

THE NEBRASKAN

Vol. IV. No. 2.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, LINCOLN. OCTOBER 4, 1895.

PRICE 5 CENTS

IN THE BAD LANDS

REGENT MORRILL EXPEDITION

Was a Profitable and Enjoyable Trip—Good Specimens Secured—Doc's Account of It.

It was a jolly party of students which started from the University early in June for the Daemoneilx beds of north-west Nebraska, and the big bad lands of South Dakota. The following were in the party: Prof. Barbour, Col. Cornell, Doc Everett, Freddie Hall and his brother G. B. E. F. King, commonly called Rex, T. H. Marsland, Jessie Rowe, and G. R. Wieland. We were sent out through the generosity of Regent Morrill, who provided funds for this and the two previous expeditions. On arrival at Harrison, Neb., we met our driver and started at once for the corkscrew beds.

Camp was pitched in the midst of the Daemoneilx fields at Eglee Crag, some three miles north of Harrison. These Daemoneilx beds are the remains of an old lake bottom, which reaches over an extent of many hundred miles. They are roughly bounded on the north by the White river and on the south by the Niobrara. Their extent to the east and to the west in Wyoming has not yet been definitely determined. All in all they cover an estimated area of 400 or 500 square miles. In them, on the sides of cliffs, ravines and blow-outs are found the peculiar fossils from which they take their names. The blow-outs are hollows in the surface of the ground which have been formed by the action of the wind. Each blow-out has a central core of some harder material around the region of which the softer soil has been blown away. These beds are nothing more nor less than a sedimentary sand rock some 250 feet in thickness, interspersed by flinty layers and denser portions of silicious nature. The Daemoneilx, or devil's corkscrew, is found near the top of this layer and beneath the upper larger flinty layer.

The Daemoneilx is a peculiar fossil from two to nine feet in height and having an average diameter of eight inches. There are fine collections of this formation in the State University museum, which are the only ones in existence. Nebraska has cause to be proud of them for they are peculiar to herself. They only occur in the Pine Ridge tablelands of Sioux county, Nebraska. The typical form, roughly speaking, resembles an inverted corkscrew with half of the handle gone or else a magnified cane wrapped with fire hose. It is formed of a harder material than the rock surrounding, and thus weathers out and resists disintegration better.

These corkscrews have a regular spiral form with the trunk or handle part sloping upward from the coiled column. In some rare forms there is no trunk present. Each coil is always a definite degree smaller than its preceding upper neighbor. For this reason the whole spiral tapers from the top gradually to the bottom. The trunk is from twelve inches upward in diameter and from three to fourteen feet in length.

All prominent geologists are interested in this matter, and many theories have been advanced by them. Nevertheless, the exact method of formation has not yet been explained. If this were actually determined, the discovery would bear the same relation to geology as the discovery of a star of the first magnitude does to astronomy. The three theories which are the most generally accepted are the accretion, the burrow and the plant theory. The accretion theory is to this general effect that these corkscrews were formed by the collection and aggregation of particles of the corkscrew material around a common point. Thus the occurrence of a corkscrew would be a mere accident. Now if they were mere "accidents," accretions, they would not occur so often and of such a regular form. There is no other "accident"

knew; to geology which occurs so regularly and in such profusion. The second theory, that of the burrow of an animal—gopherlike—has received a great deal of attention and has now many firm supporters. This theory explains itself. There are many objections to it also, the chief ones of which being: There are no remains of the animal which is supposed to have made them found in them; the scratches which a rodent would make with his claws on the sides of the screw are entirely missing. These Daemoneilx beds at the time when these fossils were formed were the muddy bottom of the lake, or else a very marshy, boggy place, subject to sudden overflow and covering up with sand and mud. The nature of the material in which they are found would preclude any such burrowing at the time of deposition, since excavations of this nature would be impossible. If they were modern burrows made since the sand solidified into rock, then the animal which constructed them must have been a marvel for the rock is so hard now that it renders work with the pick almost impossible. Prof. Barbour's plant theory is the most plausible and tenable of the three. He says that these were undoubtedly plants resembling the modern seaweed in structure. They grew at the time when this country was a lake and as the bottom became filled up with sediment these corkscrews were covered up and fresh ones took their places above them. Thus we have a layer many feet in thickness with corkscrews at every level. The most important fact in support of the plant theory is that throughout the whole corkscrew plant's cells are to be found. The fact that their stems are always perpendicular goes to show that it could not have been a burrow. No animal is known with such a delicate brain as animals must have had capable of making the burrow.

The work of excavating was difficult but the scenery and the camp life compensated us for all our trouble. Our camp was pitched in one of the prettiest spots outside of the canons in that part of the country. The view from the tent northward was, perhaps, the finest one. We could look through a gap in the bad lands of Hot Creek basin, and in the distance see the dim outlines of the Black Hills.

After work in the evening target practice and sleep was indulged in. Sleep seemed to come the most natural. Sunday was always a holiday. There was no church near, so we hitched up the team, took guns and cameras, together with an ample lunch, and spent the day in some of the adjacent canons. There was plenty of shade—the most important thing excepting our lunch—and good cool spring water.

