

Sixty-Five Thousand Elephants Are Killed Every Year for Their Tusks



PORTERS WITH IVORY AT A WAREHOUSE.

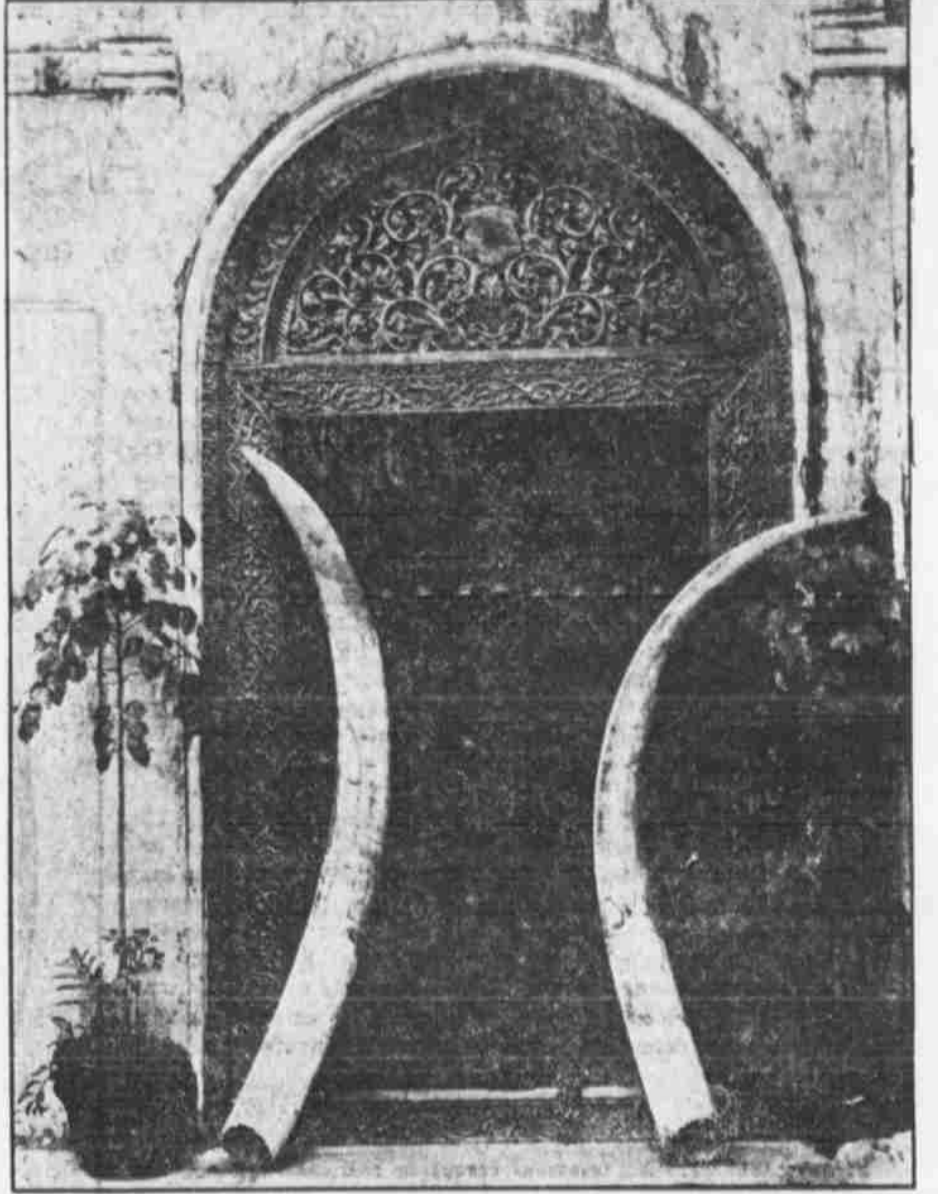
(Copyright, 1903, by Frank G. Carpenter.) ANZIBAR—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—Sixty-five thousand elephants were killed in Africa last year, and more than 15,000 pounds of ivory were taken from them and shipped off to Europe. Of this ivory, the third came from Zanzibar, another third from Portuguese East and West Africa and a large part of the balance was from the valley of the Congo. Cape Colony furnished 100,000 pounds, Egypt 200,000 pounds and a large part came from the Niger territories and Lagos. During the last six months I have been traveling through the lands of ivory and elephants. I saw tusks for sale in the Egyptian Sudan. At Mombasa I was shown 200,000 worth of ivory in one pile, and during my travels through Uganda and German East Africa I passed many long lines of porters carrying elephants' tusks on their heads or tied to long poles, which rested on their shoulders.



PORTERS WHO CARRY IVORY TO THE SEACOAST.

form an ivory monopoly. A great part of the elephants still living are in the valley of the Congo, and so many have died that it is expected that ivory will grow more valuable from year to year. As it is now the amount sold brings in millions of dollars, and most of this comes from the auctions at Antwerp. In that city there are several hundred thousand pounds of ivory on hand, and sales are made about four times a year. These sales are duly advertised and buyers from everywhere come to attend them. The other chief markets are Liverpool and London.

