness we are told is not of the sensation alone, but of that and something more derived from the mind itself and belonging to it-in overlooking which we should neglect the brigin of our most essential ideas and most certain judgments.

Now it is quite certain that we have a specific constitution reoeived from our Creator, which it is the object of mental soience to understand ; and if, beginning with sensations as the first states, and duly considering the law according to w ; wideas arise from them, and recur or combine together, we arrive at any states not to be thus accounted for, we must of course suppose some other origin for them: but we deny the existence of any such states and we ask for examples that we may consider them. We are probably referred to indentity, space, and time. We reply that we have already considered what is conveyed by these terms, and find them to imply complex gradually acquired notions whose history and analysis we can trace with entire. satisfaction to ourselves, and we maintain that any instances proposed would be found in the same category, we feel therefore fully authorised in the course we have pursued.

Another great objection popularly urged against us is, that Seusationalism involves materialism, scepticism, and even atheism. In reply, I beg leave to ask, what philosophical opinions have in modern times been found most fruitful in atheistical tendencies, or most manifestiy opposed to the influences of religion? Without any daubt the answer must be, the German transcendental philosophy, which however is no more than idealism consistently worked out.

All doctrines may be pushed to extravagance or perverted to the sanction of what the more sober part of society deems serious error.

We must nevertheless seek truth, by the best means in our power, on the subject we are investigating, and when we are entisfied, follow it into it's genuine consequences with sobriety and caution. Aa a matter of fact, Hartley rejeoted materialism, denied it's following from his prinoiples, and oonsidered himself as only studying thenature of the connection established by our Creator between mind or spinit, and the bodily frame. Thr same is true of other eminent Sensationalists who had carefully examined the consequences of the doctrine they maintained; and if some eminent men of this school have been materialists, having dwelt on the connection of mental states with the physical frame, until they persuaded themselves that the former might be functions of the latter, and that there is no ground for inferring the independent existence of the spirit in man, let it in justice be lrept in mind, that a large proportion of these have been as firm believers in God the author and governor of all things, in revelations made by Him of his purposes and will, and in the future life of man, as positively made known by Him, as any defenders of any other philosophical systems whatsoover. It is then a poor controm versial artifice to sot up materialism as a bug-bear to frighten the weak. Let it, be left to its evidence; We may not think it likely to prevail, and may ourselves be abundantly satisfied with the arguments. against. it, but it is not a necessary or general consequence of Sensationalism, neither supposing it adopted, has it any necessary tendency towarde the pernicious and revolting doctrines which some minds will entertain, and: which lave been founded upon the most opposite philosophical systems. Pantheism, one of the most delusive forms of atheism, is a frequent result, and often regarded as a necessary consequence of pure Idealism.
Having: myself early adopted the sensationalist pliilosophy; having a firm belief in its ultimate prevalence, and seeing how io is:misreprosented and pexverted by those who profess to give information to inquirers, I hope to be: indulged in offering these few remarks in ex. planation of our views to a Society; whose wide field embraces equally the philosophy of the mind:and of nature, the abstract and practical sciencess and: the whole extent of literature and art. I am notinsen. sible to the weight: of authority against my opinions, or to the value of much that hasbeen written by those to whom in the general theory of the mind I am: opposed; but I claim on my own aide that we also have our great men, and high authorities, that we are not a set of
wild oppononts of overything venerablo, but can show gonius, learning, piety, and sober, laborious iuquiry, omployod in investigating the actual plenomean of mind, without setting off from any fanoiful assumptions; detormining the laws which regulate them, and npplying these to the mostimportant practionl purposes in connoction with the science of rensoning, with oducation, government, natural morals, and everything that concerns the intellectual progress and social improvement of mankind.

## REVIEWS.

Popular Geology. By Hugh Miller. Boston: Gould and Lincoln, 1859.

This, the last work, it may be presumed, that we are to have from the pen of the lamented Hugh Miller, must not be confounded, as its title would lead oue to do, with the already sufficiently numerous and superficial class of works on Popular Science. The title, "Popular Geology of Scotland," would have indicated in some respects more definitely the scope of the work. In its treatment it is fully as popular as any of Hugh Miller's previous writings, while in originality of thought and novelty of speculation it is little less scientific than any of them. As is well known to the Geological world, the author was engaged for some time prior to his death upon what he intended to be his "Ilaximum Opus," the Geology of Scotland. The volume under notice contains the skeleton of this intended work, and consists of six lectures delivered before the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh. It unites the graceful diction and apt simile of the author with an immense amount of originnl researeh,-qualities rarely associated in such happy combination. Hugh Miller belonged to that school of geologists, which holds that this earth has been gradually fitted for its present inhabitants, in opposition to those who maintain that "all things have been from the beginning as they are now." Mrs. Miiller has contributed an able resumé of the progress of Geological Science, and exercises the general editorial oversight of this posthumous work. Several indications however, suffice to show that the notes of the original lectures are printed, very much in the shape in
which they were origivally produced before an Edinburgh audience. Various illustrations might be produced in proof of this very pardonably scrupulous fidelity to the anthor's manuscript, but one will serve our purpose here, better than any others could possibly do. Lecture first begins with the consideration of the junction of geology and human history, with special reference to periods of Scottish history previous to the Roman invasion; and this introductory portion our author thus concludes: "The story of $\mathfrak{n}$ civilized people I would fain study in the pages of their best and most philosophic historians; whereas I would prefer acquainting myself with that of a savage one archonologically and in its remains. And I would appeal in justification of the preference, to the great superiority in interest and value of the recently published 'Prehistoric Amals of Scotland,' by our accomplished townsman Mr. Daniel Wilson, over all the diffuse narrative and tedious description of all the old chroniclers that ever wore out life in cloister or cell." It is scarcely necessary perhaps to remind any of our Canadian readers, that the nuthor of the work referred to by Hugh Miller in such terms of commendation, when addressing an Edinburgh audience to whom both were then well known; has now the citizens of our Upper Canada capital for his townsmen, and is specially known to oursclves as the cditor of this Camadian Journal.

