

Mysteries of Nature

By G. Frederick Wright, A. M. LL. D.

HUGE MAMMOTHS ENCASED IN ICE.

The mammoth is an extinct species of elephant which was formerly spread all over Europe, northern Asia, and North America as far south as Mexico. In size he was somewhat larger than the elephant. Whereas Jumbo stood 11 feet high, the mammoth skeleton recently set up in the museum of the Chicago Academy of Sciences stands 13 feet as mounted, which would make him about 14 feet high when alive. The tusks of the mammoth were enormous. Those of one recently found in Texas, and now mounted in the American Museum of Natural History in New York city, measure 13 feet and ten inches, and would weigh 200 pounds apiece. The mammoth had a trunk like suits of hair—the largest consisting of rough, black bristles 18 inches in length, the next a coat of close-set hair from nine to ten inches long, and underneath all a soft, reddish wool, about five inches long, forming a covering which would shed water, and enable the animal to stand any amount of arctic cold.

At the present time the elephant is limited to southern Asia and to central and southern Africa. The Asiatic species, however, differ in many respects from the African. The African elephant has much larger ears than the Asiatic; so that they completely cover the shoulder when thrown back, sometimes being three and one-half feet wide. Its teeth are also different from those of the Asiatic species, and its tusks heavier. But in both cases the tusks are much smaller than are those of the mammoth.

The elephant first appears in the Middle Tertiary deposits of northern India. From that center, still occupied by the species, it seems to have spread outward to the limits of the northern hemisphere. In the later Tertiary period a species is found fossil throughout Europe, while still later the species known as the mammoth, or, in technical terms, *elephas primigenius*, was, as already said, spread in great numbers over northern Asia and North America as far south as the Gulf of Mexico, and all over Europe north of the Mediterranean. In these regions he survived the glacial period, and lingered until some time after the advent of man.

In Siberia the mammoth wandered down the valley of all the large rivers running into the Arctic Ocean, where so many of them left their carcasses that for centuries their tusks have formed a most important export to the ivory markets of the world. During the years 1872-73 as many as 2,770 mammoth tusks, weighing from 140 to 150 pounds each, making a total of 300 tons, were entered at the London docks. Up to the present time the ivory hunters in northern Siberia come back heavily laden with this valuable material, and it forms a constant means of barter with China. The long string of camels which carry tea from China across the Desert of Gobi to Siberia return laden in no small degree with fresh mammoth tusks, brought up from the mouth of the Yenisei, the Lena and the Indigirka river.

One of the most remarkable facts concerning the distribution of the mammoth is brought to light in the discovery of their skeletons in great numbers upon the New Siberian islands, far out beyond the mouth of the Lena river, and of similar discoveries on the Pribilof islands in Bering Sea. On the shores of Alaska north of the Yukon river the bones of the mammoth are very numerous in the frozen soil. So fresh are the remains that, as the sun thaws them out on exposure, the air is tainted with the odor of decaying flesh.

The remains of the mammoth are found chiefly in post-glacial deposits. They occur in the post-glacial river gravels all over the north temperate zone, and beneath the deposits of loess (which are connected with the close of the glacial period) in the Missouri valley. But the situation in which they most frequently occur is in peat bogs, where they seem to have been mixed soon after the glacial period, and slowly enveloped with the accumulating vegetable and earthy deposits. Usually the bones are considerably scattered, so that a good deal of digging has to be done to get all the parts. In Siberia they are found in complete preservation in the ice and frozen soil that cover the northern portion of that vast area. In 1803 Mr. Adams found an entire carcass so perfectly preserved that the flesh when thawed out was eagerly devoured by wolves and bears. This skeleton, with portions of the skin and ligaments, is now mounted in the museum of St. Petersburg. It is nine feet high and 16 feet long.

In 1846 a young Russian engineer named Benkendorf saw one of these huge animals just as it was uncovered in the frozen bank of the Indigirka river during a flood. In its stomach were the chewed fragments of the shoots and cones of fir and pine trees, showing upon what the animal lived. So vivid is his description that it is worth while to reproduce it.

"Picture to yourself an elephant with a body covered with thick fur, about 13 feet in height, and 15 in length, with tusks 8 feet long, thick, and curving outward at their ends, a stout trunk of 6 feet in length, colossal limbs of 1 1/2 feet in thickness, and a tail, naked up to the end, which was covered with thick tufted hair. The animal was fat, and well grown; death had overtaken him in the fullness of his powers. His parchment-like, large, naked ears lay turned up over the head; about the shoulders and the back he had stiff hair, about a foot in length, like a mane. The long outer hair was deep brown, and coarsely rooted. The top of the head looked so wild, and so penetrated with pitch, that it resembled the hind

of an old oak tree. On the sides it was cleaner, and under the outer hair there appeared everywhere a wool, very soft, warm and thick, and of a fallow-brown color. The giant was well protected against the cold.

