

The Bones of a Dinosaur

They Came Very Near Making a Corpse of a Museum Curator

By F. A. MITCHEL

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Diggers in the earth are of various kinds. At one extreme stands the mole, at the other the hunter after buried treasures, such as the bones of extinct animals or the paces of kings long dead. Professor Tipton belonged to the latter class. He was barely thirty years old, small of stature, a little bald on the forehead and wore glasses. There was nothing beautiful about the professor except his smile, and that was beautiful because it was childlike. One seeing the innocent purring of his lips, accompanied by a soft look that appeared in his eyes, felt immediately like taking up the little man and hugging him.

Now, it having been reported to the directors of the museum of which Professor Tipton was curator that the tip of the tail of some enormous animal had been struck in digging a well in a western territory, the curator was directed to repair to the spot, take a look at the protrusion, determine to what animal it belonged, whether it was worth digging for and the cost of excavation.

In due time the professor reached a settlement some five or six miles from where the fossilized bones were located and, learning that the only way to reach them would be on horseback, enlisted for a horse, mounted him and proceeded on his way. He had proceeded about half the distance when he saw ahead of him what looked like the dim outline of a cowboy, but as he and the coming object drew nearer he noticed that the rider was feminine.

"How do?" she said as she reined in her steed.

The professor had never heard this form of greeting before and did not understand it. However, he reined in his horse and smiled.

The smile was something very new to the girl. The coarse guffaw of the plainsman or the diabolical grin of the Indian was the only expression of a genial disposition she had ever seen.

"What y' doin' out here, stranger?" she asked.

"I'm goin' to the fork of the river," he replied.

"What y' goin' there for?"

A reply to an uneducated person was difficult, but the professor explained his object as well as he could.

"Y' think it's some kind o' varmint?" she asked.

"I don't know what a varmint is, but I suspect what I'm going to look at will turn out to be either a mastodon or a dinosaur."

"And I don't know what them are. I don't see no shootin' iron about y'. Where do y' carry it?"

"I didn't think to bring a weapon. Do I need one?"

"Well, now, y' are the most innocent kid I ever seen. Need a gun? I'll go with y'. It would be a pity to leave a little feller like y' to wander about with not even a toy pistol."

Turning her horse's head, she rode back with Professor Tipton. There was something odd in the defenseless man being under the protection of this armed girl. He found her especially useful as a guide, for she knew the region perfectly and took him to the point he wished to find. There was no one on the ground to locate the exact spot, but the girl told him she had seen some men digging and landed him where they had begun to bore the well.

The moment the professor caught sight of a few mammoth vertebrae that had been exposed he clasped his hands, raised his mild eyes to heaven, and his lips moved in thanks.

"It's a dinosaur," said the professor. "Y' don't mean it?"

"Judging from these few vertebrae, it must be sixty or seventy feet long." "Gosh!"

"And, judging from the horizontal position of what is exposed, there will be little cost in getting it out."

"Will it pay?"

The professor did not hear this question. He had picked up a stick lying near and was scraping away the dirt.

"How long has it been there?" asked the girl.

"Not less than 10,000 years."

"Don't y' think it's rather late in the day to disturb it?"

At that moment there was a clatter of hoofs in the distance, and a small party of men were seen galloping toward them.

"By gum," exclaimed the girl, "it's Sheriff Clem Barker! I wonder what he's after?"

"Hello, Kate!" exclaimed Barker as he rode up. "What y' doin' coverrin' around with a hoss thief?"

The professor looked at his horse and, not knowing what the man was talking about, just stilled. He couldn't think of anything else to do.

"Y' ain't been stealin' that hoss, have y'?" asked the girl.

"I don't know what you people are all talking about," said the professor. "I came out here to learn if this fossil is of value, and I find it very valuable indeed. As I have said, it's a dinosaur, must be sixty feet long and doubtless between 10,000 and 20,000 years old."

The sheriff, the owner of the horse and the posse all looked at one another in astonishment. An idea popped into Kate's head. She gave the men a menacing look and drew them away from the professor, who, being more interested in the dinosaur than their talk, forgot all about them in rummaging among the big stone vertebrae.

"Gents," said Kate, "he's a lunatic."