It camnot be overlooked by any intelligent critic of Hugh Miller's writings, amid all his high admiration of them, that there are passages of a theologice-controversial character, traceable to the circumstances under which some of them were first produced, in the columns of a religious and party neysspaper. These lectures however, were prepared under altogether different circumstances, and designed for an audience whose presence is a safeguard against polemics. We have accordingly been gratified to find that the author does not touch upon the vexed questions involved in the theological bearings of Geology, which have already been discussed ad nauseam, and have become a nuisance to every practical Geologist. Commencing with the Post-tertiary, the author devotes the whole of the introductory lecture to the separation of the $g$ cologic from the historic age, in a manner highly pleasing to the antiquary,--here as everywhere else showing the large amount of general information he possessed. We are tempted to give the following rather lengthy extract, as a specimen of the author's pleasing style for the general reader; as it is only by giving such a continuous passages that the sustained vigour of his style, and the attractiveness
he throws aromed his theme, ean be made fully apparent. It occurs: in the fourth lecture, nnd is entitled "A Walk into the Wilds of the Oolite Hills of Sutherlnud:"
"Let us, howover, cre we part for the evening, ndvonture $n$ ghort walls into the wilds of the Oolito, in that portion of spneo, now occupiod on the surfnoo of the globe by the north-onstorn hille of Sutherlmud, whore they abut on the precipitousOrd.
" Wo stand ou an olevated wood-onvered ridge, that on the one hand overlooks the blue sen, and descends on the othor towards a brond river, beyond whioh there epreads a wide expanse of a mountainous forest-covorod country. The higher aud moro distaut hills are dark with pines; and anvo that the sun, alrendy low in tho sky, is flinging nthwart them his yellow llyht mad gilding, high over shadod dolls and the decper valley's olfff, and copse, and bare mossy summit, the goneral oolouring of the back-ground would bo bluo and cold. But the ray falle bright and warm on the riah vegetation around us,-trea ferns, nud tall olub mossos, and graceful palme, and the alraugely proportioned cyculacen, whose leaves 800 m . fronds of the bracken fixed upou decupitated stumps, nud along the banks of tho river wo seo intensely green hedges of tho fonthered equisencem. Brown conos and weathered bniky lenves strew the ground; and seareo a humdred yords awny thero is a noblo Araucarinn, that raises, sphore-liko, its proud hond moro than a huadred feetovor itz followr, and whose trunk, bedewed with odoriferous bnisam, glistens to the sun.
"The calm stillnoss of the nir makes itself fnintly nudible in the drowsy hum of insects; there is a gorgeous light-poised dragon-fy darting hither and thither through the minuter great-liko groups; it settles for a moment on one of the lesser ferms, nud a small inseotivorous crenture, seareo larger than a rat, issuos. noisolessly from its hole, nad oreeps stealthily towneds it. But there is the whirr of wings heard overhond, nud. lol 12 monstor desceuds, and the little mammnl starts. bnck inta its hole. "Tis a winged aragon of the Oolite an onrniverous reptile, keenof eye and shapp of tooth, and that to the hend and jaws of the crocodile adds the veck of a bird, the tail of an ordinary mammal, and that flonts through the air on leathern wings resembling those of the great vampire bat. We have seen in the minute, rat-like orenture, one of the two known mammals of this vast land of the Oolite.-the insectenting Amphithiritum; and in the flying reptile, one of its straugely organized Plecodactyls.
"But hark! what sounds are these ? Tramp, tramp, tramp,-crash, crash. Treefern and club moss, oycas and zamia, yield to the force and momentum of someimmense reptile; and the colossal Iquanodon breaks through. He is tall as the tallest elephant, but from tail to snout greatly more than trice as long; bears, like the rhinoceros, a short horn on his suout; aud has his jaws thiclly implanted with sarr-like tecth. But, though formidable from his great height aud strength, ho possesses-the comparative inoffensiveuess of the herbinorious animals; and, with no desire to attack, and no necessity to defend, he moves slowly onward, deliberately munching, as he passes, the succulent stems of the oycadacea. The.sun is
fast ainking, and, as tho light thichous, the ronchos of the noigbbouring river display thoir froguent dimplos, and now nud auon loug scaly jagke aro ralsed over its surfaco. Its numerous crooodiloans aro nstir; and now they quit the strenn, and wo soo its thick hodge-like lines of equesoticoal open and agnin close, as thoy rustlo through, to scour in quost of proy, tho dark meadows that line its banks. Thore aro tortoisos that will this ovoning find thoir proteoting armour of earapace and plastrou all too wonk, medoloso their long lives of centurles. And now wo esuutor downarards to the shoro, and seo the ground swell breaking whitu in the onlm agniust ridges of coral acarco leas white. The shores are strowed witia sholls of ponll. The whorled Ammonite and the Nautilue ; and amid the gleam ganoidnl sealos, rofloctod from the green dopthe hoyoud, wo may seo the phosphoric trail of tho Bolommite, and its path is over sholls of strunge form and wamo,-the sodentary Gryphon, tho Pema, and the Plagiostoma.


#### Abstract

"But, 101 yet anothor monster. A smale - like form, surmounted by a crocodilean hund, risos high out of the water within yonder coral ledge, and the ficry, sidister oyos peor fuquiringly round, ns if in quost of proy. The boily is but dimly seen, but it is ehort and bulky compared with the swan-like neek, and mounted ou pad. dles instend of limbs; so that the entire orenture, wholly unlike anything which zow exists, has boen likevod to a vast boa constrcitor throuded through the body of a turtle. Wo have lookod upon the Plounsnurus. And now outside the ledge thore is a huge crooodilenn hend raised, and a monstrous eyc, huger than that of any other living creature,-for it measures a full foot acrose,-glares upon the slimmer and less powerful reptile, and in un instant the long neck and small hend dianppear. That monster of the immense eyo,-an eye so constructed that its focus oan be altered at will, and mado to compromise either near or distant objecta, and the organ itself adapted eithor to examine microscopically or to explore ns a teloscope,-is another be-paddled reptilo of the sen, the Tchyosaurus, or fish-lizard. But the night comes on, and the shadowe of the woods and rocks deopen; there are uncouth sounds along the beach and in the forest; and new monsters of yet stranger shape are dimly discovered moving amid the uncertain gloom. " Reptiles, reptiles, reptiles,-flying, bwimming, waddling, walking,-the age is that of the cold-blooded, ungenial reptiles; and, anve in the dwarf and inferior forms of the marsupials and insectivora, not one of the honest mammals has yet appenred. And now the moon rises in clouded majesty; and now her red wake brightens in one long strip of the dark sea; and we may mark where the Oeteosaurus, a sort of reptilean whale, comes into view as it crosses the lighted track, and is straightway lost in the gloom. But the night grows dangerous, and these monster-haunted woods were not planted for man. Let us return then to the sufer and better furnished world of the present time, and to our secure and quiet homes."


