

## CLIFF DWELLER'S PALACE.

According to acknowledged authorities a vast region extending into Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona was once the home of cliff dwellers, says the *Denver News*. The ruins of their remarkable structures remain as a mute witness of one of the most interesting races that has ever inhabited any part of the globe.

The greatest of all the ruins credited to the cliff dwellers is found in Cliff canyon, three and a half miles above its entrance to the Mancos canyon in southwestern Colorado. The ruins were discovered six or seven years ago, and have been visited by a number of explorers. The last party to make the trip returned to Denver a few weeks since. The party consisted of C. E. Hooper of the Denver and Rio Grande passenger department, W. H. Jackson, E. C. Braman, Miss Braman, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Crosby, and three guides. The journey through the rugged regions of the Mancos valley was full of interest and will long be vividly impressed on the minds of all who were so fortunate as to visit the ancient home of an extinct race under such favorable auspices. Many ruins were passed in the valley which are supposed to be older than any in the cliff.

The stone houses have crumbled into dust, and heaps of earth and broken pottery mark the sites of towns that were once the abodes of hundreds of people. The country seems full of arrow heads, notwithstanding the large number that has been carried away by sight-seers for a quarter of a century past. At one place in the valley an ancient reservoir bed, seventy-five feet in diameter and ten feet deep, is pointed out. In the vicinity is a graveyard with three or four acres thickly underlaid with human bones. The grinding stones used by the primitive inhabitants in grinding their corn are scattered over the surface. These stones are too heavy to be easily carried away and may be collected by the wagon load in the valley.

Mr. Hooper describes the cliff palace as by far the most striking of the ruins in the Mancos region. The palace stands under a projecting ledge, seventy-five feet above the bottom of the canyon. The structure is more than 500 feet long and 50 feet deep, the crumbling towers indicate that it was once two to three stories high. The ground floor contains 147 rooms. The rooms are square, with the exception of ten rooms, which are round, and are supposed to have been used as secret council chambers by the leading men of the tribe. In the center of the "estufa," or round enclosure, the party found a round hole full of ashes. One of the holes was cleaned out to the depth of six feet without finding any bottom.

The inhabitants of the "palace" appeared to have had very imperfect ideas as to the utility of doors, as nearly all the doors are entered through small square windows. The roof of cedar logs and grass long since crumbled into decay. Excavations have been made in various parts of the ruins and bones, pottery, wicker baskets, stone utensils and a rude kind of matting made of willow sticks have been brought to light. Mr. Hooper

estimates that the structure could have easily accommodated 800 persons.

He states that the masonry work is varied, some of the work being as perfect as if laid by the most expert stone mason of the present day. The corners are perfectly square and the mortar is as enduring as the natural rock. It requires a person of strong nerve to make the ascent of the ruins. The holes in the cliff bear no evidence of having been made use of by the original inhabitants. It is thought they let themselves down the perpendicular cliff from above by means of rope ladders.

On the return journey, the party visited the Sandal house, eighteen miles from the town of Mancos. The house has twenty-seven rooms and the walls of the projecting cliff are covered with thousands of names of visitors who have left an enduring registry of their presence.

## MORTUARY REPORT.

Population (Estimated 70,000.)	
CAUSES OF DEATH:	
Deaths from all causes.....	61
Zymotic diseases.....	4
Constitutional diseases.....	11
Local diseases.....	25
Developmental diseases.....	8
Violence.....	3
Zymotic diseases:	
Diphtheria.....	1
Fever (scarlet).....	3
Constitutional Diseases:	
Cancer.....	1
Cancer of uterus.....	1
Phthisis pulmonalis.....	7
Rheumatism.....	2
Local Diseases:	
Apoplexy.....	1
Asthma.....	1
Bright's disease.....	3
Bronchitis.....	2
Bronchitis capillary.....	1
Convulsions.....	2
Convulsions, infantile.....	1
Enteritis, acute.....	1
Heart, disease of.....	2
Lungs, oedema of.....	1
Locomotor ataxia.....	1
Paralysis.....	1
Perityphilitis.....	1
Pneumonia.....	6
Pneumonia-Broncho.....	1
Developmental diseases:	
Old age.....	7
Imperforate anus.....	1
Violence:	
Drowning.....	1
Fall from cars.....	1
Run over by R. R. train.....	1

## DEATHS CLASSED BY NATIVITY.

Nativity.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Utah.....	10	11	21
Other parts United States.....	3	2	5
Canada.....		1	1
China.....	1		1
England.....	9	3	12
Finland.....	1		1
Germany.....	1	1	2
Ireland.....	2		2
Scotland.....		1	1
Sweden.....		4	4
Not Given.....	1		1
	28	23	51

## DEATHS REPORTED AS OCCURRING IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Deaths—Physicians in attendance, 43; no attendance reported, 3; midwives in attendance, 0; coroner's certificate furnished, 3. Total, 51. Holy Cross Hospital (Eleventh ward), 1; St. Mark's Hospital (Twelfth ward), 0; Deseret Hospital (Seventeenth ward), 0. Residents and non-Residents—Residents (1 year and over), 44; Non-Residents (under 1 year), 7; not given, 0. Total, 51. Received for interment from points outside city limits—Males, 10; Females, 3. Total, 13. Still Born (not included in death rate)—Males, 4; Females, 5. Total, 9.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED

(Taken from county records), 62.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, May 29, 1893.—Washington always has something interesting on hand. When the politicians get quiet, as they happen to be just at this time, there is always something to take their place in public interest. That something at this time is the trial of Dr. Briggs, for heresy, by the Presbyterian general assembly, which has been in session here for ten days and will probably continue all this week if not longer. This trial promises to be very exciting, for the nearly six hundred gentlemen, many of them ministers, who are sitting as a jury have already shown that they have high tempers and sharp tongues, just like the most of us. There is little doubt that Dr. Briggs will be found guilty, notwithstanding the great fight he is making; that much has been made practically certain by a test vote which was taken on the question of postponing the trial for a year. But that only fairly begins the battle. The hardest and most bitter fighting is likely to take place over the question of what his punishment shall be. The records of this trial promise to become as famous in church history as those of Bacon and Hastings are in the history of England.

Secretary Smith has just made a very important pension ruling, which repeals the rule previously in existence as to the construction which shall be put upon the disability not of service origin clause of the pension law of 1890. Under this ruling no pension will be granted under that clause unless the disability is so great as to prevent the applicant earning a living by manual labor. It is estimated that this change will result in reducing the pension payments nearly \$20,000,000 a year.

A shrewd and close observing New York politician who has just returned from an extended tour of the far West and is now in Washington has caused considerable talk, not to speak of astonishment, among Eastern people by giving his impressions gathered from the people in all lines of life of the sentiment in regard to silver which is generally entertained in the West. He says he heard secession openly advocated more than once by intelligent men, and that President Cleveland and Senator Sherman stand on a par with these people, as representative "gold bugs." "I believe," said this politician, who by the way, is a Democrat, "that the Populists will carry every state west of Missouri at the next election, if neither of the old parties advocate free silver."

As a rule the big government officials do not care how much delay there is in accepting their resignation when there is a change of administration, but there is at least one man who wishes his resignation had been accepted when tendered, on March 6, last. That man is U. S. Treasurer Nebeker, who as a special favor to the incoming treasurer—Mr. Morgan—agreed to remain in office until June 1. His obliging disposition cost Mr. Nebeker just \$1,055, that being the amount that was lost, strayed or stolen, in the redemption division, since his resignation was tendered, and which he has had to replace from his own pocket. The secret service is trying to find out where this money went, and if it succeeds Mr. Nebeker