HUNTING EXTINCT ANIMALS

Results of a Government Expedition Into Alaska.

Four Months of Diligent Work Exploring the Yukon and Tributary Rivers-Scenery on the Way.

WASHINGTON, May 22.-A goological expedition to Alaska, sent out by the Smithsonian institution last season and conducted by Mr. C. W. Gilmore of the United States National Museum, has brought back besides interesting information many fragments of bones of early animals of varieties no longer living there. Although there is not in the lot material from which can be constructed ancient genera hitherto un-Alaskan fields at a period long before man arrived on earth roamed mammoths, several kinds of buffalo, musk oxen, sheep, moose, caribou, horses and bears. Beavers

also built dams along the rivers. The official report of the trip will be published in the series of "Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections" at about the same time as the appearance of this ar-

Ever since Otto von Kotzebue, nearly a century ago, brought back from Alaska a few pieces of skulls and bones of strange extinct beasts, men of science have looked | paid the utmost care and attention. upon that region as a possible source of information concerning the early ancestors of our northern American animals. Much has been written about it. Little systematic was done, however, until 1904, when the English canaries and many other songsters Smithsonian institution sent out its first ex- of the air. pedition under Mr. A. G. Maddren. This trip was so fruitful that the institution last charge of Mr. C. W. Gilmore, which, while following a certain itinerary, was to search for the remains of large extinct vertebrate animals and to investigate the causes

leading to their extinction. Where the Party Traveled.

The party was gone in all about four months, during which nearly the entire length of the Yukon river was covered and several of its tributaries partly explored. Close upon 1,400 miles of the distance was traveled by cance. During the whole time search was made along the cliffs and in the river bars as being the places most likely to show relics of early beasts. Mining camps were also visited on the way for possible traces of significant bones.

The course was laid through Skagway on the upper part of the river, by train to White Horse, then by steamer through Dawson to Rampart, whence came some ancient bison skulls now in the United States national museum. Rampart marked the beginning of the long journey by canoe. For thirty or forty miles below Rampart the Yukon flows between walls of older rocks at from five to six miles an hour, tumbling faster and faster down toward the rapids. But the rapids once passed, Fort Gibbon is reached, below which lie the now well known "Pallsades," dubbed in that region the "bone yard," for from it have been dug broken remnants of many early beasts.

The party here spent two days gathering remains from the frozen cliffs 150 to 200 feet high. The almost perpendicular faces of the cliffs are being continually undermined by the swift current. Large masses break off, many times with a startling report and splash as they fall into the water below. "Often during the stay here," says Mr. Gilmore, "the report sounded so like the firing of a gun that we were startled by the sharpness of it."

The Nowitna River.

The party paddled on, however, in search of larger game, and at the mouth of the Nowitna river information gained from an intelligent Indian who had visited headwaters of this stream on hunting excursions, that he had seen "big horns and picked up the "shank bone" of some large animal, lured them into a side trip up the articles not absolutely needed.

the waters have wrought."

bled along the banks or pushed a paddle in the stream. Food began to give out, so reaching the headwaters. The side trip. fragment or a complete element of a skeleton representing such extinct forms as the mammoth, bison and horse,

Stopping at Mouse Point and at Kokrines, an Indian settlement and trading post, they paddled down into a region of towering cliffs. In places the banks rise 200 and 250 feet, and from them were taken now and then a skull or a tusk or a tooth of some forgotten animal. Anvik was BLIND visited, and then Andreafski, where the canoe trip ended. The rest of the journey was on steamer to St. Michael, Nome and finally Seattle.

Results of the Expedition.

It was found that the scattered remains the heart of Alaska not constantly covered inted in guiches and the valleys of the smaller streams; second, in the fine elevated clays of early origin, known as the Yukon silts and Kowak clays; and, third, squabs, horse dealer, ice cream vender and in the more recent deposits along the banks | musician. of streams. These specimens have been either washed out by the process of erosion or dug out by miners in search of gold.

The fossil bones secured came from le calities on the Bonanza creek, Little Miand the Kialishkakat river.