"The whole appearance of the animal was fearfully strange and wild. It had not the shape of our present elephants. As compared with our Indian elephants, its head was rough, the brain-base low and narrow, but the trunk and mouth were much larger. The teeth were very powerful. Our elephant is an awkward animal, but compared with this mammoth it is an Arabian steed to a coarse, ugly dray horse. I could not divest myself of a feeling of fear as I approached the head; the broken, widely open eyes gave the animal an appearance of life, as though it might move in a moment and destroy us with a roar. . . . The bad smell of the body warned us that it was time to save what we could, and the swelling flood, too, bade us hasten.

But I had the stomach separated and brought on one side. It was well filled, and the contents instructive and well preserved. The principal were young shoots of the fir and pine; a quantity of young fir cones, also in a chewed state, were mixed with the moss."

Still more recently, even as late as 1902, a complete skeleton was found on the banks of the Beresovka river in northeastern Siberia. The entire skin as well as the skeleton of this has been brought to St. Petersburg, and, after being stuffed, has been erected in the position in which it was found. Evidently the animal was browsing on the brink of a frozen precipice, where the footing was more insecure than he supposed. While he was stretching out for a tempting morsel of herbage the foundation gave away beneath him and he slid down backward, landing in a position from which he could not extricate himself, and was there buried by fresh avalanches from the precipice and by the accumulation of sediment from the stream and frozen up for preservation.

The fresh condition of these skeletons in Siberia and Alaska, together with the occurrence of skeletons in connection with flint implements, gives evidence that the animal continued to survive after the advent of man, so as to be for some time a contemporary of the human race on both continents, points to the recent extinction of the animal, and raises the very interesting question as to what causes could have led to this result.

Evidence that man and the mammoth were for a considerable time contemporaries comes from various quarters. In Siberia twelve feet below the surface of a cliff which stands 126 feet above the present level of the River Obi, a skeleton of a mammoth was found, associated with numerous flint implements, indicating the presence of man, while the large bones of the animal were split in the usual way of savages for extracting the marrow.

In numerous places in Europe the bones of the animal have been found both in the river gravel and in caves associated in a similar manner with flint implements, while the picture of the mammoth carved upon a piece of ivory in prehistoric times found in a cave of La Madeleine, Perigord, France, is so lifelike that it must have been made by one who was familiar with the animal. In Wisconsin one of the mounds of the mound builders so perfectly represents the elephant that it is hardly possible to doubt the familiarity of the builders with this animal.

Indian Boy Kills Seven Wolf Cubs.
A lucky little Indian boy, 14 years old, killed seven wolf cubs all in one hole in the cleft of a rock on Bear Island, Lake Temagami. There is a bounty of \$15 per head on these animals.

Mr. Harry Woods, the genial factor of the Hudson's bay company, is an interesting letter to Mr. Parkinson relates the incident. He writes that the necessary affidavits were sent or to Ottawa and the boy has received a check from the department for \$105. Only recently a man out for a walk near Fort William killed five little wolves and got a \$75 bounty.—Sarnia Canadian.

The Merciful Man.
A pleasing sight in the recent hot spell was the driver of an ash cart carefully brushing the ashes and grime off his horse's coat with a soft feather duster. This was preliminary to watering and cooling the animal. After he had his horse thoroughly cleaned he sprayed it as carefully and gently as a mother would bathe her talcum powdered baby.

A long time ago it was written: "The measure that ye mete shall be measured to you again." When that man is in need of tender mercies they will be awaiting him, "pressed down and running over."

The Originals.
Theodore Hallam, one of Kentucky's most able lawyers, was often provoked to exasperation by the play his friends made on his name. Hallam had borne allusions without end to the "Middle Ages," "Constitutional Law," and the rest of it, when one day in Washington he was introduced to Gov. Hogg of Texas.

"Hallam? Hallam?" the governor queried. "Are you the original?"
"No, Gov. Hogg," replied Hallam. "Are you?"

White Races Conquer Leprosy.
The main lesson of leprosy is some what philosophic. All Europe for centuries was covered with it, but the quick, strong, re-active blood of the white race strangled the germs of death, so it is doubtful if whites could ever be pestered much again. Yellow races, of slower, weaker blood, are still slowly stewing with it.

