

imparted by the interstellar ether. Giving the ether the density estimated by Maxwell, with the power of attracting matter by gravity, he finds that this attraction alone would give a body the speed of 1830 Groombridge in passing to the center of the sphere represented by the visible universe from a distance in that sphere equal to that traversed by light in 2,200 years; and that such a body would oscillate about the same center, rectilinearly, with a period of a little over 7,000,000 years, which would be also the period of oscillation of every other star.

A curious proposed railway, of which a working model has been exhibited in London, consists of a row of columns, surmounted by a double string of rails, on which runs a truck carrying a car or saloon suspended from each side. The novel feature is the method of operating by a kind of traveling or continuous inclined plane. The rails are raised at the starting point by hydraulic rams working in the supporting columns, and as the double car sliding down the incline reaches other points the track beneath is raised in like manner, forming successive inclines. The hydraulic rams act automatically on the approach of the car.

Glaciers vary in length from year to year, and apparently in cycles of years also, those of the Alps having shown a general diminution since 1850. An investigation of the changes of Arctic glaciers has now been made by M. Ch. Rabot. There is no sign of a general retreat corresponding to that of the Alps, but in Greenland the ice is at present at a maximum, and stationary. In Iceland there was a general increase in the eighteenth century, interrupted by a general decrease. Then came a very extensive advance during most of the present century, a slight retreat—not comparable with that of the Alps—having begun in the north of the island about 1855-60, and twenty years later in the south.

Whether life is possible in the absence of bacteria in the digestive tract is a problem not easy to solve. In the early experiments of Nuttall and Thierfelder, guinea-pigs were selected as subjects, but it was afterwards decided that more satisfactory results could be obtained with chickens, as it was believed that these could be secured free from bacteria from birth. Eggs ready to be hatched were accordingly washed in antiseptics and placed in suitable sterile apparatus. Despite the utmost care, however, bacteria were always present, and are found to be derived from the eggshell, leading to the unexpected conclusion that they exist in the oviduct before and during formation of the shell.

The falling sensation experienced on the descent of a vessel in its pitch or roll is attended by closure of the glottis and suspended respiration. As a means of avoiding the resulting discomfort, Dr. Stocker of Glasgow suggests a control of this closure by taking a full inspiration with each descent—such a remedy, it is pointed out, having the further beneficial effect of diverting the attention from imaginings of seasickness.

A single bell is made by a German manufacturer to give more than one note. A number of dents divide the bell into sections of different sizes, and each section, when struck, emits a tone corresponding to its size.

In French trials, a mixture of ten parts of air and one part of acetylene has proven suitable for ordinary gas engines, giving three times the energy of ordinary illuminating gas.

The Pacific hotel at Evanston, Wyo., was gutted by fire yesterday morning, entailing a loss of \$10,000.

## ABOUT HENRY GEORGE.

It is with no wish to say one word to detract from the fair name and fame Henry George made for himself, that I call attention to what follows:

In the public mind Mr. George is believed to have been the originator of the single or land tax theory, which he has advocated so long, while, as a matter of fact, the conception and first propagation of the idea, in modern times at least, was the work of an Englishman who flourished in the latter part of the last and the early part of the present century. He was at one time wealthy, but lost his fortune in speculative farming in Scotland. Being of a contemplative and philosophic mind as well as of a most philanthropic nature, he took up the study of social conditions and began a work entitled, "The Science of Politics." This work he divided into two parts. The first part is before me. Its title is, "The Theory of Human Progression." What the second part was named, or whether it was ever published, I do not know. But the first part contains many of the ideas that Mr. George has presented in so many ways. This earlier writer aims all along to show that progress is impossible without justice and justice demands that the earth be forever taken out of the category of private property and made the property of mankind; that the nation alone shall own the land covered by it, and the people shall use it as they desire it under rent which shall go to the nation and form its treasury fund for public expense account.

I once asked Mr. George if he was not familiar with this other work and he frankly told me that he had made a study of it. It is a remarkably interesting volume and the name of its author was Patrick Dove. The full title page of the work is, The Theory of Human Progression and Natural Probability of a Reign of Justice. The volume was first published in London and is dedicated by the author to Victor Cousin, a once very eminent French professor of philosophy at Paris. That Mr. George drank deep from this wonderful spring I am sure. That he also greatly elaborated ideas borrowed from that source I am equally sure.

