

HOW PHOSPHATE CAME.

Florida Once a Region of Marshes and Lagoons.

Jacksonville Times-Union and Citizen.

At the beginning of the great division of geologic time, known as the Tertiary, before the advent of man upon the earth, the outlines of the southeastern border of the North American continent were very different from those now shown by the maps. The sea extended far inland from the present shores to the foot of the highlands still existing; on the average, about half way between the seacoast and inland extremes of the coast tier of States as at present bounded. This ancient shore line roughly coincided with the inner margin of what geologists now call the great coastal plain of the eastern and southern United States. The sea wore upon and more or less eroded the surface of the deposits laid down during the preceding epoch of cretaceous time. Upon this worn surface the alluvium, gravel and general detritus from the dry land was laid down and the sea bottom occupied by multitudes of sea animals, corals, barnacles, worms, shellfish, crabs, and so on; while over it wandered the swimming population of the sea, fishes, toothed whales and the like, whose bony remains, at death, sank, to be added to the general mass of the deposit.

The lower part of the Mississippi Valley was represented by a large bay, from which the shore curved round to the eastward and northward in the vicinity of Livingston, Bridgeport and Clayton, Alabama; Macon and Augusta, Georgia, and Hamburg and Chesterfield, South Carolina. South of this there is no evidence of any dry land or islands existing at this time short of the West Indian Islands. The entire Floridian region was below the sea, and probably deeply submerged.

The earliest or Eocene division of the Tertiary witnessed no serious change in the conditions of the shore line, though hundreds of feet of sediment settled on the sea floor, entombing myriads of fossils. The later portion of the Eocene appears to have been a period of extremely profuse marine life, and the fauna shows so many changes that by many geologists it is separated from the true or earlier Eocene under the name of Oligocene.

Among other features of this period is the existence of multitudes of foraminifera, very lowly animals without organs, and apparently composed of a pellucid jelly, but having the capacity for forming calcareous shells composed of a multitude of little chambers or cells, the walls of which are perforated by small pores or foramina, whence the name. The little circular disks so common in the soft white limestone, and about as large as a nickel, belong to this group. So abundant were these animals that their cast-off shells comprise a large part of the marine limestones deposited during the oligocene, and artesian wells in South Florida have been drilled through nearly two thousand feet of limestone of this character.

The early part, perhaps in time more than half the period during which these deposits were formed, is known as the Vicksburgian; since at Vicksburg, Miss., the formation was first studied and described. Thus the mass of the rocks of which the State of Florida is composed were the result of the marine life of this time, and only in the northern part of the State were any important contributions made to the general mass by washings from pre-existent land. In this consists the eminent peculiarity and unique character of the Floridian geology. The Vicksburg rocks are almost entirely composed of organic material—that is, lime, clay, siliceous iron taken up by marine animals from the water in which they lived, and deposited their limestone strata after their death.

Toward the end of the Vicksburgian a movement in elevation began, which brought above the sea level a part of the land in the vicinity of Ocala, forming an island or group of islands between Cuba and the Georgian mainland, and the evidence is very strong that these low islets, containing numerous lagoons of fresh water and wooded with palms, reeds and other subtropical vegetation, remained as dry land from that to the present time. The strait then existing between these islands and the continent was deepest in the present valley of the Suwannee River, and was named by the present writer, some years ago, the Suwannee Strait. At the same time the low borders of the continent, of a similar structure, began to rise above the sea, forming a coastal plain of marshes and lagoons inhabited by tortoises, birds and other shore animals. It is well known that birds, seals and similar animals select for their rookeries, when possible, such islets as those described, as the locations give them security from predaceous animals, and an undisturbed breeding place for their young. The islets and bars off the

coast and down the eastern side of the peninsula, thus reinforcing the native sands of the State.

Toward the southern edge of the peninsula corals made reefs, and the wide flats behind them were gradually filled with silt from the waters of the central valley and limestone deposited from the calciferous waters of the drainage, thus forming the vast marshes of the Everglades. These sands from the seashore blew inland before the trade winds, masking the original topography, and raising here and there substantial dunes. Then all was ready for the advent of man, attracted by the wealth of fur, fish and fruit, who should, in the lapse of centuries, make a garden of the wilderness.

With the exception of the gentle elevation it would seem that the volcanic disturbances of the West Indian region, and the orographic mountain building forces of the continent have alike passed by, or failed to reach, the main area of the State, which has remained in tranquility, rarely much higher than at the present time, and remarkable as the sole portion of the United States where the country rock is almost exclusively of organic origin, and has been modified by solutionary instead of detrital agencies.

