### PASSING OF THE COWBOY

Fenced-In Ranches Benishes a Picturesque Character of the West.

Transforms the Cowboy of Old Into an Ordinary Hired

the Ogalella range in Wyoming has been Body;" lands will be fenced and that hereafter the Sam, the Yankee." cattle will be fed in winter, is more signifi- Mr. Bishop is the only one left of a group be said to mark the close of one era and the "The Suwanee River;"

ranges north of Texas, and from it are Bishop is still vigorous and healthy and shipped tens of thousands of cattle to the carries his 66 years as lightly as he car-Chicago market every year. It comprises ried his knapsack in the civil war. He has a section of country as large as an eastern had a varied career. He began life as a state, and its manager, Billy Irvine, is one music teacher and was successively minand is known personally or by reputation publisher and, lastly, banker.

firmer basis. For years, in fact ever since and down to his last coin, a 50-cent piece. the firs: bunch of cattle, abandoned to their fate in a Colorado blizzard, were found to have survived the winter, the raising of catpation in which chance has played a promiequanimity, regarding it as a dispensation threw him the money-all he had. of Providence against which it was imposknew within a good many thousands how hat. He went away delighted. many heads of stock they actually owned. If a succession of bad seasons wiped out a man's entire herd he could buy a few hundred bead on credit and start out again

#### Changed Conditions.

During recent years, however, conditions have been gradually changing. Herds mu: brought down the price of beef and cur- week Bishop had to decline to take more tailed profits to the point where a bad pupils. season meant ruin for a cattle owner. Five years ago the cattle business was almost completely demoralized and the owners of He could be comic, sentimental, patriotic, me if I knew anything about the song. I have been many and of various kinds. begas to send their cattle down into Ne-Cansas, where corn was plent ful and cheap at the beginning of winter, gore, is almost as completely extinct as the Lands of Montana. He lived out of doors and to feed them for a month or two there dodo. Only the few caged specimens of the and out of sight of human habitation for before sending them to market. The price Wild West show remain to reveal to us the eleven-twelfths of the year. All of his of cornfed beef was so much higher than simon-pure cowboy, as he was in the days waking and some of his sleeping hours that of cattle direct from the range that a when the great west was wild and woolly, were spent in the saddle. His only com-good many men have made comfortable for- Today the woolliness is entirely worn off panions were the herds he tended and his tunes within the last few years by build- from western civilization except in a few fellow cowpunchers. He was a law unto ing feed lots and acting as middlemen be- isolated spots, and the wildness is almost himself because no other law was there.

# A Last Minstrel is He

Famous Songs of T. Brigham Bishop.

'When Johnny Comes Marching Home." FEW BRONCHO BUSTERS ON THE PLAINS Since then his songs have been popular soldiers and did not altogether relish the Modern Way of Caring for Cattle the best known of these are: "Kitty Wells," melodies; "Pretty As a Picture," Fly," "If Your Poot is Pretty, Show It," "Glory, Glory Hallelujah," the music of edly: "Ah, shoo fly; don't bother me." which was berrowed by Julia Ward Howe for her "Battle Hymn of the Republic," The announcement that the ownership of and is known to all as "John Brown's "Nancy Till," "The Moon Behind converted into a stock company, that its the Hill," "Sweet Evelina" and "I'm Uncle and it went like wildfire. In a short while

cant than it would appear to one not thor- of great minstrel song writers. The comoughly familiar with the conditions of the rades of his youth-Dan Emmett, the aucattle business in the west. In fact it may ther of "Dixle;" Stephen Foster, who wrote be said to mark the close of one era and the "The Suwanee River;" Nelson Kneass, beginning of another in the history of cow-composer of the music of "Ben Bolt;" E. P. Christy, the originator of minstrelsy, and The Ogalalla is the largest of the open P. S. Gilmore, the leader-all are gone. Mr. of the cleverest cattlemen in the northwest, strei, soldier, cornetist in Gilmore's band,

to everybody west of the Missouri. The He is and always was an entbusiastic fact that it has been found necessary to lover of music. He once gave his last change the system on which this range has money to get an organ grinder to play over been operated successfully for many years and over again his favorite song, "Annie proves conclusively that the old order is Laurie." It happened in this way. Early in the '50s when Chicago was a small How great are the changes which this will town, Bishop went there to teach the guitar involve one may understand on a little re- and mandolin. He tried hard, but couldn't flection. First of all it means the readjust- get a pupil. His money was going out and ment of the cattle business on a new and none was coming in. He was in despair