A Pine Ridge or bad lands appetite is a thing to be carefully watched and provided for. It is self-assertive and seems to take no enjoyment in the scenery. Wild raspberries and "sarvice berries" grew near, and at the close of our lunch, without moving from our seats, we could pick enough for our desert.

In the course of the afternoon King came running breathless to the wagon. He said the brook was full of fish. Here was pleasant news, for it promised a change from the monotony of camp fare. There was not a hook or even a line in the crowd, and the fish were a foot in length. Everyone's face grew long at the thought, and then our brightest mind suggested that we shoot the fish. The change was instantaneous. There was a general rush for the wagon for the guns. Some of us had been bathing in a pool near by, and were in consequence bare-footed. Cactus was abundant, and the men who hated water were obliged to walk through it to get their guns. That was their part of the labor. Shooting fish in two or three feet of water is rather trying. If you shoot straight at the fish the water turns the ball, and you miss him with a margin of about two feet. If you think that you'll shoot a little short of him the bullet is sure to go about an inch this side, and so much gravel will be scattered that when the

OUR FOOTBALL TEAM

IS AT WORK IN EARNEST

Some Heavy Men Expected From the Law School—Make a Good Showing Already.

Although the heavy-weight men in the law department have not returned, yet the football team is taking on a varsity appearance and the daily practice gives one the impression that we are to have a first-class team. It looked for a while as if the team would be too light to be able to hold its high position among the western colleges, but the advent of several larger men has given the team a more formidable appearance.

The practice is being prolonged and the boys are all working harder than they were last week when the weather was too hot for much violent exercise, but the cool weather of the past week has put new life into the boys and they put an interest into the game such as was never before seen on the Nebraska campus.

The captain was or is a little late in returning so Mr. Thomas has had to take complete control and tend to all the affairs. The captain should be here to assist in getting suits on some of the heavier men who are needed to brace up the team. The coach not being familiar with the men in the university is greatly handicapped in the procuring of the new material. Up to date not a single person has been injured in any way, and as this is the critical time and the boys are more apt to be hurt because of not being in condition, we are very fortunate. Fair has a twisted knee, which he received at Atchison in a game with the Kansas state university team, but it is not serious enough to keep him from practice. Otis Whipple had to get out of a sick bed in Oklahoma to return in time for school, but as he is gaining about ten pounds a week he will soon be in football form again.

Harry Gury will not have time to play this year. This is to be regretted very much as Harry was a veritable wall and never gave the captain any uneasiness as to his position because it was certain to be filled up to the required standard. Spooner will also be greatly missed as his folks have decided that they think the game a little too rough for Clinton, but we do not think so as he is growing and getting stronger every year and is not built like one of the boys who get hurt. A man who is well put together and has gone through one hard season is not going to get hurt in the next. It is only the men who go into the game without conditioning themselves that are hurt. While we may possibly obtain some one who can pass the ball as well as Spooner, he will be certainly greatly missed on defensive work, as his tackling was always one of the brilliant features of the game. The new candidates are also improving and showing good form, especially Shedd and Jones.

It looks as if Missouri would be our most formidable opponent on the gridiron this fall as she has been fortunate in all matters. In the first place, Young is an excellent captain, and "Pop" Bliss of Yale fame a good coach. Then she had \$3,500 given her by the regents with which to fit out an athletic field, to obtain a coach, to fit up a training table and to buy suits. We "couldn't" team. They were quite unfortunate in doing a thing" with \$3,500, could we?

And then Kansas must be watched. Hecton Cowan is probably the best tackle that ever stood and he is upholding his reputation gained at Princeton '90 by his work with the Kansas losing their captain, who had his leg broken in practice, but the new incumbent, William Henry Harrison Platt is no novice in the service as he was on the first team ever organized in Kan-

sas, played on down through the days when Baker used to whip her regularly, and was on the team last year when Nebraska went down and cleaned them out in such a pleasing fashion.

Iowa is an uncertain quantity as all we know is from vague reports gathered by various means. One of these is that she has no coach. Another is that they will not have much of a team anyway. We are really sorry that we rubbed it into old Iowa so last fall if it is going to break her up so completely. But you can't tell. She will probably turn up with as good a team as she could expect.

RIFLES' BUSINESS MEETING.

A called meeting of the Pershing Rifles brought forty-five members to the armory Monday evening, W. D. Reed occupying the chair. Prospects of an election of officers and arrangements for the lieutenant's reception were the causes which brought the large attendance.

The first business to come up was the admittance of members. Four names were proposed and voted in.

Before proceeding further it was thought necessary to have a secretary, and as H. S. Parmelee was conveniently seated in a front seat he was appointed to fill this position.

Reports of committees were then heard. The committee on reception reported progress made. Invitations had been printed and sent out. Arrangements for securing representative hall music, janitors, etc., had been completed. In view of a possible deficit it was moved and carried that the Rifles assure the payment of any debt left unpaid for lack of funds.