"What makes y' think so?" asked the sheriff.

"Didn't y' hear what he said about them stones? He's got an idee into his head that 10,000 years ago some varmint or other, a dragon mebbe, seventy feet long fell down a well. What more do y' want for to make him out a crazy man?"

"Oh, Kate!" exclaimed the owner of the horse. "It's you that's gone daft or you're trying to save his neck. I don't know which. He's been caught in the act and is playing it on us."

"Where did he get the talk about dinosaurs?" asked one man, who, being better educated than the rest, had read of extinct mammoths. "Horse thieves don't know anything about fossils."

"Come on, Clem," said the owner of the stolen horse. "I call upon you as sheriff to arrest the man and take him in for trial."

"Y' won't have much trouble doin' that," remarked Kate, "seem he hain't got no weapon. Does hoss thieves go about without guns?"

This was a staggerer, and the sheriff was debating in his mind what to do when Tipton finished his investigations and said he was going back to the settlement. So they all rode back together, the supposed horse thief being forced to ride ahead. Kate rode beside him. She seemed very much troubled at the position he occupied with reference to the stolen horse and was revolving in her mind some desperate method of extricating him if she failed to convince others of his lunacy. As for the professor, he was unconscious of his danger. In any event, he never dreamed that the penalty for horse stealing was the same as for murder.

"Now, see here," Kate said to him, "when they get y' back to the settlement they'll take y' before Judge Lynch. Y' mustn't be surprised at any evidence I may give in."

Tipton was so wrapped up in the "dragon that had fallen down the well" that her words made very little impression on him. When they reached the settlement, true enough, he was taken before Judge Lynch, and a number of men, new to the case, were impaneled as a jury, the sheriff regarding those who were with him when he made the arrest as witnesses. The latter were examined in turn and told the same story, which was simply that the horse had been missed, they had lit out on a chase and had come upon the prisoner and the girl, the horse grazing near by. When they had given their testimony Kate took the stand.

"I was ridin' along," she said, "when I seen the little man ahead. From the way he talked I made up my mind from the first that he was weak in the upper story, just the kind of a man to get on a hoss he seen in a stable or hitched to a post without knowin' what he was doin'." He talked about a varmint 10,000 years old that had fell into a well. He didn't have sense enough not to go around without a gun. I thort it wouldn't do to let him go about alone, so I went with him. If he was on a hoss he knowed he'd stolen he'd a rid mighty hard. Instead o' that every now and then he'd get offen his animal and down on his hands and knees, workin' at the stones. He brought out a hammer and kep' breakin' 'em and puttin' the pieces in his pockets. Y'll find 'em there now."

The prisoner was called upon to empty his pockets and produced some twenty pounds of stone fragments.

"I reckoned," the witness proceeded, "that he suffered some disease when a child that kep' his brain from growin'. Small boys' pockets are always full o' tops and things, and the man's is was yet, bein' loaded down with nothin' but stones. Then when we came to the well where the dragon had fell in he looked up and said a prair, Hoss thieves ain't givin' to prayin'. The poor feller needs to be sent back home."

"Will you see that he is taken care of?" said the judge.

"Yes."

"Discharged!" was the laconic dismissal of the case, and Kate led the professor away as if he had been a child.

Some months later the professor returned, superintended a gang of laborers engaged in digging up the bones of the dinosaur and shipped them east. When they were mounted in the museum Kate, at the professor's invitation, visited the institution and was surprised at the monster she saw there.

By this time the professor had become cognizant of the fact that by her adroitness in proving him before Judge Lynch to be a lunatic she had saved his life, and he felt duly grateful. He persuaded her to remain in the east, sent her to school, and she learned as much in three years as some girls would in half a dozen. Then the professor married her. She is now almost as enthusiastic over the bones of great monsters that lived in prehistoric times as her husband and assists him in many of his duties.

SPANISH CABINET HAS RESIGNED

Premier Canalejas Makes Mistake in Advising King.

RIOTER IS FINALLY PARDONED.

All Grew Out of Advisability of Commuting Death Sentence of Murderer of Judge—Opposition Arouses Nation by Stories of Cruelty.

Madrid, Jan. 15.—The Spanish cabinet, of which Jose Canalejas y Mendez was premier, has resigned.

