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# EARTH 10,000,000 YEARS OLD

And Not Growing Any Cooler, Prof. See Concludes.

## OLD GREEK THEORY IS REVIVED

Crust Only About Twenty Miles Thick, and Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Mountains the Results of Leaks.

In the September number of the Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Prof. T. J. See, United States navy, has a memoir on the cooling of the earth and the theory of earthquakes held by the ancients. In part the memoir is a further elaboration of the paper published last March by Prof. See to show that earthquakes are due primarily to the leakage of the ocean's bottom. For almost a century scientists generally have held that the earth is cooling, and therefore slowly contracting. In this way they explain earthquakes and mountain formations. Now comes Prof. See with an elaborate argument more exhaustive than that of Lord Kelvin, tending to show that the effects of secular cooling of the globe are insensible, and totally denying the contraction of the earth. Consequently all changes in the crust are due to ordinary earthquakes and to no other cause. Secular cooling is infinitely slow, and affects only the crust, whereas world shaking earthquakes proceed from the layer just beneath the crust. As earthquakes occur mainly along the seacoast, they cannot be due to the expansion of lava from beneath the ocean. Hence great earthquakes are not due to secular cooling at all, but to the leakage of the oceans, which produces steam beneath the crust. This eventually pushes out at the sides, and raises mountains along the coasts.

## Origin of Earthquakes.

Hence the crust is thin, with a thickness of not more than twenty miles, which agrees with the depth deduced from the study of the world shaking earthquakes. The great earthquakes originate at the depth of about twenty miles, and none is known of a depth exceeding forty miles.

As the earthquakes all have superficial origin, and no shakes have a deeper source, it follows that there is no deep seated contraction of the earth. Consequently all changes in the crust are due to ordinary earthquakes and to no other cause. Secular cooling is infinitely slow, and affects only the crust, whereas world shaking earthquakes proceed from the layer just beneath the crust. As earthquakes occur mainly along the seacoast, they cannot be due to the expansion of lava from beneath the ocean.

## Age of the Earth.

Dr. See concludes by a mathematical inquiry that the age of our encrusted earth does not exceed some 10,000,000 years, which is a much shorter time than geologists have generally allowed. He also finds that radium plays no important part in the development of the globe.

Prof. See translates Aristotle's theory of earthquakes, which has never before been made accessible to English readers. The Greek held that earthquakes were due to the agitation of vapors within the earth which tended to escape and diffuse themselves in the atmosphere. Aristotle observed the eruption of a volcano and concluded from the vapor ejected to escape that all earthquakes were due to the same cause as that producing eruptions.

When Plato was 54 and at the head of the academy in Athens and Aristotle was a boy 17 years old the Honorable city of Helice, on the southern shore of the Gulf of Corinth, was thrown down by an earthquake.

The cause of this catastrophe was, according to the ancient records, the eruption of the Achaean volcano, and has remained one of the mysteries of the centuries. Now comes Prof. See, who shows that it was due simply to the expansion of lava from beneath the Gulf of Corinth, which thus made the sea bottom unstable, and when it gave way it also carried the shore on which Helice stood. Indeed, the city was first devastated by the movement of lava beneath the crust and afterward subsided about one hundred feet, so that it was covered by the waves to such a depth that only the tops of trees remained above water.

Besides the sinking of Helice, other cases of the subsidence of the land are mentioned and in the concluding note attention is called to the elevation of the mountains and the sinking of the sea bottom now going on in the vicinity of the Aleutian and Kurile Islands in the north Pacific.

## ANTIDOTE FOR OPIUM CURSE

American Woman Travels to Malaysia to Obtain Cure for Her Brother.

Determined to save her brother from the opium habit, no matter what the cost might be to her, Miss Agnes Haviland of Philadelphia had just returned from a trip to the West Malay Peninsula, where she obtained a cure. Having traveled thousands of miles, enduring privations of every sort and character, this heroine, with an ample supply of the remedy obtained from fresh plants in that far-off land, is putting into effect the published accounts of the efficacy of the antidote.

Miss Haviland spent about a month in and around Selangor, capital of the west Malay Peninsula, and the horrors due to the opium habit seem like nightmares to her. This was converted into a pleasant dream, however, when she noted the many cures made by the little, recently discovered plant.

Her brother has been a victim of the opium cure for several years. First taken as a soothing drug to relieve mental and physical distress, he had to increase the amount taken almost daily as the sedative effects of the smaller doses were decreased. Slowly but surely he became enmeshed in the clutches of the distilled poppy, until his life was a burden to him.

Then he appealed to his sister. There was nothing she could do. She had engaged the best physicians in Philadelphia, but each had given up her brother's case as hopeless. One day she read a story in a newspaper that an opium cure had been discovered.

From an article based on a report of Consul General D. F. Wilber, she learned that the Malays had really discovered a cure for the habit, but dissatisfied in determination, Miss Haviland determined to get this cure if possible. First, however, she would make a personal investigation. In June she left her home and journeyed across the continent to Seattle, where she embarked on her long ocean voyage.

"I talked with Consul General Wilber

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stantly falling, pushed on to destruction by the fellows behind."  
Mr. Richardson thus describes the Muir glacier as he found it this summer. "Only about half of the former face of the glacier is active in discharging to the sea. Today the active portion may be described as the left arm. The right arm is hardly active at all and in my opinion will be 'dead' in a comparatively few years. Already in front of the face are showing sand and gravel ridges in the water, which indicate that the ice mass is forming a terminal to such proportions that the glacier will be entirely separated from the sea. "A live glacier, speaking technically, is one which discharges directly into the ocean, while a dead glacier is one which melts on land and where the ice mass is dissipated by the action of the sun alone. It melts away, while the live glacier disintegrates in huge masses which float away to sea in the form of icebergs. The dead glacier is of comparatively small interest to any save the scientist, while the live one, with its awe inspiring detonations and activity, will hold the attention of any creature, no matter how uneducated, for even the uneducated native will stand for hours watching the movements of the ice."—San Francisco Call.