While brooding over his lack of luck an tie on the western plains has been an occu- organ grinder appeared beneath the window of his studio and began to play "Annie nent part. The idea of providing feed to Laurie." The music teacher's heart forcarry the herds through winter storms was got its sorrow. He leaned far out of his never seriously considered. If a protracted window and asked the organ grinder if he blizzard came on and killed off 10,000 head would encore that tune for an hour for 50 of stock the ranchmen bore the blow with cents. The man said he would. Bishop

The organ grinder played the tune over sible to provide protection. If an extended a dozen times and then the neighbors began drouth dried up the water holes and parched to complain. The organ grinder was orthe plains and left the whitening bones of dered away. Blahep protested. He told thousands of beeves as the terrible record the objectors that he had engaged the mau of death from thirst, he charged it to his to play for an hour and an hour he would profit and loss account and telled on better have to play. The objectors grew so strong luck in other seasons to make the balance and numerous that Bishop consented to dison the right side. One season in every miss the organ grinder if the crowd which three was regularly counted on as a bad bad gathered would drop something into one, but the practically unlimited free range the musician's hat. All were so eager to and the high prices of beef made the profits get rid of him that they were very generof favorable years enormous. These were ous in their offerings and as a result the the days of the "cattle barons," who never astonished man found more than \$20 in his

scarcely time to worry over it when a newspaper man who had witnessed the affair congratulated him, saying he had given with the practical certainty that in a few him a story. The pair took a walk to talk years he would be back in his old position, the article over and stepped into a saloon to complete it. There in a corner sat a tolinist, Dan Emmet, the author of Dixle," and a planist, Nelson Kneass, the imposer of "Ben Bolt." There in the tiplied until the ranges began to crowd corner the newspaper story was concected. one another. Homesteaders flocked in, took The article appeared on the following day up choice quarter sections and fenced them and it proved a boom for the man who went off. The rapid increase in production broke on "Annie Laurie." In less than a

But Bishop's last cent was gone. He had

COLL OF A STEER TO PASSELL BRAND

The twentieth century cowboy is an ex-

tremely matter-of-fact young man who re-

tween the range owners and the packers | completely confined to pen artists and the

their herds themselves. It became neces- gards his business in a wholly serious light,

sary for cattle raisers to own their own who works hard throughout the greater part

ranges and to fence them in as a protection of the year, who is by no means fond of

against intruders. Under these conditions bloodshed and who gets drunk no more fre-

the business has revived until it is again quently than some of his castern portray-

The more progressive cattlemen have taken writers of novels.

a leaf out of the feed lot owner's book and

have lately begun the practice of feeding

that the raising of beef on the western

plains will never again be conducted in

the old haphazard, reckless way and they

add that they are glad of it. It was not

pleasant any more that it was profitable

to see cattle frozen to death by hundreds

and to watch the swollen bodies and pro-

truding tongues that told of the terrible

destruction of thirst. Artesian wells, alfalfa

and corn have made existence a deal more

endurable for cattle on the plains and have

done away with much of the cruelty that

But the new conditions under which cattle

raising is carried on have produced other

changes. One of the most noteworthy of

three is the transformation in the position

stitution of barted-wire fences and winter

feed-lots for the open range circumscribe

mightily the activities of the free riders of

the plains. Since the cattle cannot stray

beyond the boundary of the fenced-in range

there will be small danger of stampedes;

the necessity for cutting out cattle from herds to which they do not belong; for las-

sooing strays to inspect their brands and

indeed the need of branding itself will all

be done away with. From being a wild, un-

trammeled lord of the plains, a broncho-

busting, gun-wielding, man-cating paragon,

the cowboy is rapidly descending to the

commonplace position of a feeder of cattle,

and will soon enjoy a status not unlike the

'hired man' of the eastern states. He is

losing in picturesqueness, although he is

and estate of the cowboy himself. The sub-

one, was inseparable from the business.

