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DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Saturday, April 12, 1890.

AN ANCIENT PYRAMID FOR SALE.

THE GREAT CAHOKIA MOUND OFFERED TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

Thomas T. Ramey, of Madison County, Ills., has a unique piece of property for sale, and he wishes the United States government to become the purchaser. It is the great artificial hill at Cahokia, in St. Chair County, Ills., which is the most stupendous memorial left by the prehistoric people called the mound builders. The hill has an altitude of 102 feet, its base covers sixteen acres and it contains at least 29,000,000 cubic feet of earth. Says Mr. Ramey in his letter to Senator Cullom suggesting the purchase of the gigantic pyramid by the government:

"It is a parallelogram with straight sides, the longer of which are north and south. The top of the mound is flat and divided into two parts, the northern end being four or five feet higher than the southern portion, the summit containing one and one-half acres. On the southern end, some thirty feet above the base, is a terrace or apron containing nearly two acres of ground. In the middle of this terrace at the back of the mound is a projecting point, apparently the remains of a graded pathway to ascend from the plain to the terrace. On the western side, and about thirty feet above the southern terrace, is another terrace of somewhat less extent. The side of the mound below the western terrace is very irregular and forms projecting knobs. To the northeast corner of this large structure there seems to be a small mound attached. The remaining sides are quite straight. Cahokia is the largest pyramid in the world, surpassing the pyramids of Egypt in size."

The Train Boy.

A boy who gets a position as train boy for our company must put up a certain amount of money as a guarantee. He must be recommended for honesty, intelligence and activity. He must take care of his stock, putting it on the car and taking it off. He is charged with everything he takes out and is held to the strictest accountability on his return. He must turn in every cent. There are only two ways in which he can make anything outside of his earnings. One is by occasionally scorching a granger on a book. He may be able to get fifty cents for a twenty-five cent book now and then, but if the company finds it out the boy is discharged. Another way in which he can make something extra is by taking books and papers of his own and disposing of them.

I have often been asked the question, "What becomes of these train boys?" Occasionally a bright, attentive boy will get a position in a railroad or an express office. I regret to say, however, that there is something about the business which will send a boy to ruin unless his moral stamina is well grounded. They turn out sporting men as a rule. I was thinking the other day of six young men whom I started in the business as many years ago. One of them is now an express messenger. Another is a clerk in a manager's office. The third is in a gambling house in New Orleans. The fourth is in jail in a Michigan town, and the others are still on the road. That is not such a bad showing. But I am forced to admit that it is above the average.—*Interview in Chicago Tribune.*

To Preserve a Necktie.

Fred Hewen, who now deals in gentlemen's furnishing goods in a wholesale way, and who used to cater to the immaculate youth of Chicago in the same line, was in a party when a member of the group stepped to the adjacent mirror and attempted to adjust his stubborn necktie. "I can't make it stay in place," he complained, "and I guess I'll have to throw it away. It's about time, I think, because it is worn and all covered with fuzz." Hewen stepped toward the young man, and regarded the four-in-hand scarf with a critic's eye. "Take it off a moment," he said, "and I'll fix it for you." The young man removed it and handed it over. Hewen struck a match, and, when it was burning well, he held it near the necktie. The flame lapped off the fuzz in an instant, and the tie was returned looking as good as new, almost. "Never throw away fuzzy neckties," said Fred. "Burn off the fuzz in that way and you'll get twice the wear out of them."—*Chicago Herald.*

Henry J. Raymond's Herculean Efforts.

When Daniel Webster died, the news first came to *The Times* through its business office.

It was on Sunday morning and Mr. Jones at once started out to find Mr. Raymond. The latter was found on his way to church, and came immediately to the office. He lost no time, but, sitting at his desk, he wrote incessantly from 11 a. m. Sunday to 2 o'clock a. m. Monday, and turned out with his own pen an obituary sketch of Webster filling sixteen columns of *The Times* printed in solid nonpareil type. It was his habit in writing never to revise anything he wrote. Page after page of copy would go into the printers' hands without interlineation or correction of any kind. So adjustable was his story of Daniel Webster's career that the Appletons took the matter and with but little change published it as a life of Webster.—*Harper's Weekly.*

WABASH, Ind., April 11.—Will Scott, a blacksmith, today received word that his uncle in Los Angeles had died, leaving $50,000 to Scott and two sisters.

LITERARY ACTORS AND ACTRESSES.

NOTES ABOUT SOME LIGHTS OF THE STAGE WHO POSSESS FACILE PENS.

The possession of one talent does not always imply that a person cannot have another, and this is proved by the fact that not a few actors and actresses have shown considerable ability as writers. The papers Joseph Jefferson has been writing for *The Century* magazine show that he has marked talent. Mr. William J. Florence also has much taste for literature, and has written a number of very interesting articles and sketches for various publications. Several other actors also write for both the dramatic and newspapers, while the number of actresses who write is still greater. Beginning with Ella and Linda Deitz, the list is a very long one. They are well known both in England and America by their verses, which are marked by delicacy and graceful diction.

Mrs. Kendal writes for some English periodicals, and it is said one or two American publications. Bernhardt produced two or three very readable sketches while here, but since then nothing.

Lillian Russell has written several very tender and pathetic little stories for the different dramatic papers, and she has a large book full of verses and other articles which she has written from time to time.

It is said that Georgie Cayvan has a big book full of things which she has "dotted down" as the fit seized her, and which some day she may publish.

