

# County Correspondence.

## GREELY.

L. Matthews was up from the county seat on Saturday.  
Claude Farwell has been visiting here for a few days.  
Mrs. Dr. Lindsay and daughter visited here Tuesday.  
Mrs. Louise Corell is visiting her son in Aurora.  
Geo. Neilman, of Earlville, was a business visitor here on Monday.  
Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Millen were the guests of friends in this city on Sunday.  
Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Farwell were the guests of friends here Sunday.  
L. A. Schneider and John Ocker and their wives were in Dubuque Friday attending carnival.  
D. Thomas and family spent Sunday at the home of their daughter, Mrs. M. Fitzpatrick.  
Monday evening about thirty of the youngsters of this neighborhood assembled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Walters and helped their son Charles to celebrate his 12th birthday. A very pleasant evening was spent by the little folks.—Home Press.

## RYAN.

Miss Agnes Clark was a guest of her sister, Mrs. M. E. McEnany, in Dubuque last week.  
Miss Mae Pugh, of Troy Mills, was a guest at the home of her brother, Ed. Pugh and family the first of the week.  
Henry Logan had a leg broken in a runaway accident at Manchester last Monday.  
"Doc" Huey, of Golden, made us a pleasant call Saturday morning and dropped the usual amount in our slot machine.  
Tom Burdick and wife, of Cedar Rapids, were the guests of A. G. Duncan and family over Sunday.  
Frank Ernest was over from the Buffalo last Tuesday on business.  
"Dad" Cleveland, of Manchester, was a business visitor in Ryan last Tuesday.  
We neglected last week to mention the fact that a big girl baby arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Foley.  
Peter McGuire had the misfortune to have one of his legs broken last Sunday by having a horse fall with him.  
Mrs. John Sheely died quite suddenly last Monday morning at her home on the Buffalo. She leaves besides her husband several children, including an infant to mourn her death. She was a lady of many rare Christian qualities and was loved and respected by all who knew her. The funeral was held yesterday morning from the Catholic church at Monti and was largely attended.—Reporter.

## DYERSVILLE.

Henry Lammer, from near Petersburg, transacted business here Saturday.  
Miss Nellie Sullivan, of Manchester, visited friends in this city last Friday and also attended the commencement exercises of St. Francis school.  
C. and Mrs. George Domeyer and children, of Bear Grove, visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Schaefer in this city, Sunday.  
Clem Klostermann, of Petersburg, was in the city Tuesday and while here made this office a pleasant call.  
Mrs. Catherine Graws departed for Guttenberg Tuesday morning, where she will spend a couple of weeks with her daughters, Mrs. Henry Luack and Mrs. Joseph Schulte and families.  
Mrs. A. F. Carrier and daughter, Laura, who had been here for some time visiting friends, went to Manchester Monday morning, and from there they returned to their home at Lost Nation, Clinton Co.  
Mrs. E. R. Gibbons and Mrs. D. McErlain went to Manchester Monday morning, where they visited friends until evening.  
Miss Kate Mangerich, of Worthington, was in town the fore part of the week visiting with her sister, Miss Mary Mangerich. From here she went to Cedar Falls to attend the state normal.

Anthony Weerdhoff and Anthony Hennekes, of Petersburg; August Meyer, of New Vienna; and John Friedmann, of Luxemburg, returned last Saturday morning from St. Meinrad, Ind., where they have been attending St. Meinrad seminary, studying for the priesthood.  
Herman Westermeyer and family, Henry Krognann and family, Nels Curry and family, George Hellebrand and family, Joseph Reittinger and family, and Mrs. Joseph Krognann were in Petersburg Sunday where they visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Hellebrand. They report so most pleasant.  
Fred Forkenbrock, Henry Kipp, Joe Hynes, Henry Dunkel, Frank Goerd and Anthony Soppe, of Dyersville; William Sassen and John Witte, of Petersburg; Anthony Kreiner and John Herbers, of New Vienna; Joe and Tom Hines and Garry Thorpe, of Manchester, and Lawrence Barrett, of Cascade, have returned from Prairie du Chien, where they have been attending college since last fall.—News Letter.