Such, in brief, is the geological history of Florida and the source of its phosphatic wealth, as read from the evidence of the rock. Though necessarily in part hypothetical, no other hypothesis in harmony with all the facts has yet been proposed, and the writer believes that future study will hardly do more than confirm the details of the processes whose bold outlines have been suggested here.

WILLIAM H. DALL,
United States Geological Survey.

New Household Devices.

It really seems as if the domestic help, the handmaid and the handmen of the present day household, had the favored end of the situation, says the *New York Sun*. Not only are devices for lessening their labors being constantly introduced, but new inventions for prompting the memory, and so saving the strained relations incident to oversights and omissions, are also found among the furnishings for parlor and kitchen. A self-closing bread bin, all scarlet paint without and porcelain lining within, is the newest recruit in the list.

"Servants invariably neglect to shut a bread box, and if they do shut it they leave an opening sufficient for dust to get in," exclaimed a salesman. "Take or any cooked viand they are more careful about, but bread, with a thick crust to it, they appear to leave to its own protection. Various customers have spoken of this from time to time, so an inventor has taken the hint and made this cylindrical bin that closes the moment the leaves are put into it."

A self-acting knife washer is another invention designed to prevent the over-burdened hired girl from having to remember that the handles of knives ought not to be put into hot water. It is a double-decked affair, with places for the big overgrown knives and places for the small knives. The knife washer does everything but get its own hot water and wipe the knives after their scrubbing. That much is still left to the domestics. A new egg breaker has just taken precedence over all previous egg breakers. It not only cracks the shell, but holds the hot egg as well, thus saving Katie's fingers from the least possible burn. This invention looks something like a pair of curved edged scissors, with sharp little teeth to hold by. There is a new contrivance for shaving ice, and new appliances for rounding it into balls for use about the butter and other delicate dishes. The conveniences for peeling and paring vegetables, slicing them and chopping them up and for measuring out seasonings and condiments, are a revelation to people who have not kept up with the van of improvement. Every year a new raisin seeder comes out, and the latest device for this purpose would be interesting to the old-time housewives, who spent hours seeding raisins for a birthday or a wedding cake, armed only with fruit knives and patience that resisted stickiness.

There have been divers bottle lockers put on the market from time to time, but 1898 sees a new one possessed of an actual key, which can be borne away in the pocket of the bottle owner, and so afford tangible evidence of the security of the much-prized vintage. "We have sold no end of these," says the salesman. "They take much better than the self-fasteners, that depended on the cork's swelling as a precaution. There seems to be a feeling among owners of wine cellars that it is perfectly natural for the butler to give way to temptation in this regard, or for the cook or the child's nurse on off afternoons and evenings to take a clandestine swig at any tittle she may prefer. When the choicest wines that the house affords are locked, each in its own bottle, and the separate keys are in their turn locked away in cabinet or desk drawer, the master and mistress enjoy a freedom from responsibility."

A contrivance not made especially for servant's use, but that might be

adopted by them with convenience, is an implement for reaching out and getting things without rising from one's chair. It is probable that the designer had the comfort of invalids and hopeless folk in mind when he planned it, but able-bodied folk, both above and below stairs, have been quick to see its merits. When shut up it looks like a pair of tweezers or scissors, but it is light and pliant, and at the slightest touch jumps out and lengthens into a half-yard long utensil, with two little claws at the end for hooking up the desired object. A newspaper or handkerchief, the skirt of a creeping infant, a skein of yarn, or any light thing that one's comfort requires, can be grabbed and brought within range by this contrivance. It is called a "Lazy Tom." The sybarite, either in the kitchen or in the sitting room, when armed with it can go a-fishing among surroundings without moving an inch from the special place he has found comfortable.

To Rid the State of all Rascals.

Captain W. H. Harrison, better known to his friends as Tip Harrison, proposes a unique plan for elevating the moral standard of the community. He wants to hold an election in every county on the first of January of each year for the purpose of deciding by ballot who is the meanest man and the most unconscionable scoundrel. On the first of February the man receiving the highest number of votes is to be hanged until he is dead, and as there are 137 counties in Georgia, the State would get rid of 137 of its worst characters every year. Mr. Harrison proposes to introduce woman's suffrage in this contest, and women will be eligible for election.