Simple Blouses



These pretty simple blouses are styles that may be carried out in any blouse material, of which there is such a charming selection this season.

The one at the left side has a tiny square yoke of lace with collar of the same. Tucks are made over the shoulder to waist, back and front, also in center of front; insertion and buttons form the trimming.

The illustration at the top has a band of embroidery down center front, with three tucks each side; the long sleeves are close-fitting and are tucked.

Below that the blouse illustrated has a yoke with plastron to waist, that might either be in lace or embroidery. Tucks are made on the shoulders and across bust; a strap outlining the yoke; the sleeves are finished at the wrists by a strap.

The blouse on the right is quite a simple style, with six small tucks on the shoulders; it fastens in the front, under a box-plate. The collar and cuffs are trimmed with insertion and lace edging.

Materials required: for each blouse: about 3 1/2 yards 28 inches wide; for No. 302a, 3 yards insertion and 3/4 yard piece lace; for No. 304a, 1 yard embroidery 5 inches in width; for No. 305a, 1/2 yard piece lace.

ADAPTED FOR FORMAL CALLS NOVELTY IN LACE INSERTION

Sitting Dress in Orchid Mauve Cashmere Trimmed with Buttons and Worn with Sash.

Orchid mauve cashmere is used here. The slightly high-waisted skirt is trimmed at the foot by one tuck, and a hem; it has a little train at the back. One tuck is taken over each shoulder, sewn to waist back and front. The yoke, which is either of

Simple Arrangement by Which Plain Dress Can Be Made Into Ornamental Affair.

Lace insertion with both edges displaying little scallops appears on some of the Swiss evening dresses, and what is more, in very showy outlines. On one dress of Swiss lace featured the bretelles over the shoulder. The two long pieces meet at the waist line, where a belt holds them down, and they extend in two straight pieces, side by side, to the hem. A lace band encircles the dress at the hem and knee lines.

Wide laces with plain edges are made to produce jacket lines on the one-piece dress. This arrangement is worth mentioning, since it really makes a plain dress a very ornamental affair. The straight lines from shoulder to hip line outline coat edges. At the extreme edge they form points, extend straight across the hips and make a single point at the back. The front emplacements pass over the shoulder, form a V-shaped yoke, then one single portion of the lace extends to the edge of the coat, down the back seams. A tucked band of the dress material crosses the coat at the point of the yoke in the back, passed under the arms and is placed under the lace and over the bust. A narrow strip of insertion holds the insertion together at the lower ends of the front. This dress is made with a Dutch lace collar.

Midsummer Fashions.
Black Panama hats are among the midsummer importations, and these have much the appearance and texture of Leghorn. Perhaps the smartest of the very late millinery are the straws in red-brown (a cinnamon shade), which are trimmed with black. These hats are especially affected in comparison with rough tussor and heavy linen suits. With such suits, too, the fashion is growing of wearing shoes to match them. Some shoes of the more brilliant colors are positive offenses in the street, where they are most inappropriate.—Harper's Bazar.

To Make the Curiosity Jug.
Get a two quart jug or larger, if wished, and gather enough nicknacks and trinkets to cover it. Take some putty, roll out to the thickness of half an inch and place around the jug. Then put on the trinkets, pressing them firmly into the putty. The more you have, the better the jug will look. When all is well hardened give a coat of gilt paint and you will have something odd as well as ornamental.

Tan Shoes Popular.
Tan shoes are more worn this summer than ever before, perhaps because they are commonly considered as cooler than black. For country wear they are more suitable and show the dust of walking much less than the black shoes.

Black buckskin and suede and gray suede are also much worn. There is an especial dressing for suede shoes, and after it has been applied and before the shoe dries a coarse hand brush is used to brush the nap of the shoe the wrong way and restore the original slightly roughened surface.

Development of Chest.
In the development of the chest there are many ways of obtaining the desired extra inches, but massage and deep breathing the all that is necessary, and if practiced regularly for six weeks the narrow chested woman would be surprised at the results.

EARLY BEGINNING INSURES SUCCESS IN SWINE

Many Different Points in the Care, Feeding and Health of Market and Breeding Stock—By A. J. Lovejoy.

