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Extinction of the Buffalo.

The annual report of Professor Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution, discloses the fact that the once numerous and characteristic buffalo race has practically ceased to exist in the United States. So rapid has been the rate of destruction in the last few years that it is now almost impossible, we are assured, to procure specimens of this interesting class of animals for preservation in the National Museum in Wasington. Realizing the importance of securing such specimens, Professor Baird sent an expedition to the far West last summer for that purpose; and although a number of skeletons and skulls were found on the plains, it was with great difficulty that one buffalo was killed. There are supposed to be still a few small and rambling herds in North ern Dakota, well up toward the British possessions; but with this unimportant exception, the story of the buffalo has reached its conclusion, and the vast do main over which he once roamed by millions is now entirely shorn of his familiar and typical presence.

It seems only yesterday that shaggy and haughty quadruped occupied the whole country from the Missouri River to the Rocky Mountains. He was, strictly speaking, the first inhabitant of that the beautiful valley would never again great scope of territory. The Spanish explorers found him there long before coming of the Pilgrims across the Atlantic to Plymouth Rock, and he held his ground tenaciousaly through all the succeeding years until after the rebellion, thriving and multiplying in a most remarkable manner. The Indians gave him considerable trouble and found him very useful, but they could not frighten him from his systematic grazing, nor compel him to relinquish his serene faith in himself and his mission. The grass was to his liking, and the climate suited him, the landscape met his views of roominess, and he staid. It was not until the rambling instinct of the American people, as Lieutenant Pike called it in his report of the memorable trip which took him across the plains and to the peak that bears his name, and entered earnestly upon the task of founding new States west of the Missouri, that the buffalo began to lose confidence and to yield his supremacy, and even then he surrendered only step by step, and with a show of courage which, if misdirected and futile, was nevertheless admirable and pathetic. There is some reason to believe that in a fair and even contest, the buffalo's reign would not have been supplanted for at least 100 years after civilization touched his dominions. But civilization invoked the aid of the locomotive, and against such a novel and potent force the poor bewildered brute was comparatively helpless. He made the best fight he could, and was able from time to time to stop the trains by taking posession of the track for several miles and grimly contesting their right to proceed except by his permission. One need not be very old to remember when the operation of Western railroads was frequently and seriously obstructed in that way. During several years a train rarely made the trip from the Missouri River westward without encountering several herds of these abundant and venturesome animals, and having to halt until they leisurely conceded the right of way. Thousands of them bravely perished in such attempts to defeat the philosophy of the locomotive and to postpone the penalty of disaster which its whistle sounded in their ears. It was no uncommon thing to see a multitude of them that covered the country almost as far as they could reach; and no attack was strong and fierce enough to disperse them or to change their course. They had their rules and plans from which they never deviated on any account. Possibly they foresaw the ultimate result, and resolved to march stoically and consistently to their doom in preference to seeking safety in presipitate and ignobile flight. At any rate, they faced the danger intrepidly and freely died where death was apparently a matter of unconcern, if not of deliberate choice. It cannot be claimed that the great American bison, as the naturalist persisted in calling him, though that name never properly designated him, was at His peculiar hump was against him, to bogin with, and his horns lacked length and sweep, and his legs were unsymmetrical, and his tail was a sheer absurdity. But he had good blood in his veins and deserved a fate less harsh and melancholy. It cannot be forgotten that his

out there; but the buffalo knew it away back yonder when the early geographers were insisting that the entire country west of the Missouri was a flat and hopeless desert. It is proper to bear in mind, to tramp up and down five hundred feet the New York Maternity Hospital, is pe also, that the buffalo discovered the best routes through the plains region, and held by themselves. The arrangements that the various railroad lines now substantially follow the trails along which, he used to make his way in obedience to the changes of seasons and in search of new and better grazing privileges. He was one of our distinctly national beasts in short, and his disappearance marks the close of a significant epoch in the history of more congressional legislation and anaf the country-an epoch presenting a other appropriation before either can be vocabulary, with its defects and peculiar greater measure of growth and progress than has ever been known in the experience of any people since civilization started on its triumphant and beneficen-

course. - St. Louis Globe Dispatch.

Ungrateful and Impudent.

From time to time some unforgiving and unrepentant rebel rises to put on record his implacability toward the Union soldiers who defeated him, or the government which pardoned him. The latest is the rebel General Thomas R. Rosser, and the one whom he especially can never forgive is Phil Sheridan. Rosser writes to a Winchester, Va., friend as follows: I have seen it reported recently in news-

papers, that General Sheridan contemplates at an early day another ride up the Shenandoah valley. I have hoped that be desccrated by his foot prints. *

* I hope you will allow this man to make his triumphant ride up the valley in peace, but have him go like a miserable crow, carrying his rations with him."

Mr. Rosser forgets that war the world over, and in all times, is and has been destructive and unpitying; that it is a consuming fire. He forgets that the leaders of the rebellion stimulated their states to secede by assuring them that the ravages of war would not be felt by them, month. but that northern villages would be pillaged and laid waste, that the granarise and the storehouses of the north should feed southern soldiers, that northern horses should mount them, northern mer chants clothe them, northern bankers pay them. When this was found to be impracticable their diabolic hate sought to spread pestilence in northern cities among women and children by the introduction of infected rags. The plea was that the end justified the means, that when the people of the north felt at their own firesides what war really ment they would call for peace. And yet Mr. Rosser pretends that to destroy in the Shenandoah valley the food and all other means of support and movement of rebel armies was something more than war, something beyond that. He forgets Napoleon's axiom that "an army moves upon its belly," that it is justified in taking all the food it can use, and in destroying all that its enemy could use. That is war; that is what rebellion invited. Because they that took the sword perished by the sword, can they complain? Rosser being unrepentant is therefore ungrateful. After war was over, and when he much needed help, the Union officers who were his old friends in the army before it, gave him that help, and put him on the way of making a fortune. He has found prosperity and a home in Mineapolis, a northern city which, if he could have reached it with his troops, he would have pillaged and destroyed. And yet from his prosperous home in the north, in a city which he would have made as desolate as Sheridan did the Shenandoah valley, and justified it by the same principles of war, he writes to condemn Sheridan for doing his simple duty ar a soldier. He would regard Sheridan's foot-prints in that valley as desecration, but does not reflect that the foot-prints of an unrepented rebel, an it necessary to travel like a crow, but so he would have the head of our army travel in the south. We commiserate Minneapolis for being the abiding place