## MASONVILLE.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. church gave an ice cream social in the hall, Thursday evening. A very pleasant time is reported.  
A number from here attended the funeral of Mrs. John Sheely of Monti, Tuesday. She died very suddenly of heart disease. Requiem high mass was celebrated and interment took place in the Monti cemetery.  
Mrs. Watson departed Thursday for Wisconsin where she intends to spend two weeks with relatives and friends.  
Mrs. Robt. Fee was a Manchester caller, Tuesday.  
Quite a number from here attended the social dance at P. McKeever's Wednesday evening. About fifty couples were present and all report a fine time.  
Wm. Rader is having quite a nice large house built on his farm near town.  
Mr. Hogan has the foundation finished and is having the plans made for his building which will be erected in the near future.  
C. E. Ironson, of Manchester, was in our city on business Wednesday.  
John Burns, who lives 4 1/2 miles north of town met with a very sad accident Sunday, June 22nd. While riding a broncho, he was thrown from its back with great force, his head hitting a rock causing a very bad fracture of the skull. He was unconscious for twelve hours, but rested easy after the wound was dressed and is reported some better at this writing.  
Mame McMahon, Anna Welch, Ella McKeever, Kate Lahey, and Loretta Barry are attending Institute in Manchester.  
While Mr. Logan and son Henry were driving from town Monday to their home which is four miles south of here, their team became frightened and ran away, throwing them out of the carriage. Mr. Logan escaped uninjured, but Henry was not so fortunate, his leg was broken and side hurt. He was taken back to town and is now at the Griffin Hotel. It will be sometime before he can be taken home, but he is some better at this writing.

## EARLVILLE.

Mrs. J. A. Strickland and son, of Manchester, were guests at the home of her mother, Mrs. Newcomb last week.  
The base ball club drove to Lamont, Thursday where they engaged in a lively game, coming out the winners by a score of 13 to 6.  
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Clemans, of Manchester, spent Tuesday with Dr. and Mrs. C. B. Rogers.  
Mrs. Harry Porter and daughters, Florence and Grace, of Delaware, were in town on Saturday.  
A number from here attended the Epworth League Convention at Greeley Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Ede and Misses Nellie and Annie Ede, Bert and Carl Millen, John Williams, Mattie and Maude Marley, Iva Dunn and Mrs. Ida Crosby.  
Mrs. Perry Clemens and Charley, Pearl and Freddie are visiting at the home of Mrs. Clemens' parents near Colesburg.  
The second nine of Greeley engaged in a game of ball with our corresponding team here on Friday, the game resulting in a victory for our boys by a score of 8 to 4.  
Harold Foster, of Williams, arrived Thursday evening for an extended visit with his grandmother, Mrs. Foster.  
Prof. and Mrs. Still and daughter, Le Verne left Saturday morning for Spencer, where they will visit at the home of Mrs. Still's parents before going to their new home. They have the kindest wishes of their friends here as they go.  
Mrs. Will Kuehnle is visiting at the home of her parents south of town.  
Mrs. C. B. Rogers and H. G. Millen entertained the ladies of the M. E. church on Friday afternoon from 2 until 5 at the home of Mrs. Millen. At four o'clock a dainty luncheon was served. The guests report an exceptionally pleasant afternoon.  
On Friday evening occurred the Gold Medal Contest at the Congregational church, five young people of the county participating. The medal became the possession of Miss Della Roberts of this place. She has the congratulations of her friends.  
Henry Staehle left Thursday morning for Chicago where he has accepted a position in the hardware house of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co.  
Rev. Doremus, of Dubuque, occupied the Congregational pulpit as usual on Sunday.  
On Sunday morning, "Old Folks Day" was observed in the M. E. church. In the evening John Williams occupied the pulpit.

## COGON.

Mrs. Dan Castle jr. and children of Marlon, are visiting relatives and friends in Cogon and vicinity.  
Harry Sheldon departed for his home in Hyannis, Nebraska, Monday morning.  
Born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henderson jr., last Friday, a boy.  
Miss Cora Savage is attending normal in Manchester.  
Mrs. Chas. Scroggie and son Gene of Monticello, are visiting at the home of A. C. Tucker.  
A. D. Mills and family of Central City, visited Mr. and Mrs. S. N. Joslyn, Sunday.  
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Tucker were in Manchester yesterday to attend the wedding of Mr. Tucker's niece, Miss Berdina Tucker.  
Ed Grassfield of Manchester, made a business trip to Cogon, Monday.  
Rev. Scofield of Manchester, visited his son, Dr. A. H. Scofield, Saturday.  
Mrs. Chas. Brazleton entertained two brothers from Hopkinton, Sunday.  
Ben Johnson jr., who has been visiting his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Vinton, returned to his home in Topeka, Kansas, Friday.