It is fifty years since T. Brigham Bishop heroic. "Shoe Fly," one of his greatest wrote the melody which we now know as hits, was written during the war. He was assigned to command a company of colored throughout the length and breadth of the job. One day he heard a colored soldler country, relates the New York Sun. Among ask a partner how ne felt. The latter said: "I'se feelin' like a mo'ning star." The which was one of the sweetest of all sad other said: "Well, I feel like a frog that's "Shoo lost its ma." A colored listener overheard the remarks and said somewhat disgust-

Bishop caught at the exclamation as if it were an inspiration. Then he wrote the song about the members of the despised Company G. He taught it to his soldiers his command was the most popular in the regiment and every night the soldiers would crowd around his tent to hear his darkles sing. His audiences grew so large that one night when an extra minstrel entertainment was given 50,000 soldlers, the army of the Cumberland, joined in the chorus. The song was pirated and Bishop profited very little from its sale.

In those times songs were not published as readily as they are today and were often sung by the minstrels for months and sometimes years before they appeared in print. Thus it frequently occurred that songs were sold by singers who had learned them, they posing as the authors and thus at large until 1863, when P. S. Gilmore defrauding the real creators.

"Sweet Evelina" was thus at large for years. Then Bishop sold it to E. P. Christy for \$5. It made \$50,000. "Sweet Evelina," which was simply a tuneful love song, became an army favorite during the war and it was the only tune that the confederate cavalry leader, Colonel J. E. B. Stuart, would ever permit to be played in his presence. He had two troopers who had been minstrels before the breaking out of the war. They were expert banjoists and furnished the spectacle of two minstrels on horseback at the head of a marching column, singing and twanging their instruments to the tune of "Sweet Evelina, dear Evelina, my love for the thee shall never, never die.

Bishop found the poem "Kitty Wells" in an old newspaper. It was written by Charles Siade. Bishop set the poem to music and sang it throughout the country. He then learned that it was published with another melody and ceased using his version. Ten years later he learned that S. T. Gordon had published his version. He wrote for an explanation and was told that his was the melody the public wanted. Gordon unhesitatingly paid all royalties.

The poem of "Leaf by Leaf the Roses Fail" was also found in an old newspaper Caroline Dana Howe wrote the verses. It was set to music by several composers. Fred Buckley of Buckley's Serenaders was one, and he sang his own setting in all his entertainments. But when he heard Bishop's music he straightway discarded his own and helped considerably to make the latter's music popular. Mr. Bishop tells this little story of how the song found its way into print:

'Leaf by Leaf' was affoat for seven years," he says, "One day while in Cincinnati I called on John Church. He was an old friend. I had known him very well when he was a clerk for Ditson & Co. in Boston. I was chatting with him in the office when a clerk came in and said that a lady was asking for 'Leaf by Leaf,' but she said the one on sale was not the right one. The words were there, but the music was not. The clerk said there had been

told him that on my travels I had been singing a melody to the words. He asked me to go to the front of the store, see the woman and sing the melody to her. I had barely started when she said: 'Yes, that is it and you're the gentleman I heard sing it at Mayor Bishop's.' R. R. Bishop was mayor of Cincinnati about that time. Church published the song and it had a tremendous sale. The melody was written in 1857, while I was in Portland, Me.

"I was generally credited with having written the words. Some years later, while on a visit to Portland, I was taken to task for claiming the authorsal, of the verses. then learned that Mrs. Dana Howe was he real author and that she was a resident of the city. I immediately placed her name upon the title page."

"If Your Foot is Pretty, Show It" was written while Bishop was in St. Louis, The song was introduced at the Olympic theater, New York by Mrs. John Wood. It was the first time she had ever sung a song of this class. She made a great hit with it and it was principally through her efforts that it became a great favorite.

The melody known as "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" was first set to "Johnny, Fill Up the Bowl" while Bishop was in Providence, R. I., in 1850. It was wrote the new words, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" to it. Bishop and Gilmore took the song to Tolman & Co. of Boston. It was accepted. Mr Healy, now of the firm of Lyon & Healy, Chicago, was then a bookkeeper for the house. He thought that the melody had run itself out in its association with "Johnny, Fill Up the Bowl" and suggested to Bishop and Gilmore that the name Louis Lambert be placed upon the title page. The song became one of our national airs.