The above may appear but the vision of a poetic fancy, but "those who have read of the book of nature" can testify to its reality; and to our readers it is a sample of much else in the volume which
presents science under new and singularly suggestive aspects. Lecture five relates to the Lias Hills of Eathie,-a most remarkable doposit nem the town of Cromarty, the birth-place of the author; the Trias and Permian systems, and the carboniferous era with its rich and beautiful Flora. The Scottish audience, as well as tho Scottish authorship, is present throughout the volume. The Scottish Archæologist, Wilson, is referred to in the first Lecture. The Scottish poet, "Delta," is called in, in Lecture third, proparatory to the idenlising of nature's pootical associations, in reference to Geology. Lecture fourth begins with a suggestive passage from the "Guy Mannering," of Scott; and even where our authis turns with Sir Charles Lyell's aid to the facts and reasonings derived from the study of our Canadian Lake district, it is only thereby to illustrate the Geology of Scotland, "during the chill and dreary poriod of the boulder clay." In the sixth lecture the author is at home in his favorite Old Red Sandstone: part of the great Devonian system so extensively developed in Western Canada. The Silurian system closes this lecture, and completes the main scope of the work. An Appendix entitled, "Descriptive sketches from 凤 Geologist's portfolio," is added at the close of the volume, for the insertion of which Mrs. Miller needlessly apologises; for nothing can be more useful than such suggestive ideas as are there wrought out. Often a small and apparently obscure fact thus noted down has helped to the solution of $a$ difficult problem. The wonderful arrangement of the Tertiaries, for example, although far from complete, has been effected in this manner by the filling up of gaps in the succession of strata. We cannot take leave of this most interesting volume without renewing the reiterated expression of regret at the irreparable loss which science and literature alike sustained in the death of one whose peculiar gift in popularising science, as well as in enlarging its bounds, is so happily illustrated in this work. With him the popular treatment of Geology consisted not in evading and ignoring its most difficult researches, but in clothing its profoundest speculations and: its abstrusest inquiries in language and thoughts so fascinating that the popular reader was lured on to a mastery of recondite truths by the orerruling influence of the master mind which presented them in so attractive a guise.
J. F. S.

Meteorites. By Elijah P. Harris, Ph. D. Gottingen: W. F. Krestner, 1850.

This is an exceedingly useful little pamphlet, containing some original investigations by Dr. Harris, and also a very carcfully compiled chronological list of all known meteorites. In Kümtz Metcorolologie, and Humboldt's Cosmos, we have catalogues of the same kind; but every year has made large additions to their lists, and Dr. Harris has undertaken the praiseworthy task of bringing our information up to the present date.

In the introduction, our author gives a brief account of the various theories which have been proposed, to account for those extraordinary visitors to our planet, and as might be expected, gives in his adherence to the iden of Chladni, viz : that they are of cosmical origin, or in the words of Lichtenberg, "Weltspähne: World shavings."

The author has omitted to mention the theory of Dr. Smith, which, as a compromise between the cosmical and the lunar hypothesis, is of some interest. According to this theory, the meteorites have been ejected from volcanoes in the moon; not directly on to the earth, but with such force, as to remove them from the influence of the moon's attraction and to cause them to acquire a course of their own, under the influence of the neighbouring planets. The hypothesis has been critically examined by Mr. Gregg.
It is only recently, that Wöhler announced the presence of an organic or carbonaccous matter in the meteorite of Kaba and Dr. Harris has also proved the presence of a similar substance in the stone from the Cape of Good Hope : two very curious discoveries, which throw some light on the previous history of these remarkable bodies.

Dr. Harris has furnished very carefully conducted analyses of these meteorites, first, the stone which was observed to fall near Krahova in Hungary, on the 19th May, 1858, that of Bokkewald, Cape of Good Hope, 13th October, 1838, and the meteorite of Mont Rejean in France, which fell on 9th December, 1858.

The following table represents the results of the analyses:

|  | I. | II. | III. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Magnetic | 8.56 | .... | 8.4 |
| Unmagne | 91.44 | .... | 1.59 |



Owing to the work haring been printed at Göttingen, it contains an unfortunate quantity of typographical errors, and of German expressions which occasionally render the writer's meaning somewhat obscure. This occurs particularly in the portion where the method of analysis is described, and it is to be hoped, that as Dr. Harris is now a resident amongst us, holding the chair of modern languages in Victoria College ${ }_{z}$ he may be induced to reproduce this portion of his pamphlet in a corrected form.
H. C.

## Taylor's Treatise on Poisons. 2nd Edition. Blanchard \& Lea. 1859.

In the July number of the Canadian Journal, while reviewing that portion of Dr. Taylor's work on poisons, which treats of arsenic, the writer was induced to make some objections to the restricted use of

Reinsch's test as recommended by the author, and at the conclusion of the paper, brought forward the preliminary evidence in the Smethurst case, as a confirmation of his views, inasmuch as a solution was examined for arsenic, a number of $t$ tes without success; and the poison was only discovered after repeated operations. We formerly gave great credit to Drs. Taylor and Odling, for their perseverance and skill in detecting arsenic under such circumstances, a proceeding which is only rendered difficult, by a bigoted adherence to one method of treatment. We then intimated that the non-detection of arsenic must have been owing to some other mysterious agent than chlorate of potassa. The mystery has since then been cleared up; the fact being, that there was no arsenic present, except such as existed in the copper employed, and was dissolved during the progress of the experiment.
Herapath has well observed, that no ordinary copper could possibly coritain such an amount of arsenic as was found by Dr. Thaylor; this' is undoubtedly true, but on the other hand it is well known, that no reliance is to be placed on the method adopted by Dr. Taylor for ascertaining the quautity present.
In the evidence given at the trial whish has since taken place, it appearis that arsenic was detected in a portion of an evacuation, but it ninust be remembered that the same copper was employed and that nothing is said concerning the absence of nitrates, chlorates, \&c.

In some of the articles which have appeared in recent English newspapers on the subject, doubt is thrown on chemical evidence as to the presence of poisons. In the case of arsenic and all mineral poisons; we most decidedly object to this opinion; there is no difficulty and no uncertainty affecting our decision on this subject, if proper precaiutions be adopted, and if we do not refuse to avail ourselves of the results of recent and accurate investigations.

In ai late nümber of the Philosophical Magazine, Davy has shown that arsenic is present in the superphosphate of lime, used as a manure; owing. to the employment of impure sulphuric acid in its preparation. He has also detected it in turnips grown on soil treated with this manuref, and in peas grown in-mould moistened. with a solution of arsehious acid:

The test employed in all cases; was however, that of Reinsch, and the copper mäy have contained arsenic. Davy states that the reagents were proved to be pure, but as in the principal experiment, the coppeir was boiled with the acid for three hours, and as we know from Odling's
experiments, that copper is really dizsolved after long boiling, so much doubt is thrown on these results as to call for further and more accurate investigation.