Letters from I. M. Bentley, former vice-president, and Capt. C. A. Elliott were read, tendering their resignations as they will not be in school this year. This left vacancies over which a discussion arose as to whether they should be filled before the regular annual business meeting, which would occur Thursday evening. The general opinion was that the officers should be on hand Wednesday evening, but the constitution provides that no officer shall be elected to the same position for two or more consecutive years, and this would necessitate another election Thursday evening. The matter was finally compromised by suspending the rules and voting this meeting the regular annual business meeting and doing away with the one Thursday evening, provided in the constitution.

This being settled to every one's satisfaction the election of officers began. Robert Hiltner was proposed for president. A motion immediately followed that the nominations be closed, and the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous vote for him. At this W. D. Reed relinquished the chair and the election proceeded under the new president. C. E. Adams was unanimously elected vice-president; H. S. Parmelee secretary and B. S. Langworthy treasurer.

Before voting on the military officers the president appointed Ralph Saxton and L. P. Sawyer tellers, and the vote taken by ballot. John Dixon, captain of company "B" for '93-4, was nominated by C. C. Pullis, Joe Beardsley's name was presented by Hugh Wilson. Reed withdrew from nomination when his name was mentioned, in favor of John Dixon. The ballot resulted, Beardsley 28, Dixon 14, Reed 1. A motion was then put to make it unanimous for Joe Beardsley, and it carried with a rush.

The remaining officers were elected unanimously, without any opposition: First lieutenant, C. C. Pullis; second lieutenant, C. E. Schwartz; first sergeant, H. C. Parmelee; second sergeant, T. F. McCarthy; third sergeant, C. E. Adams; fourth sergeant, W. Wilson; fifth sergeant, R. C. Paxton. The election of corporals was left to the commissioned officers for their recommendation. Their names will be proposed at the next meeting.

The matter of incorporating the company was then brought up. The committee appointed to look into it, reported that no definite action had yet been taken. After remarks by Lieut. Pershing, a committee of three was appointed to file articles of incorporation of the Pershing Rifles. Fred Clements, J. B. Barnes and W. H. Oury will constitute the committee.

A committee on membership consisting of R. C. Saxon, T. F. McCarthy and H. F. Gage being appointed, the meeting adjourned.

CAPTAIN GUILFOYLE

NOTES ON HIS MILITARY LIFE

Has Experienced Some Interesting Scenes—Graduate of West Point—A Life Sketch.

Captain Guilfoyle took charge of the cadets Wednesday evening, introducing himself in a neat speech before the battalion. He said he was much pleased with his first impression of the corps of cadets, especially with the snap in which the drill masters gave their commands.

If expressions heard on the side amount to anything the impression the new commandant made upon the cadets was as favorable as that made upon the commandant. His military appearance was quite pleasing and seemed fully to meet the requirements of a cadet's ideal.

Capt. John Guilfoyle entered the military academy of West Point, N. Y., in 1872, having been appointed from Maryland. He graduated from this institution in 1877, as Second Lieutenant. He joined his troop, "D" of the Ninth Regiment of cavalry in Texas in December, 1877, on the Mexican border, and served there for nearly a year. From that place he marched to southwestern Colorado and served in that state before it was very much settled, for one year.

He then served in New Mexico and commanded a company of Apache Indian scouts, in the Indian wars of New Mexico of 80-81. He participated in three pitched battles with Indians while commanding these scouts, and was brevetted First Lieutenant for gallantry in them. This brevet was not conferred, however, until fourteen years after the affair occurred. He was promoted to First Lieutenant Ninth Cavalry on November 1, 1881. He was appointed regimental quartermaster in 1883, and regimental adjutant in 1884, holding the latter position until 1888.

He participated in the Sioux campaign of 1890-91 and was adjutant of Col. Henry's squadron of the Ninth Cavalry which made the famous ride in that campaign, and went to the rescue of the beleaguered Seventh Cavalry.

He was promoted to captain in February, 1891, and has served since the latter date at Fort Robinson, Neb., commanding troop "I" of the cavalry. He commanded his troop during the strikes of 1894 and during the Jackson Hole troubles last summer.

BATTALION NEWS.

For a few moments of unalloyed pleasure, just watch the band drill.

Monday evening the companies were sized up and new cadets assigned to companies. Each company will average about seventy men.

Orders were read Wednesday evening, making it imperative that cadets order their uniforms from the Henderson-Ames Company.

The new drill regulations have not yet been secured. The lessons in military science are being assigned in the old tactics, the first part of which is not affected by the change in rifles.

Corporal Russell became so enthusiastic in drilling his squad the other night that when the call sounded he marched his men into the armory in their shirt sleeves, leaving their coats on the campus.

The reception tendered to Lieut. Pershing Wednesday night by the cadet corps and the Pershing Rifles was attended by between 300 and 400 guests. Representative hall was decorated in true military style and presented a fine appearance with the draped flags and crossed swords. Chancellor MacLean and wife, Hon. C. H. Gear and daughter and others received the guests as they arrived. The ball was a complete success and reflected much credit on the arrangements committee.