Speaking about "John Brown's Body," Mr. Bishop said: "The melody, so far as I can find out, was original with me and the line which suggested the same was epoken upon my return from St. Louis in 1858. I met a brother-in-law of minr. Mr. Johnson, who had experienced religion and he took me to task, remarking that my songs were all written for the devil. Then he said: am bound to be a soldier in the army of the Lord; glory, glory, Hallelujah!' Without stopping to think I sang this line to a melody which seemed to escape from my mouth, repeating the same, and the chorus followed, the verse and chorus simply being two lines. It was done as a loke before a friend who was was always teasing my brother-in-law. This is the origin of the

"The song, or hymn, was sung by Mr. Johnson a few evenings afterward at a revival meeting. Everybody took to it. used it on several occasions, adapting it to circumstances and conditions and when at Martinsburg, Va., after John Brown's execution at Harper's Ferry, I wrote the original lines of 'John Brown's Body Lies a-Mouldering in the Grave.' I also wrote a verse for 'Ellsworth's Body' and, with the exception of the Jeff Davis verse, all originated with me.

"The song was published in 1861 by John Church of Cincinnati. I thought little of the song or I would have published it long before. I believed it would never amount to anything. But its success was magical. Then Julia Ward Howe took the music and used it for her grand poem, 'The Battle Hymn of the Republic.' And now who doesn't know the melody?"

A list of Bishop's songs would be very long. Nearly fifty years ago he began to write and he is still at it. His successes

steam. It was only natural that the conditions of the cattle business developed an original code of ethics and morals and that it evolved a distinct type of the human individual.

It would be interesting work for the psychologist to trace also the influence of the cow upon the cowboy. The vast herds that roamed the plains in the old days were subordinate only to the superior intelligence of their human attendants and not always subject to that. From association with them the rider of the plains imbibed their spirit. They made him brave, reckless and self-reliant. He presented the strongest possible contrast, for example, to the sheep herder, with whom he waged an intermittent, flerce and bloody war for the ossession of the free range.

The sheep tender, like the cowboy, lived alone, far away from companionship and human associations, but he lived under very different conditions. His flocks moved slowly and required little exercise of skill or vigilance to keep them together. He covered less ground in a month than the owboy frequently did in a day. His diet was an unvaried round of mutton, biscults and tea and in time he became like his shoep-sheepish. The cowpunchers even asserted that they could scent him at a distance by his woolly odor. It is not surprising then that he proved no match for the active, beef-eating and resourceful cowboy. or that he was almost invariably worsted in their frequent encounters. It was only by mute persistence and the force of fest multiplying numbers that the sheep were able to hold onto any part of the free

range. While the old-time glamor of cowboy existence lives only in rainbow-hued literastances that the strongest possible tribal ture, there remains a wide field of usefulness for the cowboy of today. The work It is not surprising that they were their of carefully studying breeding conditions in a flourishing condition, but it is a very ers. As a species he is thoroughly healthy, guns in convenient positions and became of testing different varieties of feed and of different business from what it was in the manly and orderly, and as reasonably happy accustomed to hanging cattle "rustlers" as riding to market in the caboose of a cattle



He spent his money on silver-mounted

saddles, gorgeous headgear and at rare in-

tervals on villainous liquor and "fixed"

necessities and his only possible luxuries.

fare layouts because these were his only

It is not surprising under these circum-

feeling was developed in the cattlemen.

more than likely to gain in usefulness to himself and to the community at large. Gone but Not Forgotten.

The Remington cowboy is fast passing away. man has remained. The hero of the saddle who spent his days

son to live with than he was of yore. The Already the old order is almost obsolete. desperado has been eliminated while the settlements which were entitled to a place utilitarian age places by far the greater

There is no doubt that in the old days and nights in mad rides across the prairie the typical cowboy was worthy of all that of hell-inspired bronchos and in tostering ago he owned and ruled the empire of the an unquenchable thirst for red liquor and plains from the Texas panhandle to the Bad long a time it became necessary to blow off measurably.

isolation from his fellow citizens have made and the six-shooter was the only police- roundups and terror-spreading charges up the cowboy of today a more agreeable per- man. It is not surprising either that on and down the streets of unoffending towns their infrequent visits to those frontier they yielded to an uncontrollable desire to before franzied herds, in breaking the spirit has been written of him. Twenty years paint the town. As the inevitable result character, but in the coming of his sucof having held down the safety valve for so cessor the cattle business is gaining im-