and wheat that are being annually raised | the Washington Monument will not be in -The May number of Babyhood overactive operation during the National drill, when so many sight-seers will be in the city. But instead of being lifted rapidly through the shaft they will be compelled Partridge, M. D., Obstetric Surgeon to of iron stairway by the light of candles culiarly interesting, describing how milk are complete for lighting the interior of the monument with seventy-five incandescent electric lights, with which the effect is very striking. The electric lighting plant was provided for by the appropriation for completing the monument as was also the elevator, but there is need ment of Speech in Infants," from the first put into regular operation.

The monument was lighted at its dedication but few persons knew it as but few entered the monument on that occasion. Since then it has only been lighted for testing purposes, and once when in

honor of Mrs. Cleveland who made a trip to the top. The lights are at the stairway "Nurserv Observations" are rehersed the landings and are fastened to brackets extending from the iron framework in the center of the shaft. The effect is very striking as one looks up the shaft from jects as "Sore Nipples," "Cleft Palate," the bottom and sees the briliant lights on alternate sides extending all the way to the top and brilliantly illuminating the entire interior of the structure.

Workmen have placed the memorial stones in the panels prepared for them in the interior of the monument, all the way | ance for Babies;" and "Thumb-Sucking." up, and the inscriptions on them show with perfect distinctness in the electric lights. When some of the cement was York. taken out in fitting in some of these stones, it was found to be as solid as the marble keen article under the title of "A Stransurrounding it. Curiosity seekers think they ought not leave Washington with- ger," by Prof. U. J. Hoffman. It is "the out having been to the top of the highest boy" who has ceased to be an infant and structure in the world built by the hands has become a stranger in his own home.

of man, and although the past winter has An Auntie's Notions about children treats, been unusually inclement and unsuitable in this number, of "Infant Prodigies." A charming story in the "Kindergarten Defor such an excoursion, about two thouspartment" tells of Quercus Alba from the and people trudged up the winding stairway to its dizzy height during each cradle to the monarch's reign in the forest. Study of Form is continued. In

"Mother's Council," the first instalment They have been very busy at the Na tional Museum during the week trying to of a serial talk on the "Beginnings of get the Grant relics placed on exhibition Beauty" opens the Department. Several mothers contribute articles. "Teachers in before the National drill begins. The Council" is full of hints of value. The task is nearly completed and the cases alsame familiar names which are proof of ready exhibited have attracted much no good things in store are there. Altogethtice. Five cases will contain the whole er it is a valuable wide-awake magazine. collection except the paintings and large objects which cannot be put into cases. The little people will "cry for it," without doubt. The lessons on animal history Many of these articles are souvernirs of are so simply written that any ten-year-Gen. Grant's trip around the world. There is a splendid collection of old Japanese old can master their contents. The two coins of huge size valued at \$5,000. There are swords, gold headed canes, caskets, present an acceptable idea, as the children medallions, rare woods, silver plate and can have theirs and enjoy it, while the sparkling gems which vie each other to elders are left in peace to peruse their attract the eye. There are invitation cards, share. Only \$1.00 per year, 10 cents per nummonu cards, reminders of entertainments given in his honor, embossed on gold ber. Fowler & Wells Co., Publishers, 775 Broadway, N. Y. plates. One invitation given to a masked ball in San Francisco, upon Gen. Grant's arrival in that city, on his return from his famous tour, is engraved on solid gold, and was enclosed in a silver envelop with the address engraved upon it. In the right hand corner is a two-cent stamp and in the left the usual, "If not delivered in ten days return to," etc There is a casket carved from the wood of Shakspeare's mulberry tree, and many other articles that have a value by association. -- The last public utterance of Abraham Lincoln was a pledge on behalf of the restored union that the soldiers whose gallantry saved the country would be tenderly cared for, with the widows and orphans of those who had given np their lieves for their flag. Mr. Lincoln prombourbons of Kentucky truly represent the majority of the people of the country to-

flows with good things for young mothers. The opening article on "The Diet of Nursing Mothers," by Edward L. is produced and how the flow of milk is stimulated, showing the advantages of lactation to the mother, dispelling some groundless objections to certain articles of food, and emphasizing the value of others to both mother and child. Dr. W. B. Canfield discusses "The Developutterances till the formation of the child's ities. There are many interesting hints

to be found in "What Not to Nane the Baby." Dr. Yale treats a much debated question in "Eight Months and other Premature Children," showing how prematurely-born children may often be saved by care and attention. In the peculiarities of some babies, and in "Nurserv Problems" much valuable advice is given to mothers upon such sub-"Suppurating Ear," "Decaying Teeth," 'Weak Limbs," ect. In the "Mothers' Parliament" are discussed "A Baby's Sea Voyage." " An Original Way of Learning to Spell;" "Teaching the Use of the Nurserv Chair;: "Granum Porridge;" "Fin-15 cents a number; \$1.50 a year. Babyhood Publising Co., 5 Beekman St., New

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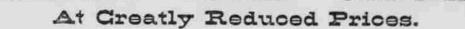
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