During a recent visit to the Colonial museum at Brussels, I saw one of the heaviest elephant tusks ever found. It weighed over 200 pounds, and as I stood beside it, it reached high above my head. The largest ivory tusk ever discovered was brought to Tabora in German East Africa in 1898 and was shipped from there to Hamburg. It was almost ten feet in length. The ivory dealers here tell me that the best of the ivory comes from the second and third class tusks are consumed in Europe. The fourth grade ivory is sent to East India for filigree work, and the poorest of all goes to China where it is used for inlaying furniture and boxes.



DOOR OF AN IVORY MERCHANT'S HOUSE.

ally started by means of friction, just as our Indians made fire before Columbus came. The people sleep on the ground, using pillows of wool. Outside many of the huts I saw granaries. These are tall, round wickerwork baskets made of cane or plaited rushes, chinked tight with cow dung. They are raised upon poles a foot or so from the ground and have conical roofs of thatch. There is a little door at the top of each granary, through which the corn is put in or taken out.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Great Ivory Market.

Zanzibar has for years been one of the chief ivory markets of the world. There are companies here which have their buyers and traders scouring German and British East Africa, as well as the Portuguese possessions, farther south. These men take beads, cottons and other merchandise to trade with the natives, and when they have accumulated a cargo they send it on the heads of porters down to the seacoast. Much is now coming to Lake Victoria and over the Uganda railroad to Mombasa. A great deal goes to Tabora, in the center of German East Africa, and thence on east to Horomoye, on the coast opposite Zanzibar, while other caravans bring ivory to the German coast, and thence by railroad to Dar es Salaam.

Elephant Meat.

I met the other night an old elephant hunter who has made many thousands of dollars in ivory. He has not only shot elephants, but eaten them, and he tells me the meat is not at all bad. A good-sized animal often weighs as much as five tons, and when one is killed the natives come in for miles around and have a great feast. They cut up the huge beast with axes and knives and tear the meat off in strips and smoke it as we smoke beef. They make elephant steaks and roasts, and they cook the trunks and feet in holes in the ground. The foot is considered a delicacy. It is prepared by making a fire in a hole and laying the foot on the burning coals. Some sticks are then placed over the mouth of the hole and a layer of green leaves is spread upon them. A thick deposit of earth is placed on top and the meat is allowed to cook and steam for several hours. After making a fire in a hole and laying the foot on the burning coals. Some sticks are then placed over the mouth of the hole and a layer of green leaves is spread upon them. A thick deposit of earth is placed on top and the meat is allowed to cook and steam for several hours. After making a fire in a hole and laying the foot on the burning coals. Some sticks are then placed over the mouth of the hole and a layer of green leaves is spread upon them. A thick deposit of earth is placed on top and the meat is allowed to cook and steam for several hours.

Mammoth Ivory.

Some of the most remarkable ivory used within recent years is that which came from the mammoths found in the tundras of Siberia. This is from huge animals which lived ages ago, but whose bones protected by the frozen soil of northern Asia, are as good today as when the animals died. It is even said that in some cases the entire carcasses of the mammoths have been found, their frozen flesh, skin and hair having been thus kept for thousands of years. The first of this frozen ivory was found over 300 years ago, and about seventy years since the annual output was estimated at over 1,000,000 pounds. It is said that more than 1,500 mammoth tusks were sold in the year 1872. At present the greater part of said ivory is going to China. It does not compare in quality with our elephant ivory, the greater part of it being poor, while some is absolutely worthless.

Zanzibar Versus Dar es Salaam.

The Germans are now competing with the British for the transcontinental trade

Queer African Natives.

The Germans are rapidly exploring their colonies, and they are finding queer things away out here in the African wilds. They have discovered, for example, 200,000 of these natives in their part of the white man's burden, and they are divided up into many nations and tribes. Some of the most intelligent are about Tabora, and it is from there that the colony expects to get the labor to cultivate the plantations along the seacoast. The natives of that region have a king and subordinate chiefs, and women are so highly regarded that they are sometimes elected as the chief of their respective villages. These people believe in spirits, and the thick coils of thin wire upon his upper arm and that so tight the flesh seemed to be growing over them. I counted the strands on one woman's calf. It had eighteen parallel strands of the thickness of a lead pencil, from where the swelling began to the knees. Otherwise the woman was bare to the fringe apron which ran around her waist.

Education of the Negroes.

The Germans are ruing these people to some extent through their chiefs, and they are establishing schools to teach them. The missionaries are also at work in different parts of German East Africa, and the government has high schools and manual training schools with European teachers, who use colored assistants. This work is just in the beginning, but it promises to grow. Fifty-two colored teachers are already employed and the schools have several thousand pupils.

About the Home.

The houses of Shirati are round huts with thatched roofs and walls of upright sticks chinked with mud. The interior of each house is divided into two compartments, one for the men and the other for the cattle. The cooking fire is made in the center of the hut, the blaze being usu-

Among the Washashi.