표. C.

## SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY NOTES.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

## THE EXTINOT AMFRICAN HORSE.

At a recent meeting of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Prof. Holme, exhibited a collection of Fossils from the post-pliocene of South Carolina, accompanied with some highly interesting remarks and references. From the latter we select the following, especially for its bearing on the former existence of the horee on this contivent, contemporaneously with the Mastodon and others of the later extinct faun. of prehistoric times:-
"The collections contrin remains of the horse, ox, sheep, hog and dog, which I feel strongly persuaded, with the exception of many of those of the first mentioned animal, are of recent date, and have become mingled with the true fossils of the post-pliocene and coceneformations, where these have been exposed on the banks of the Ashley River and its tributaries. In regard to the remains of the horse, from the facts stated in the account given of them in the succeeding pages, I think it will be conceded that this animal inhabited the United States during the post-pliocene period, contemporarily with the mastodon, megalonyx, and the great broad fronted bison.
"Many of the mammallian remaius are of recent animals, or at least are undistinguishable from the corresponding parts of the hicter; and if they are not accidental occupants of the post-pliocene deposit, are highly interesting, as indicating their contemporaneous existence with many species and genera now extinct.
"It appears to be quite well authentiented that the horse, which is now so extensively distributed, both in a wild and domestic condition, throughout North and South America, did not inhabit these continents at the time of their diseovery by Europeans. With this fact in riew, in conjunction with the circumstance that animal remains of late periods may become accidental occupants of earlier geological formations; we should require strong evidence to be advanced before it is admitted that the horse belonged to an ancient fauna of the western world. At the present time the evidence appears to be sufficiently ample to justify the latter conclusion, and it is further sustained by the discovery, in the same part of the world, of the remains of two species of the closely allied genus Hipparion.
"Remains of the horse, discovered in Brazil, Buenos-Ayres, Chile, have been indicated by Dr. Lund, Prof. Owen, M. Weddell and M. Gervais. These remains exhibit no well marked characters distinguishing them from corresponding portions of the skeleton of the recent horse, and from a comparison of the figures and
deseriptions which have been given of most of them, together with some remarks of the latter author, it is doubtful whether they belong to more thau a single species, the Equus neogceus of Dr. Lund.
"Prof. Buckland and Sir John Richardson have described remains of the horse, discovered in association with those of the elephant, moose, reindeer, and musk-ox, in the ice cliffs of Eschscholtz Bay, Aretic America.
"In the United States, remains of the horse, chiefly consisting of teeth, have been noticed by Drs. Mitchell, Harlan, and DeKay, but these gentlemen have neither given descriptions nor figures by which to identify the specimens. Some of $1 \cdot \mathrm{e}$ latter are stated to have been found in the vicinity of Neversink Hills, New Jersey; others in the excavation for the Chesapeake aud Ohio Canal, near Georgetorm, District of Columbia; and some in the latter tertiary deposit on the Neuse River, in the vicinity of Newbern, North Carolina. Dr. DeFika, in speaking of such remains, says, 'they resemble those of the conmon horse, but from their size apparently belong to a larger animal;, and be refers them to a species with the name of Equus major.
"Dr. R. W. Gibbes has given information of the discovery of teeth of the horse in the pliocene deposit of Darlington, South Carolina; in Richland District of the same State; in Skidaway Island, Georgia, and on the banks of the Potomac River. He further observes that he obtained the tooth of a horse, from eoceue marl, in the Ashley river, Sout!, Carolina, but the researches of Prof. Holmes iadubitably indicates the specimen to have been an accidental occupant of the formation.
"Specimens of isolated teeth, and a few bones of the horse, from the postpliocene and recent deposits of this country, have frequently been submitted to my inspection. Many of theso I have unhestatingly pronounced to be relics of the domestic horse, through I feel persuaded that many remains of an extinct species are undistinguishable from the recent oue.
"Whether more thau one extinct species is indicated among the numeroas specimens of teeth I have had the opportunity of examining, I have been unable gatisfactorily to determine. Tho specimens present so much difference in condition of preservation, or change in structure; so much variation in size, from that of the more ordinary horse to the largest English dray horse; and such variableness in constitution, from that of the recent horse to the most compler condition belongiag to any extinct species described, that it would be about as easy to indicate a half dozen species as it would two.
" Under the circumstances, I would characterize the extinct herse of the United States as having had about the same size as the recent one, ranging from the more ordinary varieties to the English dray horse, with molar teeth, frequently comparatively simple in constructiou, but with a strong disposition to become complex.
"Among the number of teeth of the horse in Prof. Eolmes' collection labelled as coming from the post-pliocene deposit of Asbley River, there are several which, from their size, construction and condition of preservation, I feel convinced are of recent date: and these no doubt became mingled with the true fossils of that formation where it is exposed on the Ashley River, in which position I personally found undoubted remains of the recent horse and other domestic animals
and objects of human art; mingled with remains of fishes, reptiles, and mammals, washed by the river from the banks, composed of cocene and post-pliocene deposits.
"Teeth of an extinct species of horse, howerer, undoubtedly belong as true fossils to the post-pliocene formations in the vicinity of Charleston. These are usually, hard in texture, stained brown or black from the infiltration of oxide of iron, sometimes well preservod, but mare frequently in a fragmoutary condition and wnter-worn. Generally they are not larger than the teeth of the more ordinary varieties of the domestic horse, and sometimes are quite as simple in the plication of their enamel, but usually are more complex and: sometimes execedingly so.
"One figured represents a first superior molar tonth, neither lerger normore complex in structure than the corresponding tooth of the recent horse. This specimen, mhich is dease and jet black in color, was obtained by Prof. Holmes from a stratum. of ferrugineus sand, two inches thick, exposed on the side of a bluff, on Goose Creek, about twelve miles from Charleston.
"Having expressed a desire to see the locality from which the tooth just mentioned was obiained, Prof. Holmes aforded me the opportunity of doing so. The bluf is about thirty feet high; its base is formed of a pliocene limestone, about fifteen feet thick, and composed of the debris of marine shells; above this is the stratum of ferruginous sand, of post-pliocene age, containing numerous pebbles. and rolled fragments of bone all blackened like the tooth obtained from the same. position. Overlying the latter stratum, there is a layer of. stiff blue clay; about two fect in thickuess, aud above this there are about twelve feet of sand and earth-mould.
"A similar blackened tooth was obtained from the same formation at. Doctor's Swamp, Jobn's Island.
"Another figure represents a remarkably well preserved specimen of alower: molar above referred to from Georgin, where it was discovered by J. H. Couper, in association with equnlly well preserved.remains of other extinct animals. The tooth is brown in color, and it neither differs in size nor form from its homologue in the recent horse.
"In the collection of fossils: of Prof. Holmes, there is the specimen of an upper first large molar, labelled from Texas, represented in figare 5. The tooth is: of the largest comparative size; and exhibits the highest degree of complexity in the folding of its enamel; in both of which claracters it differs in such a remarkable degree from the corresponding tooth, represented in figure $b$, from the post-pliocene formation of South Carolina, that it appears hardly possible that.these two teeth: should belong to the eame species of horse.
"A remarkably well preserved specimen of na upper molar-tooth, jet blackin color, aud an incisor, yellow and quite friable in texture, both belonging to the extinet horse, from Nouth Carolina, have been submitted to my inspection by Prof, Emmons.
"Among the most intereating of the fossils discovered by Prof. Holmes, in the post-pliocene beds of the Ashley River, are tro molar teeth of aspecies of the equine genus Hippotheriuan. These are the first remains of the latter: discovered: in America, and they indicate the smallest known species.
"Both speoinena are from the upper jaw, and they are well characterized, not only by the isolution of the internal median collumn, but also by the complex plication of the interior or central enamel columns.
"The larger-specimen is firm in texture; has the eammel stained jet black, and the dentine and cement gray.
"I have personally had the opportunity of inspeeting remains of the tapir, found in Texas, Louisinaa, Kentucky, Mississippi, Indinna, Ohio mad South Carolina, proving an extensive range of this suimal at one time over the conntry of the United States.
"The specimens which were presented by Dr. Carpenter to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, on close comparison are not found to differ from the corresponding parts of the living Tapir's amoricanus.
"The post-plioceue deposit of the Ashley River contains a number of small fragmeuts of molar teeth, and one nearly eatire and unworu crown of a second lower molar, which have the same characters of form and size, as in the living tapir. Besides these, the same collections contain fragments of lower molars, and two nearly entire crowns of upper molars, having the exact form of the corresponding teeth of the T. americanus, but larger in size.
"Teeth of the beaver, jet black in color, have likewise been obtained from the post-pliocene deposit of Ashley River.
"The collections contain numerous specimeus of blackened molar teeth, together with $\mathfrak{a}$ few incisors and fragments of jaws, from the Ashley post-pliocene deposit which neither differ in form nor size from the corresponding parts of the recent musk-rat.
"Reraains of Lcruts sylvatigus-common gray rabbit-have been found in association with those of other rodents and of the extinct peccary near Galena, Illinois. A few specimens of molar teeth, black in color, apparently belonging to this species, were obtained from the post-plioceac beds of the Asiley River.
"Several small fragments of teeth of the Megatherium, in Prof. Holmes' collection, were obtained from the post-pliocene bed of the Ashley River. Previously to the discovery of those specimens, remains of the Megatherium had been found in no other lccality of North America than in the Shate of Georgia.
"Two small fragments of lower molar teeth of Mylodon harlani weve obtained from the Ashley post-pliocene bells. Onc of the fragmeuts is represented in figure 21, plate xvi. of 'A Sremoir ou the extinct Sloth Tribe of North America' by the nuthor.?"