The merits of this innovation are best described in Captain Harrison's own language. He says: "By holding such an election in every county once a year, we could do a great deal to rid the State of objectionable characters and create a healthy condition of public and private morals. All kinds of meanness would be included, and men in all walks of life would be eligible for election. The tramp who steals dinner from another tramp would have as good a showing as a bank-wrecker who robs the widow of her mite. I propose, also, that women be made eligible and allowed to vote. In that case, the tattling busybodies and tale bearers who sow the seeds of strife among their neighbors, would not be ignored. I have no doubt that many of the women would vote for their husbands on personal grounds, and as a closed ballot would be used, there would be a full, free, and wholesome expression of opinion."

"By executing the rascal-elect we would rapidly get rid of the worst element of our population. Just before the first of January every year there would be a big exodus. The rascals would leave the State as frightened rats fly from a burning barn. In addition to that the complimentary vote many would get could not but have a wholesome effect. Fellows who are not living right or not treating their neighbors right would receive timely warning, and many a downward career would be checked before it got beyond reformation."

"The election would be fair beyond any sort of cavil, and it wouldn't take an Australian ballot to make it so. There wouldn't be any electioneering, and there would not be any carriage hired to convey voters to the polls. The vote would be the free, unbiased opinion of the people as to the respective meannesses of those voted for. A very healthy moral tone would be diffused through the community, and many a man would be surprised and put to thinking on his manner of life. The election would hold up to most men the looking glass that the poet Burns talks about, and it would be a good medicine; heroic treatment but none the less effective. It is well known that public sentiment is more powerful than the law, and the plan proposed would apply to the reformation of human nature the most powerful corrective influence that is known. It may be a little in advance of the times, but the times are so badly out of joint that it is going to take some such moral surgery to mend them."

"This idea was suggested to me many years ago by a very wise man, and I have been keeping it until the time should be ripe for its promulgation. I think the idea has so much merit that, once suggested, it will go on until it has been adopted in every civilized country. It might be well to experiment with it a little before actually putting death penalty in force. That would come eventually, but the people would have to be educated up to that point. The effect of a mere expression of opinion would be so great that the public would soon see the benefit of such a system, and would not be satisfied until it had been carried to its logical conclusion. I hope to live to see it tried."—*Atlanta Journal*.

To Get Rid of Fleas.

Put almost equal quantity of cayenne pepper and common table salt (with a little more salt) in a flour dredger, and shake the mixture all over the floors. Shake out all draperies and bedding, and brush off all stuffed furniture; then sweep the rooms thoroughly. The fleas will be all in the dustpan. The dust should be burned in a closely shut stove, with the draughts to the chimney wide open. The pepper kills or stupefies the fleas, and the salt prevents the dust from flying up and annoying the person who is sweeping.

Melons were grown by the Greeks and Romans, and were carried to America by Columbus. The water-melon is a native of Africa.

Don't annoy others by your coughing, and risk your life by neglecting a cold. One Minute Cough Cure cures coughs, colds, croup, grippe and all throat and lung troubles. Evans Pharmacy.

Hired Webster for a Week.

Of course Webster was in demand by those who could afford to pay for his services. A sharp Nantucket man is said to have got the better of the great defender of the Constitution in an amusing way, however. He had a small case which was to be tried in Nantucket one week in June, and he posted to Webster's office in great haste. It was a contest with a neighbor over a matter of considerable local interest, and his pride as a litigant was at stake. He told Webster the particulars, and asked what he would charge to conduct the case.

"Why," said Webster, "you can't afford to hire me. I should have to stay down there the whole week, and my fee would be more than the whole case is worth. I couldn't go down there for less than \$1,000. I could try every case on the docket as well as one, and it wouldn't cost any more, for one case would take all my time for the entire week, anyway."

"All right, Mr. Webster," quickly responded the Nantucketer. "Here's your \$1,000. You come down, and I'll fix it so you can try every case."

Webster was so much amused over this proposition that he kept his word. He spent the entire week in Nantucket, and appeared on one side or the other in every case that came up for hearing. The shrewd Nantucketer hired Daniel out to all his friends who were in litigation, and received in return about \$1,500, so that he got Webster's services for nothing, and made a good profit to boot.

If that man was alive in these days of trusts and syndicates he would probably be at the head of a legal trust, controlling the services of all the big lawyers of the country.—*Boston Herald*.

It is estimated that this country contains 350,000,000 chickens, and that they lay nearly 14,000,000,000 eggs each year, worth \$165,000,000. The value of the poultry meat each year is estimated at \$125,000,000, the total annual poultry produce being \$290,000,000, which exceeds the value of swine, wool and sheep combined, being almost greater than the production of oats, tobacco, potatoes, wheat or cotton. There has never been a correct census of poultry and eggs, however, and the figures claimed may not be correct.