In connection with the "bone yard" of the palisades, and with Elephant point farther north, it has been thought that there might be enough ivory in old imbedded lightning calculator. mammoth tusks to pay for its excavation until a few years ago, it is said, a man average farmhand. would not take a tusk as a gift. Now

speculation.' Mr. Maddren believed they met their end on the shores of glacial lakes and that their bones, carried out on the ice in the spring break-up, were dropped here and there as the ice melted. becoming imbedded in the silt. Mr. Gilmore, however, believes that since the best specimens have been found in guiches and SOME DISCOVERIES WORTH WHILE valleys of smaller streams, and are more common in muck than in siit, these animals probably at some ancient period bemired in prehistoric bogs, then not frozen as now. The bones were afterward probably separated by the "flowing" or 'creeping" of the muck.

> A BOYHOOD DREAM REALIZED Tropical Birds and Flowers the One Luxury of a Boston Mil-Itonaire.

Dreaming when a poor boy, working for mere pittance, of a large estate where flowers would grow in profusion and num criess species of the feathered kingdom would flit from tree to tree, Seth Borden known, the specimens show that over the of Fall River, now a rich man, has come to realize his heart's desire, for today thi captain of industry possesses a flower garden said to one of the finest in this country and a private aviary which is the nost extensive in the east.

The birds and flowers came from al parts of the world, for in his love for them Mr. Borden has spared no effort and no

Only a few days ago seventy-four of the most valuable English songbirds arrived in Boston consigned to Mr. Borden's estate They occupied a saloon stateroom and were

In a short time they will join their voices with the other numerous occupants of Mr. Borden's aviary, where awaiting the newcomers are already over 400 German and

It was in his boyhood years that Mr. Borden first conceived the plan which has season dispatched a second expedition in cost him many thousands of dollars to bring Into life.

Mr. Borden's estate is famed throughout the land. Artists flock there to seek in spiration, naturalists come to study birds and flowers, gardeners haunt the grounds for practical hints to be applied in laying out other estates, all come there to admire and to enjoy the picturesqueness and the beauty of the gardens, and all join in praising the man who made it possible.

Everybody in Fall River knows the way o Mr. Borden's estate. Any child can direct a stranger to it, and long before it is reached the merry songs of the birds announce its proximity.

Situated in the center of the residental section it presents a magnificent view. Acres upon acres of valuable land have seen utilized for the aviary, the hothouses, the lawns and the park.

Flying in the open and confined in 300 small cages are over 500 birds of many varieties. There are Japanese robins, partridges, quail, native robins, European blackbirds, stone thrushes, catbirds, goldfinches, bullfinches, English larks, English linnets and song thrushes, 250 pigeons of twenty kinds strut over the ground, while beautifully plumed wild wood duck swim about the artificial pond on the big lawn.

There is hardly a flower in the world that is not represented in Mr. Borden's hothouses. Over 10,000 orchids of the 150 varieties are found in the orchid house. In another structure a wealth of chrysanthemums is to be seen. An immense hothouse is filled with Hamburg and Foster seedling grapes already fast ripening and in a few weeks the fruit of the fig trees will be ready for the table.-Boston