On these remarks from the pen of Professor Leidy, Professor Holmes observes:
As regards the specimens of human art found as above, it must be remarked that it is only at this locality-Ashley Ferry-that we fand such relics. Here at the base of a low bluff, is a beacl: of coceue madl; above the bluff is a farm-yard, and all the sweepings of the premises, consistity in part of old hoes, broken plough-shares, and fragments of crockery-ware, etc, are thrown into the river, aud lie mingled with the fossils which are washed out of the bluff, and seattered over the surface of the beach below, which is exposed at low tide. At uo other locality on this river, nad there are several, viz.: Ramsay"s, Clemeut's, Greer's, Middleton's, de., where similar fossils are fomd, do we obtain relics of human art; at least I have never found such.

From the foregoing it would appenr that of the ancient faum of Amoria, which included renrescutatives of many of our present domestic nuimals, some spocies bave undonbtedly become extinct; but I confess I am not yet prepared to admit from nny evidence yet adduced, or from my own examinations, that all of the living species are distinet from those found fossil in the post-pliocenc. The teoth and bones of the rabbit, raccoon, opossum, deer, ell, hog, dog, sheep, ox and horse, are often found in these beds, aud though associated with those known to be extinct, suck as mastodon, megatherium, hipparion, sce., need not necesearily bo referred to extinct ances also; sinco their remains cannot be distinguished from the boucs and teeth of the liviug species.
It has been just remaked that about niucty-five per cent., or nearly all of the one hundred and fifty shells of molluscous amimals from these beds are specifically identical with the recent or living species of the const,-two are found only at the south of this, and two are extinct. Of the vertebrates from the same bed, the tapir, peccary, raccoon, opossum, deer, musk-rat, rabbit, beaver, and elk have still their living representatives, generieally, if not specifically; and even of the identity of species there seems to be no donbt, as no anatomical differences can be discerned. Two of these species, like the molluser just alluded to, no longer live in South Carolina; the tapir and peccary are only found in South America nad Mexico: the muskrat, elk, and beaver, though extinct on the Atlantic coast, are still living in the interior of the comntry. And though it has been acknowledged that the mastodon, megntherium, elephant, glyptodon, and two species of Equine genera, dce, are eutirely extiuct, yet the diseoveries made of the remains even of some of these, would iadicate that they still existed at a period so recent, that. in the language of Professor Leidy, "it is probable the red man wituessed their declining existence."

The peccary, or Mexicau hog, nu animal common in Mexico, is not indigenous to the Atlantic United States; but his buncs havo been found associated with buman remaius in cares used as cemeteries by the Aborigines. "A tomb in the city of Mexico," according to Clavigero, (?) "was found to contain the bones of an eutire mammoth, the sepulchre appearing to have been formed expressly for their reception." And "Mr. Latrobe relates that during the prosecution of some excarations, vear the city of Tezcuco, one of the aucient roads or causeways was discovered, and ou one side, only three feet below the surface, in what may have been the ditch of the rond, there lay the entire skeleton of a mastodon. It bore every appearance of having been coeval with the period when the road was used."