A couple of lawyers engaged in a case were recently discussing the issue. "At all events," said the younger and more enthusiastic, "we have justice on our side." To which the older and wiser replied, "Quite true; but what we want is the chief justice on our side."



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is far ahead of all other remedies for this purpose. It is a real blood remedy which promptly purifies the blood and thoroughly renovates the entire system, tones and strengthens the stomach, and renews the appetite. It is the only safe tonic, being purely vegetable, and the only blood remedy guaranteed to contain no arsenic, sulphur, mercury, potash or other mineral substance, which is of so much importance to all who know the injurious effects of these drugs. Nature should be assisted by nature's remedy, S. S. S. Take S. S. S. and be well all summer.

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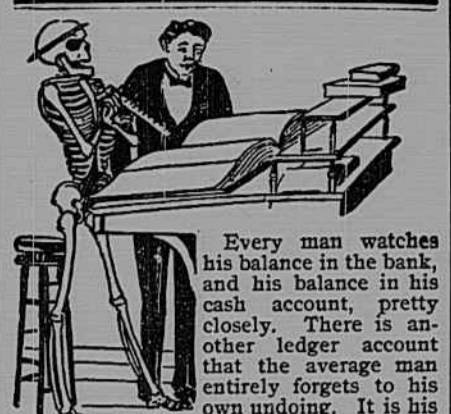
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NOTICE.

IN compliance with the recommendations of the Grand Jury all persons who damage the public roads by the erection of a fence on side of road which obstruct the flow of the water therefrom, or otherwise damage the road by throwing rocks, brush or other obstructions on the same, will be prosecuted, unless such obstructions are removed before the first day of April. This is given so that guilty parties may have time to comply with the law.
W. P. SNEELGROVE, C. S. J.

After a close study of the spring habits of the summer girl, the Atchison, Kan., Globe makes the following terse observation: "When a girl wants to go anywhere for the summer she commences in January to say that she wants to go, in February that she ought to be allowed to go, in March that she is going, and in April she begins to get her shirtwaists ready."
— Frances Willard said: "There is no I in the Lord's Prayer; it is all we; it has all the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God."



Every man watches his balance in the bank, and his balance in his cash account, pretty closely. There is another ledger account that the average man entirely forgets to his own undoing. It is his account with death. It is more important than a "profit and loss" account, for its "life and death" account. It is a man's duty to himself and family to look up this account once every day and see that the balance is on the right side. It doesn't pay to let this account run on, and have it debited with indigestion, and then impure blood, and finally nervous exhaustion, or prostration, or deadly consumption. When these diseases come it means a debit balance with death brought down in the blood red ink of another life sacrificed on the altar of foolish overwork and neglect of health. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery makes the appetite keen, the digestion perfect, the liver active and the blood pure. It is the great blood-maker, flesh-builder and health-giver. It makes firm, healthy flesh, but does not produce corpulence. When these diseases come it means a debit balance with death brought down in the blood red ink of another life sacrificed on the altar of foolish overwork and neglect of health. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which together with the "Pleasant Pellets," has entirely restored my wife's health. We cannot say enough to you in thanks for these valuable medicines.

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Judge of Probate's Sale.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
COUNTY OF ANDERSON.
Ella W. Jones and Sue F. Whitfield, Plaintiffs, vs. Ella Cox Whitfield, et al., Defendants.—Partition
IN obedience to the order of sale made in this case I, Judge of Probate, on Wednesday in April next, in front of the Court House in Anderson, S. C., the property described as follows to wit:
1. All that lot or parcel of Land, containing two acres, more or less, situate in the City of Anderson, S. C., on West side of South Main Street, and bounded on the East by Reed Street, on the West by Jail Street, and on the North by River Street, being in the form of a parallelogram and known as the Whitfield Homestead.
2. Also, all of that other lot of Land, containing three-fourths of an acre, more or less, situate in the City of Anderson, County and State aforesaid, bounded on the South by River Street, on the West by lot of Geo. N. Broyles, on the North by lot of Methodist Episcopal Church (col.), and on the East by lot of Jess Williams and Jail Street.

Terms—One-third cash, balance in twelve months, with interest from day of sale, secured by bond and mortgage, with leave to participate in payment at any time. Purchaser or purchasers to pay for papers.
R. M. BURRIS,
Probate Judge, as Special Referee.
March 16, 1898.

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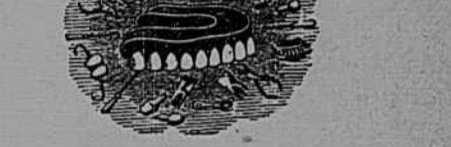
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Sept. 29, 1897

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