WHAT FORESTRY HAS DONE

Activities of Old World Nations Contrasted with American Wantefulness,

The forest service has published a circu-

lar entitled, "What Forestry Has Done," in which the forest work of foreign coun tries is reviewed. "The chief lessons which other big bones" on the river bars and had may be learned from the reports are that forestry pays and the need of timely action, since forest waste can be repaired river. Three days up, the traveling turned only at a great cost." The The circular bad and a cache had to be made of all tells of the necessity for forestry work, and that "every step of the way toward wise It is a picturesque region. "Often the forest use the world over has been made water has cut in under the bank," says at the sharp spur of want, suffering and Mr. Gilmore, "which extends out over the loss." Speaking of results in other counstream like a great shelf. The trees grow- tries, the circular says: "Take the case of ing on these undermined banks frequently Germany. Starting with forests which were lean far over and dip their tops in the in as bad shape as many of our own which water before being carried away. Large have been recklessly cut over, it raised the blocks of the bank, covered with bushes average yield of wood an acre from 20 and trees, cave off into the streams, cubic feet in 1830 to 66 cubic feet in 1994. where they remain standing half sub- During the same period of time it trebled merged for a long time. Frequently there the proportion of saw timber got from the hangs down from the top of these under- average cut, which means, in other words, mined banks a mantle of moss which that through the practice of forestry the serves as a curtain to hide the destruction timber lands of Germany are of three times better quality today than when no system The party struggled up the Nowitna was used. And in fifty-four years it inriver for nine days, hunting for the source creased the money returns from an average of all the pieces of ancient bones found acre of forest sevenfold." The state forests washed down from somewhere above. No of France, which are small in comparison settlers were met with, and only an oc- with national forests of this country, yield casional deserted winter cabin of a lonely a net revenue of more than \$4,700,000, altrapper showed that man had ever scram- though the sum spent on each acre for management is more than 100 times greater than that spent on the forests of the United that they were forced to turn back bafore States. Among the interesting figures given are these: France and Germany together however, was not without results, for from have a population of 100,000,000, in round nearly every bar searched was taken a numbers, against our probable \$5,000,000, and state forests of 14,500,000 acres, against our 160,000,000 acres of national forests; but Prance and Germany spend on their forests \$15,000,000 a year and get from them in net returns \$30,000,000 a year, while the United States spent on the national forests last year \$1,400,000 and secured a net return of less than \$130,000.

MAN IS A GENIUS

Successful Farmer, Carpenter, Mechanic, Horse Dealer and Musician.

Blind men have quite often achieved of the very early animals occur throughout notable things, from mastery of the plane to the mastery of mechanics, but few have by ice and snow, in three quite distinct de- attained the versatile accomplishments of posits. First, in the black muck accumu- Stephen Mellinger of Denver, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Stephen Mellinger, although blind, is

> In the Lancaster county village the young man-he is 21-is well known; in fact, he is ranked among the most popu-

lar of the 1,500 inhabitants.

successful farmer, carpenter, raiser of

When 3 years of age, Stephen Mellinger lost his sight by accidentally striking himnook creek, the palisades of the Yukon, self in the face with an axe. Because of the Nowina river, the Yukakakat river his infirmity he was never sent to school, but his interest in arithmetic was such that he would spend nights studying mathematical problems, and now, among his other accomplishments, boasts of being

With his parents and brother, Stephen and shipping for commercial purposes, as assists in the management of three farms, is the case in some localities of Siberia. one of which is of 110 acres. These farms In fact, mammoth tusks for a good many necessitate considerable work and Stephen years have been an important export of does his share. Strong and vigorous, six Siberia. But the Alaskan remains are not feet tall in his stockings, he is said to be in as fresh a state of preservation, and able to lift twice as much weight as any

Unable to see, this young farmer does have the utmost confidence in his ability they are used to manufacture curies of any kind of work. He will cut grass and as a driver.—Philadelphia North American weeds with a scythe as readily as build nests for the birds on his pigeon farm; he How the ancient animals whose remains would as soon build a chicken house as is not to have Bucklen's Arnica Salve to are now picked up piece by piece along buy a horse. In purchasing animals he cure burns, sores, plies, cuts, wounds and the rivers died has been a subject of rarely. If ever, makes a mistake; indeed, ulcers. Mc. For sale by Beaton Drug Co.

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made the critical examination he is able to

tell how old the horse is, whether or not

he has spavin, and any faults of the horse,

Mellinger is a carpenter, too. At the

farm he constructed an addition to the

summer house. At the squab farm he built

all the inside nests for the birds, and is

now planning to erect a new building with

Because of a recent attack of appendi-

citis. Mellinger refrains from rapid horse-

back or bicycle riding, but he drives to

great deal, and is almost constantly on the

road. With his sister he operates a stage

in summer, taking out parties to picnics

campmeetings and outings. His patrons

and even detect blemishes.

his own hands.

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