CALF BRANDING

militarity with civilization and less complete ous in the old days in the plains country night rides to avert stampedes, exciting with a six-shooter in either hand, but a the northwest, has been seriously considon the map by virtue of the possession of value upon the former work. In the denumerous saloons and a graveyard apiece parture of the passing cowboy literature mourns the loss of a highly interesting

# Which Girls?

# The Bee wants to know which girls

in the territory in which it circulates are most deserving of the vacation trips offered to the girls who work for a livelihood. We would like every reader to vote the coupons which appear on page two each day. Any young lady who earns her own living may enter the con-

# The Bee will pay all of the expenses

of the trips and furnish additional transportation, so it will not be necessary to go alone. Read over the rules



# Twelve Splendid Vacation Trips

From Omaha to Chicago on the Mil-waukee. Chicago to Buffalo via the Nickel Plate. Ten days at the Mari-borough and the Pan-American Ex-position. Return via Chicago with a day at the Grand Pacific hotel.

From Omaha to Hot Springs, S. D., over the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad. Two weeks at the Hotel Evans at Hot Springs, with privileges of the plunge and baths. From Omaha to Minneapolis on the Northwestern. From Minneapolis to Lake Minnetonka over the Great Northern, with two works at the Hotel

From Omaha to Chicago on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. Two days at the Grand Pacific. Chicago to Lake Geneva. Wis., on the Northwestern. Two weeks at the Garreson house. Return via the same routes. From Omaha to Chicago via the Northwestern with a day's stop at the Grand Pacific hotel. From Chicago to Waukesha, Wis. with two weeks at the Fountain Spring house. Fig. 3 Omaha to Denver over the Burlington Three days at the Brown Palace hotel, a day's excursion to Georgetown through Clear Crark Canyon. From Penver to Colorado Springs on the Denver & Rio Grande to the Garden of the Gods, a trip up Pike's Peak, with headquarters for ten days at the Alia Vista hotel at Colorado Springs.

From Omaha to Lake Okoboji on the Milwaukee. Two weeks at The Inn at Lake Okoboji. Return via the Mil-

Prom Omaha to Kansas City over the Missouri Pacific with three days at Kansas City at the Coutes house. Kansas City to Pertie Springs, Mo., with two weeks at Hotel Minnewawa.

From Omaha to St. Louis over the Omaha & St. Louis and Wabash lines, with three days at the Southern hotel. From St. Louis to Toledo with a day at the Boody house. From Toledo to Put in-Bay via the Detroit & Cleveland steamship, with two weeks at the Hotel Victory.

Island. Three days at the Brown Palace hotel. A day's excursion on the Colorado road through Clear Creek Canyon to Georgetown and The Loup. From Denver to Glenwood Springs via the Denver & Rio Grande. Ten days at the Botel Colorado. Glenwood Springs. Return via the same routes.

From Omaha to Sait Lake via the Union Pacific. Ten days at the Hotel Knutaford, Sait Lake with privileges of Saitair Beach. Return on the Union Pacific via Denver with three days stop at the Brown Palace hotel, a day's excursion from Denver to Georgetown and the Loup through Clear Creek Canyon on the Colorado road.

From Omaha to Chicago via the Illinois Central, with a day at the Grand Pacific, Chicago to Charlevoix via the Fere Marquetic raliroad. Ten days at the Hotel Belvidere at Charlevoix, Return via Steamship Manitou to Chicago, Chicago to Omaha via the Illinois Central

#### RULES OF THE CONTEST:

The trips will be awarded as follows: Four trips to the four young ladies living in Omaha receiving the most votes; one trip to the young lady in South Omaha receiving the most votes; one trip to the young lady in Council Bluffs receiving the most votes; three trips to the young ladies living in Nebraska outside of Omaha and South Omaha receiving the most votes; two trips to the young ladies living in Iowa outside of Council Bluffs receiving the most votes; and one trip to the young lady in South Dakota receiving the most

The young lady receiving the highest number of votes will have the first choice of the trips, the next highest second choice, and so on.

No votes will be counted for any young lady who does not earn her own living. All votes must be made on coupons cut from page 2 of The Bee.

Prepayments of subscriptions may be made either direct to The Bee Publishing Company, or to an authorized agent of The Bee.

No votes sent in by agents will be counted unless accompanied by the cash, in accordance with instructions sent them.