Again says Professor Holmes, I extract from Professor Leidy's letter:
"The early existence of the genera to which our domestic animals belong, has been adduced as presumptive evidence of the advent of man at a more remote period than is usually assigned. It must be remembered, however, even at the present time, that of some of these genera ouly a fer species are domesticated; thus of the existing six species of Equas (horse) ouly tro have ever been freely brought under the dominion of mam.
"The horse did not exist in America at the time of its discovery by Europeans; but its remains, cousisting chicfly of molar teeth, have now been so frequently.
found in association with those of extinct aumals, that it is generally admitted once to have been an aboriginal inhabitant. When I first saw examples of these remains I was not disposed to view them as relics of an extinct species; for although some presented characteristic differences from those of previously known species, others were undistinguishnble from the corresponding parts of the domestic horse, and amoug them were intermediate varieties of form and size. The subsequeat discovery of the remains of two species of the closely allied extinct genus Hipparion, in addition to the discovery of remains of two extinct equine genera of an enrlier geological period, leaves no roon to doubt the former existence of the horse on the American continent, contemporancously with the Mastodon and Megalouyx ; and man probably was his companion."
The result of the wholescens to be, that of the avimals found fossil in the postpliocene beds, all the mollusea of the present day are undoubtedly a perpetuation of the same species; that of the higher order of vertabrata, the tapir, peceary, raccoon, opossum, deer, elk, and musk-rat are equally entitled to be considered the descendants of this aucient race. And if the claims of the mollusea to this distinction rest upou a secure basis, because they are peculiar to this country, and not obnoxious to suspicion of foreign immigration, it must be recollected that this is equally true of the above anmed animals.
Those which have hitherto been regarded as of recent and Europena origin, are the horse, sheep. hog and ox; and it must be reserved perhaps for future consideration to determine how far the negative proof of the non existence of these animals in the country at the time of its discovery may be regarded in ench individual case sufficiently strong to settle the question of his extinction and re-introduction, when so many of his associates and contemporaries lave succeeded in maintaining an unbroken line of descent down to the present day.

The questions involved in the final results of these discoveries are as varied as they are important. Professor Agassiz has taken up the inquiry with lively interest, and in a letter to Professor Holmes observes:-"'The circumstances under which these remains are found, admit of no doubt, but the animals from which they are derived, existed in North America loug before this continent was settled by the white race of men. together with animals which to this day are common in the same localities, sucb as the deer, the musk-rat, the opossum, and others only now found in South America, such as the tapir. This shows beyond the possibility of controversy, that auimals which canot be distinguished from one another, may originate independently in different fauna, and I take it that the facts you bave brought together are a satisfictory proof that horses, sheep, bulls and hogs, not distinguishable at present from the domesticated species, were called into existence upon the continent of North America prior to the coming of the white race to these parts, and that they had already disappeared here when the new comers set foot upou this continent; but the presence of tapir teeth among the rest show also that a genus pecu!:ar to South amerien and the Sunda Islands existed also in North America iu those days, and that its representative of that perion is not distinguisbable from the South American species."



423 The mean teroperature of July, 1859 , differed but little from the average of the last 20 years, the depth of hain recorded was 0.879 inches on the surface less than
the wean of the same number of years, and the mean velocity of the wind was $1^{\circ} 0 S$ miles per hour in excess of the average of 12 jears.



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MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER, ST, MARTIN, ISLE JESUS, CANADA EASTM-JUNE, 1859. (NiNE MILES WRST OP MONTREAL.)

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL IUEGISTER, ST. MARTLN, ISLE JESUS, CANADA EAST-JULY, 1859. (NINE MILES WEST OF KONTREAL.)
BY CHARTES SMALLWOOD, M. D., LT.D.

RELIARKS ON THE ST. MARTIN, ISLE JESUS, METEOROLOGIOAL REGISTER FOR JUNE, 1859.
Highest, the 10th day ..... 30.097
$\{$ Lowest, the 20th day ..... 29.426
Monthly Mean ..... 20.784
Monthly Range ..... 0.971
Thermometer ... $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Liowest, the 12th day }\end{array}\right.$ ..... $91^{\circ} 0$
Thermometer ... $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { Lowest, the 12th day ......................................................................................................................................... } \\ \text { Dionthly Mean }\end{array}\right.$
(Yonthly Rango. ..... $62^{\circ} 0$
Greatest Intensity of the Sun's Rays ..... $101^{\circ} \frac{3}{4}$
Lowest point of 'rerrestrial Radiation ..... $24^{\circ} \mathrm{Z}$
Mrean of Humidity .....  708
Amount of evaporation ..... 2.89
Rain fell on 14 days, amounting to 8.770 inches; it was raining 49 hours and 30 minutes, andwas accompanied by thunder on 5 days.
Most prevalent wind, the W.
Least prevalent wind, E. by S.
Most windy day, the 30th day; meau miles per hour, 14.84.
Least winds day, the 24th day; mean mileds per hour, 0.33 .
Aurora Borealis visible on 0 nights.
The electrical state of the atmosphere has indicated high tension.
Ozone was present in rather large quantity.
Solar Halo on the 12th day.
Frost on the $\mathbf{5}$ th, 6 th, 11th and 12th days.
REJIARES ON THE ST. MARTIN, ISLE JESUS, METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER FOR JOLY, 1859.
Highest, the 5th day ..... 30.292
Barometer. Lowest, the 22nd day ..... 29.382 Monthty Mean ..... 29.815
Monthly Range. ..... 0.864
Thermometer
Gighest, the 12th day ..... $97^{\circ}$
Monthly Mican ..... $36^{\circ} 1$
Monthly Range ..... $61^{\circ} 6$
Greatest intensity of the Sun's Rays ..... ${ }^{110}{ }^{\circ}$
Lowest point of Terrestrial Radiation ..... $27^{\circ} 9$
Mean of Humidity ..... 705
Amount of evaporation ..... 3.61 inches.
Rain fell on 9 days amounting to 2.428 inches; it was raining 15 hours 35 minutes, and was accompanied by thunder on 7 dass.
Most prevalent wind, S. W.
Least prevalent wind, E.
Most windy day the 24th day ; mean miles per hour 11.34.
Least windy day the 5th day; mean miles per hour 0.61 .
Aurora Borealis visible on 2 nights.
Parhelia on the 9th day.
Frost on the 4th' and 5th days.
The electrical state of the atmosphere has indicated high tension.
Ozone was present in moderate quantity.