John Beatty is walking with the assistance of a cane, as the result of a kick on the knee, received from a horse at Sunday morning.—Monitor.

## EDGEWOOD.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Weyant are visiting friends and relatives near Columbus, Ohio.  
Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Hubbell left for Harvard, Illinois, where they expect to remain two or three weeks visiting relatives.  
The Edgewood band has decided to give an open air concert in the streets every Saturday night.  
The Loyal Temperance Legion gave a fine program at the Congregational church Sunday afternoon, June 21.  
G. B. Rowell, of Marion, spent several days with his cousin, W. Humphrey, Otter Beyer, who has been attending Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, has returned home for his summer vacation.  
Mrs. Mary Coolidge attended the commencement exercises of the U. I. U. Mr. Shaffer, of Central City, is here visiting his brother, E. B. Shaffer.  
Wesley Beyer is home from Mt. Vernon, where he has been attending the college.  
A. J. Eaton is building an addition on his barn and also remodeling his house somewhat.  
Leona Garretson is staying at Mr. Kirk's during Mr. Hubbell's visit in Illinois.  
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## FORESTVILLE.

Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Sherwin of Strawberry Point visited friends and relatives here for a few days.  
J. H. Fultz of Chicago visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Clark last week.  
T. B. Simpson and Ed Smith drove to Lamont Thursday last week.  
Oliver Clark drove to Strawberry Point, Saturday. W. Pelly returned home with him.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ira Best and brothers, John and Will Henderson drove to Dundee Saturday.  
Mrs. Barry and Mrs. Sherwin of Barryville visited at Forestville last week. Mr. Albert Ward had a very narrow escape last week. He was working in a stone quarry when a large rock about eight feet square fell about ten feet and rolled over striking him on the leg.  
R. Smith passed through Forestville with a new binder. O. C. Clark has one also.  
The miller has his flume completed. Forestville has lots of fishing clubs.

## EDGEWOOD.

Mr. and Mrs. George Dorman, of Manchester, spent Saturday night and Sunday with the latter's relatives at this place.  
Mrs. Frank Sherman came up from Mt. Vernon last Saturday for a two weeks' visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Glasier.  
Wesley and Lucretia Beyer returned home last Friday morning from Mt. Vernon, where they have been attending Cornell College.  
Miss Eva Severance, of Manchester, visited at the home of her aunt, Mrs. T. J. James, and cousin, H. James, last Friday.  
Miss Ted Peck, Laura Beyer and Zoe Denmore attended the Dubuque District Epworth League convention at Greeley Tuesday night and yesterday.  
L. B. and Charles Blanchard, F. W. Beysen and son, Frank, E. A. Hall, S. T. Richards and Lase Webb were angling for the finny tribe on the banks of the peaceful Maquoket near Manchester, Monday. They brought home a few fish which we suppose were bought of Dr. Quinette.—Journal.

## STRAWBERRY POINT.

Mr. and Mrs. Lealle Chase, are in Oxford Junction this week visiting with Dr. Carl Eaton, of that place.  
John Seeley, of Manchester, was visiting friends in the city the first of the week.  
Mrs. William Barker and children visited in Greeley the first of the week.  
Miss Dena Devo was up from Greeley over Sunday visiting with her parents.  
Mrs. Mary King of Edgewood is here attending George Smith, who is seriously ill with typhoid fever.  
Fred Tarbox attended the funeral of his uncle, P. A. Tarbox, held at Manchester, Monday.  
Grandma Blair, of Manchester, was here visiting with friends and attending the Baptist convention, last week.  
The Misses Nellie Lane and Beulah Dennison, of Fayette, are visiting at the home of Miss Dona Lang.

## DELHI.

The nine year old son of Jake Retz living north of town procured a handful of powder Sunday and proceeded to have a celebration which resulted in a burned face. It was not serious, but rather painful, and Mr. Retz hopes it will teach the young gentleman a lesson.  
Miss Olive Kramr gave a party to about thirty-five of her young friends at her pleasant home two miles north of town, last week Wednesday. All enjoyed the occasion, her tenth birthday, greatly, and hope for many more such pleasant days. Miss Kramer and her mother, Mrs. John Kramer, Jr., took the evening passenger for Iowa City, where the former, who has been ill for some time, went for treatment.—Mail Press.