No votes will be counted for employes of The Omaha Bee.

The vote from day to day will be published in all editions of The Bee. The contest will close at 5 p. m. July 22, 1901.

Votes will be counted when made on a coupon cut from The Omaha Bee and deposited at The Bee Business

# "Vacation Contest Department,"

Omaha Bee, Omaha, Neb.

# UNDER WIACADA WILL DINDDY valuable, but there are authorities who con

Geologists Put the Event Beyond the Vision of These New Living.

CONSTANT CHANGES AT THE GREAT FALLS

Draining the Great Lakes by Way of the Mississippi River-Proposed Dam at the Foot of Lake Erie.

Before Niagara Falls, which are no cutting their way backward along the bed of the river to Lake Erie at the rate of about four feet a year, reach the head of Grand Island less than five miles away, there will be no Niagara. The whole system of the Great Lakes is changing, says the New York Sun. The waters of Lake Michigan at Chicago are slowly rising, and Lake Erie is growing shallow.

Eventually, unless a dam is built to prevent it, as has been proposed. Lake Michigan will overflow to the Illinois river, as it did centuries ago in the last pre-glacial period; the basin of Lake Erie will be tributary to Lake Huron, the current be reversed in the Detroit and the St. Clair channels and the whole lake system vill drain southward into the Mississippi.

Then Niagara will vanish. From a majestic cataract the Falls will dwindle to few threads of water falling over a preciice, as may be seen in the summer season in the upper falls of the Genesee at Rochester. All that they will carry will e the drainage of the immediate neighbor-

There isn't any occasion for alarm for the present, however, for all this will take place in from two to three thousand years from now and many things may happen before then. Also, as it is extremely un-likely that the elixir of life will be discovered in this generation, notody now alive need worry much about it. But that is what the great lake system is tending to, as is set forth in an interesting "Guide to the Geology and Palcontology Niagara Falls and Vicinity" by Prof. Amadeus W. Grabau, S. D., of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, arranged and published in most complete form by John M. Clarke, the state paleontologist, as a bulletin of the New York State museum

It will be from 500 to 600 years before the tendency of the lakes to a new drainage bed is plainly manifested, according to the authorities cited by Prof. Grabau. The rising of the waters of Lake Michigan at present s at the rate of nine or ten inches a century. The first water to overflow will be that at some high stage of the lake and the discharge may at first be intermittent. For a mean lake stage such a discharge will begin in about 1,000 years, but after 1,500 years there will be no interruption. In about 2,000 years the Illinois river and

the Niagara will carry equal shares of the surplus water of the Great Lakes, and in 3,500 years, for certain, there will be no

That is if man, in the shape of the United States government, does not interfere. The shoaling of Lake Eric at Cleveland and at other points on the Ohio shore has already given cause for alarm and the stoppage of age system of the lakes, which is attributed to the gradual tilting of the land in

The plan proposed to stop the tendency

WHEN NIAGARAWILL KUNDKI tend that this argument is absurd and the plan is opposed on that account.

> west is a curious phenomenon for which the geologists cannot wholly account. It is plainly recorded in the beaches of the old glacial lakes, which had a uniform elevation while forming, but now are no longer of a uniform height above the sea level, rising progressively toward the northeast. The movement is still going on.

> Prof. G. K. Gilbert has made an extended study of the problem and he has been led to the assumption that the whole lake region is being lifted on one side, or depressed on the other, so that its plane is bodily canted toward the south-southwest. The rate of change, he estimates, is such that the two ends of a line 100 miles long and lying in a south-southwest direction are relatively displaced to the extent of four-tenths of a foot in a century. From this it follows that the waters of each lake are gradually rising on the southern and western shores or falling on the northern and eastern shores, or both.