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March, 21st, 28.976. Range of Barometer during the year, 1.505.-Maximum TemperaRange of Thermometer during the year 97.9.-Maximum in sun's rays with blackened grass, 10th February,-14.0. Rauge duritug the year, 116.3.-Maximum pressure of wind, Most windy month, December. Least do., June-Most cloudy month, December. Least do., September.-Thunderstorms, 14.--Bay open, 2nd April.
ABSTR $1 C T$ OF METEOROLOGICAL PEGISTER，

$\frac{\text { RIE MY A R IK S S．}}{\text { The observations of the Rarometer at half－past nine and half－}}$ past threa give vory nearly the maxima aud minima of the day， and thus the mean for tho year．The observations of the Ther－ mometer at the same timess give the temperature a little higher
 rations give the true mean within a few hundreths of a degree．
 taken at 6 a． $\mathrm{m} ., 2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$ ．，and $10 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$ ．is $44^{\circ} .74$ ，while from the
 can be relicd upon as accurate．They have been made with standard instruments－the Barometer compared with that of the Royal Society of London，and the Phermometers construct－ ed by Caselia，the best maker，and furnished with cortificates of comparison and correction from the Kew Observatory．

| ＊SO！TVU！4！ ALOUS | $\begin{aligned} & 020000000000\left\|\begin{array}{l} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{array}\right\| \end{aligned}$ |
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| Year． | Barometer at of n．m．， and 3 ？ $\mathrm{p} \cdot \mathrm{m}$ ． | I＇horwo－ meter． do． | l＇ension ofvapor， do． | $\begin{aligned} & \text { IXumi- } \\ & \text { dity, do. } \end{aligned}$ | Clouds， do． | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Pressur } \\ \text { re of } \\ \text { wind, } \end{array}\right\|$ | Mean of Maxitn． andsin． Therm． | Iljghest Tem．in shade． | Rowest do． | Highest Temper． on sun＇s rays． | Lowest do．on grass． | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Highest } \\ & \text { Bar'r. } \end{aligned}$ | Lowest do． | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \operatorname{Rain} \\ \text { inclies. } \end{gathered}\right.$ | Snow <br> in inches． |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1888 ．．．．．．．．． | 20.660 | 45.57 | ． 31.4 | ． 800 | $5 \cdot 02$ | ． 350 | 43.71 | 86.9 | －11．0 | 102.3 | －44．0 | 30.481 | 28.970 | 25.02 | 37．5 |
| 185＇if ．．．．．．．．． | 20.685 | 41.69 | ． 318 | ． 315 | 9．0\％ | ． 315 | 42.67. | 85.5 | －29．0 | 104－0 |  | 30.430 | 28.684 | $26 \cdot 10$ | 61.5 |
| $1806{ }^{\circ} \ldots$ | 20．620 | 41.16 | ． 310 | ． 813 | 6.67 | ． 564 | 42.65 | 88.6 | －17．6 |  |  | 30.520 | 28.610 | 17.005 | 37.5 |


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| －Sums |
| Mecans |


[^0]:    *They:ane now prescrved in the library of-Shrewsbury Grammar School.
    if In the MSS.S. of the Itinerary of Antoninus (vido ed. ?arthey and'Pinder, Berlin, 1848), the name is given also as Uriconium, Uericoniam, Ureconiam, and Viroconium, The anonymous Ravernias has Utriconion; and in:the treatise of Richard of Cirencester, do Situ Britannice, we find the forms Viriconium and Tirioconikm, besides Oriconium and Erioconium. It is diffentt to decide whicin should be preferred. Mr. Wright adopts U*iconium, and Mr. Scarth Urioconiams whilst the weight of authority seems'to me to preponderate in favour of Firroconiam, the Oütpokóvioy of Ptolemy.
    \#: I.have omitted points, for [am uncertain whether the marks between certain'etters, as they appear. in the copy of: Goumh's Camiden, which I use, are intended for points or for representations of defects in the stons, or are blemiskos in the engraving or printing.

[^1]:    * Wroxeter, in consequence of the discoveries which have lately been made there, is at present regarded with much interest by antiquaries, and "a well organized movement has at length been made for the exploration of the site of Urioconium."

[^2]:    - Since the above was written, $I$ observe that the author of a very interesting article on Uriconium, in The Gentleman's Mfagazine for Mas, 1859, has adopted Mr. Wright's views, but I am still of opinion that his interpretation cannot be received.

[^3]:    - The writer in the The Gentleman's Magazine, already referred to, gives the name of Uhis soldier as Caiws Mrarinizss Secand $\pi$ s Pollentints; and adds that he "was also a.pensioner of the first legion (i.e., bencficiarizs legionsis prima), but bothe these readings aro niamifestly crroneous.
    + The word "principaly", as ordinstily usedi in Errglish, does not convey the meaning of principalis as applied to a Roman soldier. The Latin term means that the person so' styled was one of the principales, a designation given to sub-officers or officials, in centradistinction to manifices or gregarii, which denoted the common soldiers or privatess Vide Veget. de re Militari, ii, c. 7 .

[^4]:    * It is not unworthy of notice, that in an iuseription found in Fritzheim (Orelli, n. 501), we have the same name of another soldier of this legion, a native of Claudia Celcia, in, Noricum. Te, however, was the son of Caius, and had a brother, whose pronomen was Caius.

[^5]:    * This stone has escaped tho notice of 3ir. Wellbeloved, for he states (Eburacum, p. 33), with reference to the fourteenth legion, that "it is not mentioned on any tile or in any inscription found in Britsin."
    †This supposition originated with Camden, who formed it on the authority of an altar which was found there, with HABITANCI on it. His conjecture derives support from Mr. Warcis reading of the words that follow HabITANCI, as PRIMA STA[TIONE], which accord with the position of Risingham, north of the wall on Watling Street. It must be borne in mind, however, that there is no notice in any ancient author of any place in Britain called Irabitancum. But Horsley (Britannia Romana, p. 354) remarks:"It may sometimes so happen, that the name of a place may be in an inscription which we meet with no where else. And of this there is in fact an instance or two in Britain; nameLy, Dracchium at Brugh in Kichmondshiro, and Habitancum at Risingham in Northumberland. To these perhaps may be added Apiatorizm, in the inscription now in the library at Durham, which is probably Newcastle, if the altar was found there, and also Alaterva for Cramond in Scotland." The examples, cited by Horsley, prove the dauger of depending on such authority for names otherwise unkiown. Bracchio, which occurs in the inscription given by Horsley, $p$. 313 , is plainly not the name of a place, but the designation of "a line of communication," as Mr. Gale correclly explained it. Vide Camden, ed. Gough, iii. p. 331. and add to the references given there, Livy, iv. 9 ; xxii. 52 ; and xxxviii. 5. Apiatorio, in n. luxvii. Northumberland, is also not the name of a place, but of a person, for it should bo read A-PLATORIO; and the individual named in it is Aulus Platorius Nepos, who was Legnte under Hadrian. ALATERVIS, in n. mxix, Scotland, is an epithet of the Dece Matres, and seems to me derived from abroad, probably from the neighbourhood of the Meuse or the Rhine, for the altar was erected by a Tungrian cohort. Possibly there was some connection between them and the goddess Alateivia, worshipped amongst the Gugerni. Fido Henzen, n. sS65. It is scarcely necessary to add, that there is no ground for the conjecture of Sir J. Clark (Stuart's Caledonia Romana, p. 171,). "that Ptolemy probably made a mistake, whets translating Alatervum or Alaterva castra into Greck, and that the latter is the true reading of his $\pi \tau \epsilon \rho \omega \tau \delta \nu \sigma \tau \rho a \tau \delta \pi \epsilon \delta o \nu$. ."