## DELHI.

Misses Opal Stoner, Lizzie Frazer, Nerra Burton and Louise Rimmer are attending normal at Manchester.  
Mr. and Mrs. Luke Connolly have a little daughter at their home born June 21st.  
Fred Doolittle made a business trip to Buckeye, Iowa, last week.  
Alex Blackbath has purchased Bert Sherman's meat market and took possession Saturday.  
Mrs. A. E. Sheldon and daughter Marion, of Hyannis, Nebraska, visited at J. W. Swinburne's last week.  
Bert Sherman left Monday to look up a location in Dakota.  
Miss Allie Cummings left Tuesday evening for Pawnee City, Nebraska, to spend the summer with relatives.  
Miss Lizzie Frazer attended the district convention of the Epworth League at Greeley last Thursday.  
Mrs. Charlie Stone and children visited relatives in Dubuque last week.  
Mrs. E. B. Johnson and baby spent last week in Manchester with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Boyle.  
The infant daughter of Herman Phillips died Tuesday, June 21st, at the home of his grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Jackson. Funeral at the house on Thursday afternoon.  
Mrs. Taylor Smith is visiting relatives in Moline, Illinois.  
Delhi Cornet Band will play at the Farley Celebration, July 4th.  
Our mail routes start out from town, July 1st.  
Frank and Tyler Furman were in

## Wedding bells in the near future.

If you want one of the best times you have ever had, you must celebrate the fourth at Masonville. There will be sports galore and "something doing" all day long. Ball game, foot races, bicycle races and many other amusements. A patriotic address by Rev. M. Cooney, of Waterloo, at 11 o'clock a. m. Bowers dance in the afternoon and a grand ball at night. Music by the Phi Kappa Psi orchestra, of Maynard, and also the Masonville Cornet Band. A grand display of fireworks in the evening.

The dance at James Maguire's was a grand success and those from town who attended returned home in the wee small hours.  
Father Murtaugh, of Boon, and Father O'Mera, of Manchester, were guests of Rev. Thos. Murtaugh Monday.  
Mrs. H. N. May has been entertaining her brother, Mr. Brightbaugh, of Cascade, this week.

James Towner is having his house remodeled and is making quite an improvement.

Prof. W. B. Guthrie returned home last Friday morning from his foreign visit, and this week is in attendance at the county normal at Manchester as one of the instructors.

E. M. and J. B. Hacker, A. B. Wheelock, Mrs. Ben Ferguson and Miss Ferguson went to Greeley this morning to attend a district convention of the Epworth League.

Chas. Lepley and wife packed up and shipped their household goods last week to St. Paul, in which city they expect to make their future home. The change is made to make their location more convenient to their children, who are located in Montana.

Misses Ella Campbell, Florence Ricketts, Nettie Mullan, Myrtle Stanger, Lena Danford, Rose McElmeel, Alice Crawford, Ione Westcott, Bertha Clark, Mabel Wheelock and Margaret Johnson are attending the normal at Manchester.—Leader.

The Delaware County Old Settlers' Reunion.

The Old Settlers' Reunion held at the fair grounds in this city last Thursday was fairly well attended notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the weather. They assembled at the grounds in the forenoon and passed the time renewing old acquaintance. During the noon hour they betook themselves to the floral hall, where the lunch baskets were opened and the picnic dinners partaken of.

The afternoon session began about 1:30, when President F. B. Peet called the meeting to order. The invocation was offered by Rev. B. M. Amnden, followed by music by the graphophone of W. H. Acres.

President Peet in a short speech welcomed the old settlers to the meeting and compared the hardships of the old settlers with the comparative ease enjoyed by the present generation. In concluding Mr. Peet paid a glowing tribute to old age which was received with hearty applause.

Next on the program was a paper by R. J. Bixby, who prefaced his remarks with the statement that he was in reality an old settler of an adjoining county, having been born in Clayton county but as he had always done his trading in this county and is now a resident of it, if there was no objection, he was going to consider himself a member of the organization. His subject was pioneer schools, and he read a paper on "The Pioneer Schools of Delaware County."