Annie Pixley does not write herself, as she thinks she can do better with her spare time, and so she designs and makes every one of her own dresses; but she is nevertheless making a book which will be very interesting when it is done. In it are pasted all the most silly and billetdoux letters sent to her by the callow youths and bald-headed factions all over the country. She hands all these letters over to her husband, and he sorts out the silliest and they preserve them.

Kate Claxton comes of a family of writers, and once in a while she, like Silas Wegg, "declines and falls into poetry."

Fanny Davenport can write a good article and does it, too, whenever she feels greatly stirred upon any subject. Janauschek has shown what she can do, and it is a great deal. She writes with force and directness.

Rose Eytinge writes a great many miscellaneous articles, stories, travels, etc., and her clear, vigorous English is always worth reading.

"Aunt Louisa" Eldridge is writing her memoirs as fast as her health will permit. Those stray bits she has already given out are like herself, full of sprightly wit, keen judgment, and are thoroughly readable and pleasing. She is doubtless the most popular woman on the stage, and she has won that popularity by kindness, tender helpfulness to unfortunates and a jolly good fellowship which shows through every line of her writing.—*Ex.*

A Toltec City Uncovered in New Mexico.

Fort Davis (Texas).—A strange discovery has been lately made by a surveying party of the Kansas City, El Paso & Mexican railroad, at a point in Southern New Mexico, not very far from Las Cruces. Here, amid a tremendous lava flow, a veritable sea of obsidian or black glass, a hidden city has been discovered. It is probably of Toltec origin, a race of people who lived and died before the new world was thought of. The surrounding country is the most desolate and God-forsaken region one can imagine. There is no soil about it.

The obsidian, molten and black, at the moment of cooling evidently became agitated, for it now lies in ragged waves and billows of fantastic shape, some of the ridges from twelve to fourteen feet high and capped like the sea waves with a curling crest of greenish white. The action of the winds and elements (I mean the dry, parching blasts of tremendous force) have literally burned some parts of this region into powdered dust.

At the northern extremity, where the unknown city lies partly uncovered, the ruins of gigantic stone buildings peer forth into the light of day. Some of these buildings are simply tremendous. One which appears to have been a sort of amphitheater or colosseum covers about four acres, and was certainly constructed in a most substantial manner. Perhaps it was used for bull fights or athletic sports, the same as the ancient Romans and Greeks used to delight in. In this particular locality (I mean where the city is) the country is a waste of fine white lava ashes, the sport of the winds.

The whirlwind and sand augurs have scooped out the dust, and thus exposed the city. No legend or story exists to show how or when it was founded, or whether it was abandoned or destroyed. The latter seems the most likely, and probably, too, by an earthquake, at some remote period, which threw the lava and fire up. No volcano is known to exist in the neighborhood. The spot is forty miles from water, and out of the line of travel. The Pueblo Indians (the oldest in the southwest) can tell nothing of this lost city.—*Philadelphia Record.*

Old Grecian Theatres.

The earliest theatres were those of the Greeks, which had their outer walls containing rather more than a semicircle. There was an inner concentric circle, the diameter of which was one-third that of the theatre. Thespace included in this smaller circle was called the orchestra or place for dancing, and was devoted to the chorus. The width of the stage was twice the diameter of the orchestra, and its depth one-seventh of that diameter.—*New York Journal.*

EDUCATED IN AMERICA.

YOUNG WOMEN FROM THE LAND OF THE MIKADO TRAINED IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Countess Oyama, wife of the Japanese minister of war, is one of the few ladies of the court circle at Tokio who "receive" at their own homes in the native costume which European fashions are so fast driving out of the land of the Mikado. The countess prefers the comfortable and picturesque Japanese dress to the foreign costumes which the court has adopted, and this in spite of the fact that she is one of the first Japanese women educated in America, having graduated at Vassar in 1882, the only woman of her race who has received the baccalaureate degree.

Stematz Yamakawa, as she was known before her marriage, spent about ten years in this country, coming with the Japanese embassy of 1872 and returning so thoroughly Americanized that she had almost forgotten her own language. She is remembered by her college mates as an extremely attractive girl, pretty even to American eyes, tall, graceful and well formed. To return to her native country was something of an ordeal. She came here a girl of 12, adopted the Christian religion and the customs and habits of thought of western civilization, and went back a marriageable woman of 22 with the knowledge that her parents would immediately find a husband for her, very possibly one not at all in sympathy with her ideas.

Fortunately the chosen spouse was Count Iwao Oyama, who was himself educated in France, and as whose wife she has taken immediate rank in social and philanthropic circles in Tokio. A number of Japanese women have since come to this country as students, and several are here now. Miss Shige Nagai entered the Vassar School of Music in 1878, and made a love match with Lieut. Uriu, of the Japanese navy, who was educated by his government at our naval academy at Annapolis, and first met his piquant countrywoman at a Vassar fete, to which a number of Annapolis youths were invited.

The wedding was agreed upon before either returned home. One of the festivities attendant on the marriage in Tokio was the amateur presentation of the "Merchant of Venice" before the court and Mikado. Miss Ume Tsuda studied at the Archer institute in Washington, and is now teaching in Tokio at the Peeresses' School for Japanese noblewomen.

Miss Kin Kato, who returned to Japan, spent some time as a special student at Wellesly. Miss Mana Eurodi is in New York making a special study of kindergarten methods. One or two Japanese girls have taken courses at the New Haven and other training schools for nurses, and one of the most industrious students in the classes at the Art Students' league at present is a bright and interesting Japanese girl. Japanese women have graduated from our normal schools for teachers, and one at least has done well at a medical school.—*Ex.*

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