**FAMOUS MUIR GLACIER PASSING**  
Most Fascinating of Alaska's Natural Wonders Doomed by an Earthquake.  
The Muir glacier, one of the most fascinating of the natural wonders of Alaska, is dying. This summer, for the first time in nine years, steamers have been able to enter the bay into which the glacier empties its gleamings of ice, snow and silt, and the sight of this long hidden sea pack was a sad one for those who had known the glacier before it received its mortal wound from an earthquake in 1905. The Pacific Coast Steamship company's liner Spokane, which has just returned to this port after a summer spent in making excursion trips between the sound and Alaska, was the first vessel to penetrate the bay, which, since the earthquake of nine years ago, has been closed to navigation by jagged barriers of ice. The Spokane had no easy task to force its way through, but when the barriers had been passed the steamer floated in the clear water at the glacier's face, and the sight, although vastly different from what had been expected, was rich repayment for the struggle.  
When those who had known the glacier in its prime last saw it its face was full two miles long. It stood 200 feet above the water and extended below the surface to a depth of 800 feet. Every foot of the two miles was full of life, and actively engaged in the titanic labor of manufacturing and launching icebergs.  
T. J. Richardson, an artist, who has spent sixteen years of the last twenty-three at points along the northern coast of the Pacific ocean, and who has known the Muir glacier since 1891, thus describes the bay, which, since the earthquake of nine years ago, has been closed to navigation by jagged barriers of ice. "It was a grand and awe inspiring sight, for the great ice mass was disintegrating fast and the detonations as the bergs dropped off into the sea were like the roar of artillery. Hardly ten minutes would pass without the collapse of some great piece of ice, and the tidal waves which would follow the submergence of a big fragment would send a wall of water ten feet high or more rushing in to the shore. One had to be constantly on guard for these combers when on the beach. The sight of the falling masses of ice used always to make me think of a fight of giants, in which those in the front rank were con-

stantly falling, pushed on to destruction by the fellows behind."  
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Bishop Whitehouse in 1871.  
The last Sunday in August was a noteworthy day in London from the point of view of American pulpit oratory. Dr. Guinness of Chicago preached at City temple, Dr. Chadman of Brookline at Whitehead's tabernacle and Dr. Nehemiah Boynton at Wardsworth in the suburbs.  
The University of Leeds has conferred the degree of Doctor of Letters on Rev. Robert Collyer, the well known Unitarian clergyman of New York. Dr. Collyer will be 84 years old in December and started life as a blacksmith in Yorkshire, England, where he was born.  
Governor J. Frank Hanly of Indiana, Rev. Charles Steble of the department of church and labor of the Presbyterian church and Rev. Dr. Collins Denney of Vanderbilt university are among the men who have accepted invitations to address the annual general convention of the Wesleyan Brotherhood in Louisville, Ky., November 12-13.  
Rev. Henry Van Rensselaer, a well known Roman Catholic priest, for the last ten years assistant pastor of St. Francis Xavier's church, West Sixteenth street, Manhattan, died at St. Vincent's hospital Thursday morning at the age of 66. He was a grandson of the last patron, Stephen Van Rensselaer, who thought an Episcopalian contributed toward the building of the first Roman Catholic church in Albany; he himself, though educated for the Episcopalian ministry, was converted to the Roman faith, became a member of the Jesuit order and gave up his worldly life, which was largely to the church. A similar likewise turned Catholic and joined the sisters of charity, Catherine and the sisters of charity, and even in his last days, when he was dying man, he persevered in direction of the charitable enterprises he had founded.

**RELIGIOUS NOTES.**  
The Five Points mission school in New York City has an industrial department in which are taught dressmaking, chair caning, basket weaving, shoemaking and the repairing of clothing.  
The three months' tent campaign by the evangelistic committee of the Episcopal church was most successful in its work, 150 meetings being held in eight tents, with an average attendance of over 400.  
Rev. Frederick J. Kinman, professor of ecclesiastical history in the General Theological seminary, New York, has been elected vice-rector of St. Paul's school, Concord, N. H. Mr. Kinman is an alumnus and former master of the school.  
Church union in Canada has run against an snag in the appointment of benevolence, the method of the Presbyterians and Methodists being so radically different in the matter of raising funds that it is hard to strike a common ground.  
Rev. William E. Toll, who has just returned on his new duties as archdeacon of the Chicago diocese of the Episcopal church, was born in New York and was ordained in Chicago, however, by

**On the Other Hand.**  
The preacher was offering his felicitations to the newly married couple. "Young man," he said, "you have gained one of the fairest maidens in the community, and you, young lady, have gained a most worthy partner, whose good right arm will lead every obstacle that may come in the way of your success in life."  
"Let me, Mr. Goodman," corrected the bride, with a proud look at the silver athlete by her side, "George is my cousin-paw, you know."—Chicago Tribune.  
**His Literature Leaked.**  
Winley—Bought about the joke on Jagley? Binkley—No, what's the joke?  
Winley—Since he moved into a prohibition house he has had his exhilaration sent by express in a plain box marked "Books"—Well!  
Winley—The other day he got a postal from the express agent reading: "Dear Sir: Your books are leaking. Please come and get them."—Judge.

**Baby Mine**  
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