Something should be added to this statement for the reason that some readers will accuse Henry George of fraud.

I do not think that Mr. George was in any instance guilty of plagiarism; that is, of stealing for his own benefit another man's thoughts, but I am compelled to admit that his use of Patrick Dove's ideas, without acknowledgement in any publication or in any public address, is, to say the least, ungrateful and unworthy of a man of such grand natural ability as that of Henry George.

Patrick Dove was the originator of the single or land tax theory and Henry George was his copyist and elaborator. But Mr. Dove was only a sublime theorist. His impracticability lost him a fortune. Henry George was a practical man and made great use of Mr. Dove's theories. Let it rest at this—No man is perfect.

CHARLES ELLIS.

## FROM SANPETE COUNTY.

Fountain Green, Sanpete Co.,  
Oct. 30, 1897.

Over at Nephi the other day I met a young lady named Telpha Vickers, who had recently sat for her photo, and who passed her fifth month residence on this mundane sphere a day or so ago (the 28th). She can boast of having nine living grandparents: One grandfather, Thomas Vickers of Nephi;

two great-grandfathers, John Vickers, 75, and John Barrowman, 82, both of Nephi; two grandmothers, Maria Davis, 46, of Wales, Sanpete county, and Jane Vickers, 45, of Nephi; four great-grandmothers, Margaret Reese, 79, Jemima Davis, 75, both of Wales, Sanpete county, and Ann Vickers, 71, and Agnes Barrowman, 69, both of Nephi.

A sorrowful event occurred here recently, in the death of the wife of Elder Kjeld Peter, Jensen, who had just returned from a mission to Denmark. He left here the 15th of October, 1896, and labored mostly on the islands of Lolland and Falster; then in consequence of the banishment of two Elders from the island of Bornholm, he was sent there because of still being a citizen of Denmark and having been born in Jylland, they could not legally banish him. With good prospects before him of converting several to the faith of the Gospel, Elder Jensen received the sad recall home on account of the severe illness of his wife. He returned here on the 23rd of the present month, but his kind ministry could not stay the power of death, and his wife died two days after his return, leaving him with eight children, the youngest being a little over three years of age. The funeral services were held here on the 27th, at which the greater portion of the citizens of Fountain Green were in attendance. Consoling and instructive remarks were made by Elders Jacob Jensen, Mathias Jensen, Reuben Carter and Bishop Christensen; a large number of carriages filled with many friends accompanied Brother Jensen in the sad task of consigning his dear wife's remains to Mother Earth.

Fountain Green is in a prosperous condition, several new buildings in course of erection. The yield of the fields the past season was exceedingly good and prosperity abounds on every hand.

A. B. Little, special examiner of government surveys, with party, are making the Collard House their headquarters while in the field here, examining the work of the deputy U. S. surveyors for final report to the surveyor general's office for his acceptance.

ALBERT JONES.

## NEWS NOTES.

The new surveyor general of Idaho, Joseph Perroult, assumed the duties of office yesterday, with Bamford A. Robb as chief clerk, and nine out of the thirteen former employes, new appointees.

James Kidward, father of Chief of Police Kidward of San Jose, Cal., died very suddenly Friday morning of heart trouble. He was a native of England, aged 72 years, and had long been a respected resident of that city.

Benjamin F. Butler, who bears a striking resemblance to the late General Butler, says he was sandbagged and robbed early Friday morning at Market and Mason streets, San Francisco. Butler is a machinist and lives at 400½ Grove street.

Mrs. E. E. Bouck, the Salt Lake woman arrested at Helena, Mont., several days ago, has been ordered committed to the Hot Springs, Mont., asylum. Mrs. Bouck claims to be the daughter of Olaf Hammer of Salt Lake and a niece of Franklin Hammer.

Conductor Jeff Gage of the Carquinez branch of the Southern Pacific railroad, had a narrow escape from death at Shelville Saturday. He was standing on a siding examining way bills and did not see the approach of some cars being backed down by an engine until within a few feet of him. He jumped and saved his life, but received injuries that will keep him laid up some time.