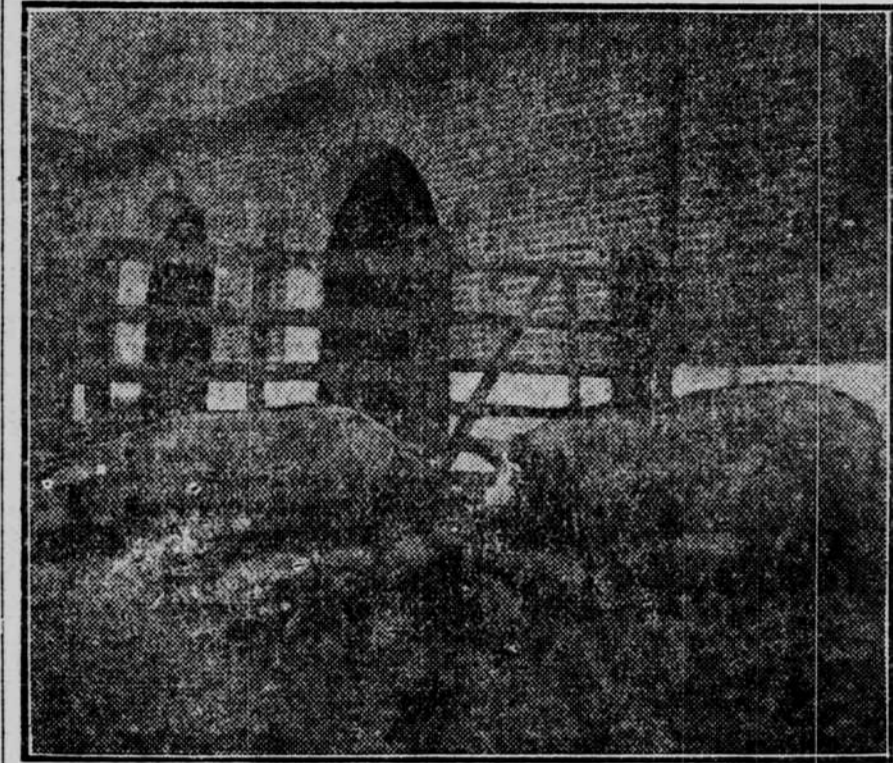
The following notes are taken from the address of A. J. Lovejoy, a well-known swine breeder, delivered recently before the Live Stock Breeders' convention at Urbana, Ill.

The pig that is to be sold for meat has but a few months to live, and there should be no let-up in feeding from birth. It will begin to eat shelled corn at three or four weeks of age; and a little sweet skim milk or a thick mush of the same material that given the mother, is a great help to hasten growth.

Well bred or even good grade pigs should weigh 60 to 80 pounds when weaned at three months of age, and should then go on alfalfa, clover or other fresh green pasture, and have corn twice a day. Late in the summer there should be ready for them

the market pigs. For late summer and fall, I have made it a practice to have a field of Evergreen sweet corn to feed in the roasting ear. I begin by adding one stalk and ear for each pig in addition to his other feed; in a few days two stalks and two ears, and gradually increase this amount to a full feed, while diminishing the other ration.

In winter the brood sows should have something to take the place of the green pasture. I know of nothing that will equal alfalfa, bright and green, run through a cutting machine. Two-thirds chafed alfalfa and one-third shelled corn mixed together and ground in a steel burr grinder, make an almost ideal ration which can be fed dry or mixed thickly with scalding water; a little salt adds relish. It



Profitable Type of Swine.

a pasture of rape, field peas or soy beans, besides the corn. If their teeth become sore, change to shelled corn, soaked 24 hours in water, slightly salted.

It will pay to have a cool, shady place where it is rather dark, if possible, for the pigs to lie in during the heat of the day, with free access to a mixture of salt, copperas, lime and ashes. The feeder should watch closely to see that every pig is eating with a relish. If the pigs cough it is probably due to a dusty shed. Worms will also cause a cough, and if the hair becomes starring and dead in appearance, it is well to give a worm powder. Lice can be gotten rid of by nipping, and all of the market dips can be improved by adding crude oil or petroleum. The pigs will be ready for market at any age after six to eight months.

In raising hogs to be used as breeders the object is very different. They

is a cheap ration and has just bulk enough to take the place of grass. If one cannot have alfalfa, bright, well cured clover is good. Sorghum cane is a good fall feed until heavy freezing. Manglers or sugar beets are of course very good.

It is very necessary that the brood sows have exercise, that they may bring strong litters of pigs, full of vitality. It is best to keep the same sows for several years if they have proven good breeders and careful mothers; they will raise more and better pigs than the young girls.

Mature sows can be kept breeding, raising two litters annually, and can be carried from year to year after weaning their litters, quite cheaply, with little or no grain after the spring litter is weaned until the fall litter comes, if they can have fresh grass or other succulent feed. We should learn to produce as much of the feed as possible ourselves.