The cabinet resigned as the result of divergence of views from those of King Alfonso as to the advisability of commuting the death sentence of one of the rioters who murdered a judge and wounded several court officials in Culera last September. The general strike at the time in Valencia and other provinces involved a plot to assassinate the king.



PREMIER CANALEJAS.

General Weyler, and the king was compelled to suspend constitutional guarantees. Realizing that it was a heinous crime and that the accused men were impossible objects of sympathy, the radicals raised a false issue, accusing the government of all sorts of tortures and cruelties toward the prisoners. Premier Canalejas advised the king to exercise his prerogative in the case of six of the prisoners, but held that the seventh, Chato Chuqueta, should be made an example of.

The king favored a reprieve for Chuqueta. Premier Canalejas said he deferred to his majesty's judgment and would prepare a decree to that effect without delay, but considering as he did that the minister had made a mistake it was his duty to resign.

MIXED DIET WINNERS

Vegetarianism Fails to Make Showing Expected in Trip Across Continent.

Foston, Jan. 15.—The race across the American continent to prove the superiority of a vegetarian diet failed. The result was really a victory for a mixed diet of meat and vegetables.

Two Harvard students, the brothers Warren and Jesse Buffum, started in July to walk from Foston to Los Angeles. They reached Los Angeles a few days ago. Throughout the long walk Warren ate nothing but vegetable food, while Jesse consumed only meat. Before starting they were carefully measured and weighed by Dr. Sargent, Harvard's physical director. On arrival at Los Angeles they submitted to similar measurements and weighing.

It turned out from these examinations of the two young students that Warren Buffum, the vegetarian, had gained 127 pounds during the trip, while Jesse, the carnivorous member of the team, had gained 112 pounds. Also, Jesse became exhausted and was compelled to board a train when still 200 miles from his goal. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the result of the race was a draw at best.

ZUAN MAY HEAD REPUBLIC

President Sun Says He Will Resign When Manchus Are Ousted.

Nanking, Jan. 15.—President Sun Yat Sen received the news of the pending abdication of the emperor quietly. He anticipated some delay in the readjustment of affairs and added that it was probable Yuan Shai Kai might be president of the new republic. He adhered to his declaration that he would resign when the Manchu government had been ousted and peace restored throughout the country.

Girl Sets Herself on Fire.

Douglas, Ariz., Jan. 15.—By way of attracting the notice of a recreant lover, Guadaloupe Bremant, a young girl, poured kerosene over her clothing and set herself on fire. She died here in great agony after explaining to her mother that she expected to be rescued before she was severely burned.

Twenty Three Injured.

Kenton, O., Jan. 15.—Twenty-three persons were injured in a Big Four wreck near Carey, O. Eleven of those injured are in local hospitals.

HASKELL LOSES \$100,000

Demurrer Sustained to One Cause of Action Against Hearst.

Omaha, Jan. 15.—Former Governor Charles N. Haskell of Oklahoma has lost \$100,000 of his half million dollar slander and libel damage suit against William R. Hearst, owner of the "Hearst newspapers," by a ruling made by Judge W. H. Munger of the United States district court here. Judge Munger sustained Hearst's demurrer to Haskell's first cause of action, which was for \$100,000 and was based on a speech delivered by Mr. Hearst at Memphis, Tenn., on Sept. 19, 1908, during the heat of the campaign for the national presidency. From this ruling an appeal will be taken, but this will not delay trial on the four other counts.

Judge Munger also sustained Hearst's motion to require Haskell to amend his original petition for damages by setting out the individual names of the newspapers in which the alleged libelous articles were published. C. J. Smyth, Haskell's Omaha counsel, will comply with this order. John W. Battin, who is representing Mr. Hearst, then will file his answer. The filing of this answer will complete the making up of issues in the case, which then will be ready for trial. It is expected to reach a hearing on its merits within two months.