# Origin of the Palls.

Niagara Falls came into existence when the waters of Lake Iroquois, which in ages long past was the predeceasor Lake Ontario, fell beneath the level of the escarpment at Lewiston. At first the Falls were only a small cataract, but year by year as the lake subsided the cataract gained in height and consequently in force of fail as well as efficiency in cutting chennel. The Niagara gorge from Lewiston to the present Falls is believed to be wholly the product of river erosion. Before the advent of the falls the Ningara was a placid stream from lake lake much as it is today from Buffalo to

shallow banks into the glacial till and their traces are seen now in some places a mile back from the edge of the gorge which the Falls have since cut. It has been patiently cutting that gorge for thousands of years, how many the geologists cannot tell, but they place the total at not less than 10,000 or more than One geologist, Prof. Hitchcock. puts the beginning of the great cataract

the northern end of Grand Island. It cut

at 1026 B. C., which is 300 years before the time of Romulus, or about the period in which King David reigned in Jerusalem. As long as a river is parrow and vigorously undercuts its banks the latter will be steep and the river channel will have the character of a gorge. This continues as long as the river is dutting downward, that is, till the grade of the river bettom is a very gentle one. Then the spreading the current undercuts the banks, and atmospheric disen'egration quickly destroys the cliffs, which the river does not keep perpendicular. Niagera gorge changes greatly even in a century. Below the falls the river flows in a channel in places only

ten feet wide and 110 feet below the level

of the platform, which was its bed a cen-

There is a theory that only a part, the southern or later part of the gorge of the whirlpool rapids, was carved by the Ningara, the volume of which was at one time reduced by the buried St. David's gorge and since swept away in a glacial period and that the greater half of the gorge was pre-glacial. All the authorities agree. however, that the broad and deep gorge from Clifton to the present falls was made by a cataract carrying the full supply of water. This, which geologists say is the most readily interpreted part of the gorge, this natural movement in the general drain- has now come to an end at the present falls and the character of the channel hereafter can only be conjectured.

# Changes Noted.

Ningara, it seems, is now at a critical s to erect an immense dam in the Niagara stage. The river has reached the second river above Buffalo, with the object of of the points where a rectangular turn is checking and eventually decreasing the out- made and the gorge hebind the falls flow. It is argued that this would not changing. A short channel, considerably greatly decrease the power of Niagara, now narrower than that of the last section, is

cut by the Horseshoe fall and fall itself is narrowing. This narrowness of the channel is due to the concentration This tilting of the territory in the north- of water in the center of the stream.

Goat island, which divides the Horseshoe from the American fall and the other islands as well, owes its existence to this concentration of the water, for at one time all of these islands were submerged by the current. The channel above the Horseshoe fall has been cut to more than fifty feet below the summit of Goat island at the falls, while the upper end of the Island is still at the level of the water in the river. The effect will be that the island as an island in time will disappear.

It lies on one side of the main mass of water which, rushing forward, passes it and strikes the Canadian bank, from which it is deflected toward the center of the cataract, that portion being thus deepened and worn back most rapidly, as may se observed from the upper walks of the Canadian park, where in many cases the shores have been ballasted and otherwise protected from the current.

In an earlier period, when the falls were farther north and before the central part of the stream had been deepened to its present extent, the water, then at the level of the river above Goat island, flooded what is now the Queen Victoria park and carved from the glacial hill the pronounced concave wall which now ounds the park on the west. A local eddy, probably in very recent times, carved the steep and semicircular cliff which incloses the Dufferin islands.

# American Falls Falling.

In a thousand years from now and at the present rate of recession of the falls. is calculated by the geologists whose views are set forth by Prof. Grabau, that the Horseshoe Falls will have reached the upper end of Goat island and that will end the American Falls. These having a smaller erosive force will have receded only about half way to the Goat island bridge in that time. The Horseshoe Falls will draw off the water from the American Falls and all the islands will then be joined by a dry channel to the mainland, an event which, Prof. Grabau says, was anticipated only as far back as 1848, when owing to an ice blockade in the Niagara river near Buffalo the American Falls was deprived of all its waters for a day. Should a dam built in the Niagara river the effect might be the same.

This is not the first time in the history of Niagara that the falls have been divided. Long ago when the falls were at Foster's flats, almost seven miles below their present situation, it is supposed that a narrow island, comparable to Goat island, in the river bed cut the falls in two. The foundations of the island, which has since crumbled away, are to be seen in the ridge which divides the old dry channel on the left from the main bed of the river.

The Eastern or American Fall was in this case the larger of the two and as it carried the channel it receded more rapid-When the Canadian fall reached the head of the island the American had just passed it and the Canadian fall fell out of the race. So history is only repeating tself now in Ningara.

# Molineus Decision Goes Over.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 10 .- There is reliable authority for the statement that the court of appeals, which met here today, will not hand down any decision in the Molineux murder case until the October term of the court.

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