There is a queer town on Lake Victoria belonging to the Germans, which I have not mentioned in my previous letters. I called there during my tour around the lake. It is known as Shirati and it lies near the boundary of British East Africa. The country about is beautifully rolling. The hills slope gently up from the lake and upon them stand hundreds of thatched huts, an Indian business section and a fort belonging to the Germans. The people are somewhat like the Kavirondo and a little like the Masai. They are dark brown in color, are well formed and of a good height. I talked with one chief who was fully seven feet tall, standing like a giant above his fellows who averaged, I judge, about five feet six.

Prattle of the Youngsters.

LIZABETH'S mother did not teach her little daughter much that she should have learned about religion; nor did the father. The other day a guest said to the little girl: "Elizabeth, does your father say grace at the table?" "What grace?" returned the girl innocently. "Why, thanks for what you have to eat." "Oh," replied Elizabeth, now enlightened. "We don't have to thank anyone for what we have—we always say cash."

Nebraska Pioneers.

(Continued from Page One.) cheerful old age than that which the Nebraska pioneers are living. In fact they don't know they are old. They are not old. "Old Time is a Lie" as Oliver Wendell Holmes exclaims in his poem, "The Boys." Nothing can express better the spirit of the pioneers than that poem written by Holmes at just such an anniversary as the one to take place at Milford, except that it lacked a feminine element: Has there any old fellow got mixed up with the boys? If there has take him out without making a noise; Hang the almanac's cheat and the catalogue's spite— Old Time is a liar! We're twenty tonight! We're twenty! we're twenty! Who says we are more? He's lipsy—Young Jackanapes!—show him the door! "Gray temples at twenty" yes white, if we please! Where the snowflakes fall thickest there's nothing can freeze. Yes, we're boys—always playing with tongue and with pen— And I sometimes have asked, shall we ever be men? Shall we always be youthful and laughing and gay? Till the last dear companion drops smiling away? Then, here's to our boyhood, its gold and its gray! The stars of its winter, the deers of its May! And when we have done our life-lasting toys, Dear Father, take care of Thy children, the boys!

Some Groups Caught at the Omaha Retail Grocers' and Butchers' Annual Picnic

ONE of the fixed events of the year in Omaha is the picnic by the retail grocers and butchers of the city. For many years the members of the association have taken one day off for the purpose of rusticiating amid sylvan surroundings, and for that day they simply go out of business. The Omaha housewife has learned that this is one day on which there's nothing doing at the grocer's or butcher's. The store is closed, the market stall is shut up, and the delivery wagon stands idle, while the horse munches his feed at his leisure and sleeps away the day, while the clerks and the cutters and the delivery boys and the butchers and grocers all have an unlimited day of fun. Their friends join with them, and wife and child and sweetheart go along, and business and all its cares and troubles are forgotten in the dance, the ball game, the foot race and similar diversions.

In past years the grocers and butchers have won the name of being the champion rainmakers of the west. Not a date has been set for their annual outing that was not attended by a downpour of rain. Some years as many as three dates have been tried. But this year the event was held at Krug park, and the weather man smiled as he thought of the merry-makers, who were patronizing home industry, and held out only the brightest of days. The pictures show some of the jolly groups that spent the day among the trees and flowers of the popular resort.

African Ivory the Best.

This African ivory brings the highest prices in the market. It is superior to any other in the size of tusks. I have seen some which were nine feet long, and there are some which weigh as much as 200 pounds each. The average weight of a tusk is much less than this, and one of 100 pounds is quite valuable. In India the average tusk does not weigh fifty pounds, but that of the African elephant is much heavier. Many of the tusks are broken when they are brought into the market. The elephants use them for plowing up roots and tearing down trees, and also for fighting their enemies. The average tusk is strong and elastic; but it can be broken, and the ends are sometimes snapped off. Ivory tusks are always sold by weight, and the traders tell me that in buying them to see that pieces of iron or bits of stone have not been driven into the hollows of the horns to make them weigh more.

Pulling an Elephant's Tooth.

Many of you have been in the hands of a dentist and have seen how he almost breaks your jaw in pulling a molar with a long root. The tusks are really elephant's teeth and it is difficult to get them out of a dead elephant. They are fitted into a bony socket, and the roots go almost up to the eyes. A tusk eight feet long may have two feet of its root imbedded in the skull and if it is taken away at once the head has to be chopped to pieces to get it out.

In addition to the tusks the elephant has six great teeth inside its mouth on each side its jaw above and below, and these are almost as firmly imbedded as the tusks themselves. The tusks are hollow about half way up. The smallest form a big load for a man, while one weighing 100 pounds requires four porters to carry it. Such men are paid from 3 to 5 cents a day for their labor, so that the cost of transportation is not heavy.

Have you ever heard of dead ivory? There is a vast quantity of it still left in Africa, and thousands of pounds are shipped to the ports every year. Dead ivory comes from animals which have died a natural death, or from tusks which have been gathered by the chiefs of the villages and stored away. Ivory has always been an evidence of wealth in Africa, and some of the petty African kings have piled up ivory as our miners hoard money at home. Some of them have buried it near their villages, and others have made



EVEN THE BARBER HAD A GOOD TIME.



LITTLE LINE OF LITTLE FOLKS.



THIS SEPTIETTE COULD RUN SOME.