MANY WRECKS OFF COAST OF ATLANTIC

Storm Promises to Eclipse All Previous Harms.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The storm-swept Atlantic coast is piling up a record of wrecks of ships and suffering of men that promises to eclipse the havoc of all previous severe winters on the eastern seaboard. During the last fortnight—and the end is not yet in sight—the revenue cutters patrolling the coast have been called into greater activity than ever before in their history. Within that period they have extended aid to thirty-seven tempest tossed vessels and their helpless and frost bitten crews, whom they have transported to havens of safety. The aggregate value of the saved ships runs into millions, and it is estimated that about 300 lives were saved by the revenue cutters and the life saving service.

RULES FOR GUARANTY LAW

Appeal Will Be Taken From Judge Pemberton's Decision.

Beatrice, Neb., Jan. 15.—In a written decision Judge Pemberton of the district court held that the state banks of Gage county do not have to furnish bond to become depositories of county funds if they have complied with the bank guaranty act of 1910. An appeal will be taken by the county attorney.

The case in question, which was being prosecuted as a test of the amendment to the guaranty act, passed by the last legislature, was that of the Farmers' State bank of Pickrell against County Treasurer Hevelone. The Pickrell bank refused to give bond and brought mandamus proceedings against the treasurer after he had refused to make a deposit with it.

GIRL BURNED TO DEATH

Louise Collins of Humboldt, Neb., Succumbs to Injuries.

Humboldt, Neb., Jan. 15.—Louise, the nine-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Collins, who was frightfully burned about the face and chest by a blaze from the stove while she was attending the fire, is dead. The shock was too much for her and she never rallied to speak of after the accident. The girl in her frenzy ran out of doors and around in a circle in a vain endeavor to get relief. Pat Walsh happened along about this time and quickly pulled off his overcoat and threw it over her and smothered the flames, but it was nearly burned through before the fire was entirely put out.

LOCOMOTIVE EXPLODES

Burlington Passenger Train Is Wrecked Near Seward, Neb.

Seward, Neb., Jan. 15.—Burlington passenger train No. 40, running seven hours behind schedule, was wrecked eight miles west of here when the boiler exploded and the engine, a baggage and two passenger coaches were hurled from the track. The conductor was seriously injured, but none of the passengers nor other trainmen was hurt. The accident occurred shortly after the train had left Tamora, bound for Seward.

Papers Take Up Seed Corn Campaign.

Omaha, Jan. 15.—At the request of the publicity bureau of the Commercial club many papers out in the state are taking up the seed corn campaign. The necessity of testing seed corn is urged not only by Professor Pugsley of the state university, but also by farmers and business men who have heard the startling results of the tests being made in various counties.

State Firemen to Meet at Kearney.

Kearney, Neb., Jan. 15.—Practically all arrangements were made for the coming of the state firemen's convention here tomorrow.

Clothing Store at Hildreth Burns.

Hildreth, Neb., Jan. 15.—T. L. Beverly's clothing store burned. The building and stock were entirely destroyed. Loss, \$13,000.

WOULD OPERATE TELEGRAPH LINES

Postmaster General Will Urge Plan on Congress.

VALUES MAY BE APPRAISED.

Cost of Systems Proposed to Be Acquired Approximately Estimated at Two Hundred and Fifty Millions. Ceter Facilities Possible.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Acquisition of the telegraph lines of the United States by the government and their operation as a part of the postal service will be recommended to congress in a short time by Postmaster General Hitchcock.

For a year or more Mr. Hitchcock has had this recommendation under consideration. After a thorough study of the operation of government controlled lines and postal-telegraph systems of foreign countries he has decided to urge the matter upon congress.

"Should this recommendation be adopted," Mr. Hitchcock said, in a statement of his intention, "I am convinced it would result in important economies and lower telegraph rates than now are exacted. In approximately fifty countries of the world—notably in Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Russia and Japan—government controlled telegraphs now are in profitable operation. In many of the countries they are operated in connection with the postal service. These telegraphs serve an aggregate population of 95,000,000, and in every instance they have been found to be of immense practical benefits to the people, in both promptitude and cost of the service.

Would Improve Facilities.

"In this country postoffices are maintained in numerous places not reached by the telegraph system, and the proposed consolidation, therefore, would afford a favorable opportunity for the wide extension of telegraphic facilities. In many small towns where the telegraph companies have offices the telegraph and mail business could be handled readily by the same employees. It is evident that the separate maintenance of the two services under present conditions results in a needless expense.