[^6]:    - From Mrr. Smith's Collectanea Antiqua, Vol. iii.P. A, I learn that "an engraving of this slai illustrates a paper by Mrr. Thomas Hodgson, in the Archreologia emliana, Vol.iv." I rogret that I have not seen it, as I have been unable to procure the work.

[^7]:    * The learned editor of the Mronumenta Fistorica Britannica doubtless had authority for the collocation which he suggests of the titles of Severns; but I aim not armare of any example of them in that order. They are usually placed as Hensen gives them ir: his restoration.
    +The addition of COS seems to be justified by the fact; that in the year A.D. 205, Caracalla was Consul for the second time, and Geta for the frst. In Dr. Druce's copy of the inscription, we have, in the third line, COS I instead of COS II; but this, I.presume, is a mistake. If not, we should omit COS from Geta's titles, as the inscription wrould then be of A.D. 202. The addition-of I after COS, instead of COS alone which is the recognized form for a first cousulship, suggests the conjecture, that this style may have been derived by Caracalla from his father, whose coins of his frst consulship present the strange peculiarity of $I$ after COS. Porhaps there was some reference to this in the phrase ter et semel cos by which the year 202 was marked. But I'must add, that I have never seen .an example, in the case of Caracalla, of I after COS on either coins or stones,

[^8]:    * Ed. Reimar, Hamburgh, 7752, p. 1322.

[^9]:    - It is scarcely necessary to add, that there are camples of $O$ and $O P$ for opus, and of P F and F for porfecit and fccit rospectively.

[^10]:    * Henzen (Index, p. 72 ,) gives A.d. 202, seqq., as the date of this inscription; but this is impossible, according to his reading, for Caracalla was not $\operatorname{COS}$ iI until 205. This latter year I regard as the date, although COS III of Severus and COS II of Caracalla extended over $\mathbf{2 0 5 - 2 0 7}$. But if the year had been 206 or $20 \hat{\text {, }}$, wo should have had, I think, the tribunitial number ('TRIB. POT.) of either Severus (scil. xiiii. or xv.), or Carncalla (scii. viiii. or x.), or of both. I am not satisfied, however, as to the accuracy of the copies, which I have seen, and would suggest a careful re-examination of the stone.
    $\dagger$ Lucius AEmilius Salvianus was already known as tribune of the 1st Cohort of the Vangioncs from an altar, found at Risingham, the inscription on which is glven by Horsley. n. laxri, Northumberlaud.

[^11]:    - Ancient Laws of Wales, published by the Inecord Commissioners. B. JIF. iii. 16; iv. б.

[^12]:    ' Edinhurg Now Philosophical Journal, Vol, VIIf,

[^13]:    * By the courtcous permission or the son of the author, I havc un favoured with access to Mr. Thompson's valuablejournals, through the intervention of the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, Audrow Russell, Eseq. The journals embrace the results of observations bextending over a period of 35 years : and are comprised in 67 volumes, fuli of information alike curions and valuable.

[^14]:    * In my travels thousands of the natives were not half so well armed.-D. T.

[^15]:    * The same topographical evidence serves in Britain to indicate the ancient locations of the beaver. Beverley, in Yorkshire, bss been referred to. The "Codex Diplomaticus Avi Saxonici" supplies such names as Beferburne, Beferige, Jeferic, and Dr. Charles Wilson further illustrates the subject as follows: "In the Glossary of Elfric the Angio-Sayon Archbishop of Canterbury near the close of the tenth century, appended to his 'Grammatica Latino-Saxonica, we have the Befer rendered as the Fibor or Castor Ponticus. The annex in each name: burme (brook), ige and ic, oricg (island), and licc (inclosed space, fence), is entirely apposite, and suggests to us so perfectly the ordinary habitat of the animal, or the construction of its dam, as to establish at once the certainty of its having existed at the Individual place in the Anglo-Saxon period. Again, in an ordinance of Edward Y. for the government of Scotland, dated in 1305, we find William of Bevorcotes named as chancellor of the lingdom; and hero we are reminded of the buts (Anglo-Saxon cote), of the beaver, a cluster of which had evidently led to the territorial designation of this dignidary. There is a "Bevero Island," which lies about three miles north of the city of Worcester, which is popularly understood to have been so denominated from its having been frequented by beayers: and doubtless it might be easy to glean elsewhere many similar local designations."

[^16]:    - Orren's British Possil Mammals, p. 191.
    $\dagger$ Prehistorio Anmals of Scotland. pp. 28, 193.

[^17]:    - Edinburgh Philosophical Journal, Vol. I., p. 183. Nem. Wernerian Niatural History Society, Yol. III., p. 207.

[^18]:    - New Statistical Account; Berwick, p. 267.
    + Irchistoric Anuals of Scotland. p. 31.

[^19]:    *The skull is now placed in the Muscum of the Treedside Physical and Antiquarian Society at liclso.

[^20]:    - Oversigt over det Kisl. danske Videnskabemes Sclskabs Forhandlinger, 1535, p. 381.

[^21]:    "It is interesting to remark that, independent of the more remote evidence produced by Professor Steenstrup from the peat-mosses of Denmark, we have, in the testimony of Giraldus and Albertus Magaus, though not in the classical writers,

[^22]:    * Forhandlinger af dansky Videnskab, Selsk. : Illustreret N'yhedsblad, (Chrlstiania, 1856), pp. 104.

[^23]:    * Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary, v. Timmer.
    $\dagger$ Archæological Institute, Newcastle. Memoirs of Northumberland, vol. I. p. 27.

[^24]:    * The bugill; the bullock or ox Mart-ik sable; the sable martin. Poynze; the pole-cat.

[^25]:    VOL. IV.