He received it from E. C. Madison. It bears date of the year 1849, was sworn to before S. R. Peet, J. P., and discloses that Wm. S. Clark, teacher of the school received for his term's teaching the small sum of \$41.53. He then described the old log school house with its rough benches and desks. In some respects he thinks the pioneer schools had an advantage over those of the present, just as it is claimed that the smaller schools now have advantage over the larger, for the reason that the teachers of the smaller schools are in closer touch with the pupils.

C. H. Pierce read a paper from W. H. Hollister. The writer says that he, in company with Hassel Mason, set out from Belvidere, Ill., in November, 1854, to hunt a home in Iowa. They came to Galena by rail staged it to East Dubuque and crossed the river on a steam ferry. They came to Delaware county but they did not think the timber good enough and moved on. They stopped at Mr. Jakeway's at Buffalo Grove but did not like the timber around there as it was very thin. They started up the Cedar River for Pilot Grove, which was about six miles distant. They traveled until about midnight when they found that they were traveling in a circle. The wolves were barking on all sides and they felt pretty blue.

The family living at the Grove had a sick child and it light which showed them the way to the house and to say that they rejoiced on reaching a haven of rest and security, but mildly expresses it. After looking the country over quite thoroughly they came back to Delaware township and bargained for a farm in sections 9 and 10. They then returned to their home in Ill., and in the next year, 1855, returned to this county to make their future home.

Mrs. Amos Perry was the next on the program and had for her subject "The Early Pioneers of Coffin's Grove." She gave a very lucid account of the trials of the early pioneers of Coffin's Grove. In those days the blizzards were so severe that it was a common occurrence for a person trying to go two or three miles in one of the storms to be frozen to death. The Minkler children, Mrs. Perry being one of them, had to walk over two miles to school while others had to walk as much as three. Wild game and fruit were plentiful. Before the building of the Coffin store the people of her neighborhood had to send to Dubuque for the necessities, and the little store twelve feet long and sixteen feet wide, built by Clement Coffin proved a great convenience.

James Lendrum's paper was read by Floyd Peet. Mr. Lendrum came to this county and located at Silver Creek in 1852. The first corn he cultivated was by means of a hoe. After paying for his forty acres of land he had just enough money left to buy a barrel of flour. He traded a rifle he had brought with him for a cow and during the following winter lived on corn doggers and

## Davenport last week.

Several attended the "Old Settlers' picnic at Manchester Thursday.  
E. H. Blanchard has traded his farm at Onida for one near Manchester.  
Mrs. Orange Harris, of Manchester, is visiting her sister Mrs. Herrick.  
Mrs. George White entertained a company of little girls at her home on Tuesday afternoon. Dainty refreshments were served.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Swinburne and Harry had business in Manchester Tuesday.  
Mrs. and Mrs. Wm. Davis, of Strawberry Point are visiting their daughter, Mrs. H. H. Porter.  
A. J. Young leaves the first of the week for Boulder, Colorado.  
Mrs. Geo. White and Mrs. S. M. Chase were shopping in Manchester Thursday.

HOPKINTON.

Mrs. F. E. Richardson and children of Manchester visited over Sunday at the home of A. Richardson. Fred came down Monday to accompany them home.

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## milk and occasional venison.

Deer were plentiful and all night their whistling was often heard. The nearest doctor was at Delhi 15 miles away. The trading points for the community were Dubuque, Delhi and Quasqueton. The latter place at that time was considered a better trading point than Delhi. Manchester did not exist until later. Mr. Lendrum had to walk to Forestville to pay for his land and when he arrived there he was unable to get a meal and was forced to walk back to the Grove to get supper and lodging. In concluding Mr. Lendrum says: "We had many hard experiences in the early days. We fought poverty and hunger. We missed many privileges but we were happy and no later settlers have had any happier times than did we in the pioneer days." Mr. Hickox read a paper written by G. W. Arbogast of Lamont. Mr. Arbogast came to Ead's Grove Sept. 22, 1845. At this time the only family living between Ead's Grove and Balley's Ford was the Paddifores, who lived near where Jones lower mill now stands. In Coffin's Grove there were four families, Coffin, Baker, Sullivan and Minkler, and no one west between them and Independence except a house or two at Pine Creek. The nearest mill for grinding wheat was at Dubuque, but Cascade was admitted to it. In 1846 the state was admitted to it and the emigrants came flocking in and settled on the prairies were teeming with bus, men and women. The Indiana made their camp near the Maquokets. The sleighs were made of bent hickory poles shod with ironwood. Out of the party of 21 that came with Mr. Arbogast only three are now living.