"The first telegraph in the United States was operated from 1844 to 1847 by the government, under authority from congress, and from many viewpoints it is desirable that government control should be resumed. A method for the acquisition of telegraph lines is prescribed in section 5267 of the Revised Statutes, which provides that for postal, military or other purposes, the government may purchase telegraph lines, operated in the United States, at an appraised value.

Plan Reasonable.

"My view is that every reason for the transmission of mail under government control can be urged with equal force for the transmission of communication by telegraph.

"Because of the more extensive organization maintained by the postal service and the freedom from taxation and other charges to which private corporations are subject, the government undoubtedly could afford greater facilities, at lower rates, than are afforded by companies now conducting the telegraph business. Next to the introduction of a general parcels post, for which there is a strong popular demand, the establishment of a government telegraph system offers, in my judgment, the best opportunity for the profitable extension of the nation's postal service."

It is not Mr. Hitchcock's purpose to recommend the acquisition of telephone lines, except possibly, in instances where they are operated as telegraph lines and are an integral part of definite telegraph systems.

The appraised value of the systems proposed to be acquired would be purely conjectural, but it is said it would approximate \$250,000,000.

Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire, courage.—Washington.

Public Auction

The undersigned will sell at Public Auction at his farm, four miles west and a half mile north of Myard, or eight miles southwest of Plattsmouth, Neb., on

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25,

The following property, to-wit:

- Eleven Head of Horses.
- Gray horse, 10 years old.
- Black mare, 7 years old.
- Iron gray mare, 6 years old.
- Bay mare, 5 years old.
- Gray mare, 7 years old.
- Bay mare, 3 years old.
- Two 2-year-old colts.
- Three yearling colts.
- Two good milk cows.
- One heifer calf.

Farm Machinery.

- One Deere 2-row machine.
- One eight-foot binder.
- One Badger cultivator.
- One Avery cultivator.
- One two-shovel plow.
- One three-section harrow.
- One Deering riding lister.
- One walking lister.
- One 2-row stalk cutter.
- One stalk rake.
- One hay rake.
- One single corn drill.
- One Osborn Bumper disc.
- One sod stirring plow.
- One 14-inch stirring plow.
- Two 16-inch stirring plows.
- One 2-row corn planter.
- One broadcast seeder.
- One wheel scraper.
- One cider mill.
- One set of work harness.
- One Meadow elevator and horse power.
- One carriage.
- One buggy.
- One bob-sled.
- One set of sled runners.
- One hay rack.
- One pair shafts.

Terms of Sale:

All sums of \$10 and under, cash in hand; over \$10, a credit of twelve months will be given, the purchaser giving good bankable paper bearing interest at 8 per cent from date. No property to leave the premises until settled for. Lunch will be served on the grounds at noon. Sale to begin at 10:30 o'clock a. m.

L. C. W. MURRAY.

Wm. Dunn, Auctioneer.

C. G. Fricke, Clerk.

PLANS CHANGES FOR ARMY

Secretary Stimson Announces New Scheme Will Be Developed.

Washington, Jan. 15.—A comprehensive military plan for the United States will be completed by the war college and general staff of the army at Washington before the end of the present session of congress, according to a statement made by Secretary of War Stimson before the house committee on military affairs.

Secretary Stimson said the army was unprepared for war because of its geographical disposition. The troops were in a high state of efficiency, but they must be distributed according to a tactical plan where their services could be used to the greatest advantage, he said. The war college and the general staff have been at work on plans which are understood to contemplate a reorganization of most branches of the army service, the abandonment of many military posts in the interior of the country and the location of large bodies of troops at strategic points.

American Marines in China.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Nine hundred men of the United States marine corps, it was learned, are at present in China, dispatched there from the Philippines in small numbers since last October.

LOST—A long platinum bar pin set with brilliants. Lost between the postoffice and Coates' hall. Liberal reward will be given for return of same to the Journal office.

Chickens Wanted!

Wednesday, January 17, '12

ZUCKWEILER & LUTZ

will pay the following prices, delivered at their store

Hen	11c
Young Roosters	9 1/2c
Cox	5c
Ducks	11c
Geese	8c

CLARINDA POULTRY, BUTTER & EGG CO.