The Open-Top Tree.

It is not necessary to go over the tree trying to cut off every little twig. The leaders are the ones that need attention. When heading in these leaders it is best to cut them off to a side branch, rather than to dormant bud. Frequently when an inexperienced man practices heading-in he is tempted to shear the tree all over and leave it a smooth, oval form. It will be seen that this is very different from the method described above, where only the leaders are cut back and the side shoots thinned, so as to leave an open top. The amount of heading-in to be done should vary from year to year, according as the crop promises to be large or small. As the tree gets older less heading-in is usually necessary.

Apple Standard Fruit.

The apple is and always will be a standard fruit over large areas. There is never a season but that some apples of some varieties make a yield and the good years make up for the bad. Fruit may be cheap good years, but it can be worked up in many ways so that it can be used during years when there is a light crop. The family orchard on the farm is almost worth keeping for ornament and shade, even though it never produced any fruit.

Harvesting Hay.

Get as much of the hay as possible into the barn or other adequate shelter as soon as it is harvested. Hay stacked in the field deteriorates from one-fourth to one-half in value after it has stood there till winter. If any of the hay must be stacked out, cover the top of the stack with straw, other coarse grass, or with canvas to keep out rains. The extra labor and expense will be well repaid.

WATCH YOUR HORSE'S FEET

Shoer Should Thoroughly Understand Anatomy of the Foot.

It is absolutely essential for the horseshoer to thoroughly understand the anatomy and physical laws as well as the mechanical rules of the horse's foot, for most all ailments to which horses' feet are subject come under his direct supervision.

He is often called upon to treat foot disorders and should equip himself with sufficient knowledge of the subject before attempting to remedy such ailments.

Corns seem to be one of the most obstinate cases that come under the observation of the horseshoer. Some authorities claim that these corns resemble the corns on the human foot, but they are misled on account of the cause and location being generally the same. It is a misapplied term when con-

nected with the foot of the horse. The discoloration which appears between the bar and wall is a deposit of blood after a rupture of the blood vessels which form such a complex network around the foot. This part of the foot has to do more than its share of work. Corns are chiefly found on the inside of the foot because of the habit of fitting the shoes closer to the center of the frog than the outside, thus throwing the work on the inside heel.

Another error in making shoes right and left. Why should this be done when there is no distinction in the anatomy? The foot has as many points of observation as a marine compass and each point must be rigidly observed if we wish to be successful in manipulating the ailments of the foot. The shoe must be an equal distance from the center of the frog in order to balance the foot.

If this cannot be done by nature, mechanical rules must be followed.

Knows He Is Victorious.
Cupid grins when a woman bosses around the man she loves.—Manchester Union.

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HONORS WERE WITH FARMER

Mail Carrier Must Have Realized That He Picked Out Wrong Man to Have Fun With.

The new mail carrier on the rural free delivery route glanced at the name on the letter box by the roadside, stopped his horse, and spoke to the roughly attired farmer with the old slouch hat, who was resting his sun-browned arms on the gate and looking at him.

"I see," he said, "your name is Holmes."

"Yes."

"Beverly G.?"

"Yes, I'm the man that lives here."

"Any relation of Sherlock Holmes?"

gravelly asked the carrier.

"No, sir," answered the farmer, "but I'm detective enough to know that you're not a very good judge of human nature. You took me for an ignoramus because I've got my old working duds on. I'm Sherlock Holmes enough to look at a man's face and eyes before I size him up as a—Some mail for me? Thanks."—Youth's Companion.

OH, MY!



He—A woman is peculiar in one way.
She—What's that?
He—She won't tear up a love letter, even after she's forgotten who wrote it.

Either Way.

Mr. Wilkins had been sitting quietly on a nail keg, perusing a paper which he had found on the counter. The date of it he had not noticed. Finally he looked up with a puzzled expression.

"What's this wireless telegraph signal, this 'C. O. D.' they're talking about?" he asked.

"I guess it's 'C. Q. D.' ain't it?" suggested Holbrook, the grocer. "Anyway, it's a signal of distress," he added, moodily.

Always a Way.

"The cook has furnished rather small portions," said the hostess. "The woman guests won't eat much, but how about the men?"

"I'll circulate around and nominate each of 'em to make an after-dinner speech," responded the host. "That will effectually kill off their appetites."

Half Done.

"Your husband has merely fainted." "Dear, dear, those men always do things by halves."—Meggendorfer Blaetter.

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