Miss Lucy Brayton read a sketch on the "Pioneers of Spring Branch." Geo. Shaffer was the first pioneer to settle there. Amos Adams soon followed and bought a farm of 1900 acres. The first frame house built at Spring Branch was built by Eliza Cheney. Her production was used with interesting facts and ranked among the best productions of the day. Speaking of the early days Miss Brayton did not think they had such a hard time. They had plenty to eat and about the only thing that bothered them was the getting of nice things to wear. She wanted a pair of fine shoes with tips on the toes and a hat with ribbons and flowers. Her father often made the remark: "It's not the things we need, but the things we want that make us envious and miserable."

A. A. Strong, who was not on the program was called upon for a speech. He said that he had not been asked to write a paper for the meeting and so was not loaded. He told of how the houses in the early days were finished up with chinking and mud and declared that he had no intention of being used as either one on this occasion.

The exercises closed with the benediction by Rev. Wolfe.

The following officers were elected for the next year: F. B. Peet, President; A. S. Coon, Vice President; C. J. Bailey, Secretary; Mrs. J. A. Morse, Treasurer.

BOTTLED SUNSHINE.

NATURE'S GREAT FACTORY IN WHICH IS PRODUCED COAL.

A Lump of the Mineral Tells Its Interesting Million Year History in a Few Words—A Wonderful Process of Evolution.

Your life time mine is as second to a thousand years. It will let you know that at this time I have seen each coal seam as would make you gasp in astonishment. Once, in untold ages past, long before man had appeared on this old world, I was alive. Yes, the dirty old piece of coal was a living thing in those dim, distant ages. A thing of beauty, too—a thing to be admired. I was a fern. Not such a paltry thing as you decorate our homes with and sell in little earthenware affairs. My trunk alone measured five feet across.

Yet I was nothing out of the ordinary. In those days there were many little plants forty feet or so in height. Every bit of coal you see in such beautiful fashion once was a living plant—a plant which grew and flourished, even as your plants of today grow and flourish. But in these degenerate days plants are poor, feeble little things. Fine trees and plants in those days. We had no petted and pampered ferns. We had no houses of glass, artificially kept warm so that the poor little dears shouldn't get cold. Those were the days of real ferns, of mighty ferns free from all newfangled nonsense about fertilizers and soils and aspects and such childish weaknesses.

In those early days the earth was not as it is today. It was hotter, for it had cooled from a globe of molten rock. Its atmosphere was heavy with warm vapors; close and oppressive, you would call it, but it just suited us, as we grew and luxuriated in it. The earth's crust was thin and heaved about, gradually raising vast continents from the bed of the sea and slowly dragging others deep into the ocean. It was a time of vast changes.

I grew on the muddy banks of a great pool of water, which was fed by sluggish streams and bordered by monstrous reeds. On the other side stretched a vast swamp and a dark forest of tangled vegetation. For hundreds of miles there was no break to this forest beyond a few bogs and pools of brackish water. The sun shone hot upon me, so no wonder I grew well in this humid atmosphere. Then there were frightful storms, when mighty trees were flung down and swept by floods to the bottom of the pool. This had gone on ages before I appeared above ground; it went on ages after. The result was that the bottom of the pool was a mass of fallen trees. The new forest trees pressed down on the bottom ones, and after thousands of years the water, the mud, the heat and the pressure turned into mighty beds of vegetable matter into what you call coal.

In the dense forest it was somewhat the same. Trees were thrown down by hurricanes; fresh ones grew and fell victims to storms. So it went on for long centuries until the last forest grew on the top of a great thickness of buried trees, ferns and mosses. Amid this exuberant vegetation were many fantastic and uncouth animals. Round about them made the forest resound with their hideous howlings. They were so strangely shaped that I could well describe them to you. Even now to the flies had wings half a foot long from tip to tip.

One day I saw a conviction in the midst of the lake far away from me. The bed rose up and belched forth steam. The new forest trees pressed down on the bottom ones, and after thousands of years the water, the mud, the heat and the pressure turned into mighty beds of vegetable matter into what you call coal.

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