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The life for so many centuries that its population had lost all knowledge of its origin, except the traditional recitals, handed down from tribe to tribe and from father to son, incidentally conformable to mythic or religious beliefs, inherited from an ancestry unknown in the history of enlightened civilization. According to the "Map of Linguistic Stocks," the Basin of the Missouri had been principally occupied by the Siouan, Algonquian, Caddoan, Kiowan and Shoshonean linguistic divisions of the Indian tribes, when the fortunes of war and the vicissitudes of wealth precipitated an intrusion of foreign occupancy as persistent as has been the disappearance of these children of nature, until occasional reservations with a diminishing people are all that remain to indicate where the light of the fire of the Indian went out. His lodge poles are missing, his game is all gone and his squaws are half-white, licentiously tainted with the blood of a more formidable race. The history of the past 400 years practically covers the period of about all that can be said of the Indians of America; their discovery, the exciting scenes of a warlike dispossession, and their downfall, absorption and final disappearance. Incidentally there is another question of historic moment: tribal names and designations. Every word spoken in the original tongue of the Indian has its direct meaning. Modern

parance, called "Injun," even by many of the natives themselves. This question is too broad and far-reaching to permit of an attempt to fathom its causes and scope at this time. Other considerations, such as origin, ancient relations, cannibalism, slavery, flesh-eaters, root-diggers, fish-netters, lodge and troglodytic life, religious traditions and instincts, mortuary rites and practices, marriage customs, polygamy, migrations, origin and secrets of clans, climatic influences, and those various and numerous conditions of Indian existence, life, warfare, habits, customs, and languages, might be referred to, were it not for want of space and opportunity at this time. The Missourians Indians, said to be of the same linguistic stock—Siouan—and after whom the name Missouri has come down to us, are now practically an extinct tribe or band, having been consolidated with the Otos, now at Ponca, Oklahoma. The name of these Indians will be referred to for information concerning the true meaning and origin of the tribal designation conferred upon them. It is evident, and more than probable, that they are the descendants of that ancestry who located somewhere upon the Missouri river prior to the advent of the French, and, increasing in numbers, developed into the numerous bands known to exist, some of

with a misinterpretation of its real and true meaning, as named after a tribe of the Siouan stock residing upon its banks when first seen by Europeans. The preparation of a detailed list of the different forms of this name was arranged for, but owing to an unforeseen disappointment only a partial and curtailed showing can now be made; sufficient, however, to indicate the origin, meaning, and use of the word as applied to the Indians, the river, and a state of the Federal Union. The original meaning of the word Missouri was "living on the mouth of the waters." So stated by the Indians themselves. SPANISH AND FRENCH DISCOVERIES. Some references seem now desirable concerning the approach of civilization toward the Missouri. Years before Soto, the "Hernand of the Grove," had crossed the Mississippi, at some unknown point below the site of the city of Memphis, Nunez Cabeza de Vaca, the treasurer of the unfortunate Narvaez expedition, landing probably on the shores of Texas, had wandered with his three companions northward to the plains and mountains of the West. After about nine years of hardships and privations, alternating between captivity and freedom, they hailed with sentiments of delight, in April, 1536, the Spanish settlements in Mexico. This is the first time that the name of the Missouri, as far as the Missouri, but that they had found the tribes, the buffalo, the mountains, and the plains to the northward under such remarkable circumstances as to lead to the presumption that they were probably the first Europeans to learn of the existence, from tribal sources and by actual discoveries, of the grand river system, supplying the delta to the sea at the delta of the Mississippi, when their ships were the sails and the jaguars the manes and tails of their horses, of which system the Missouri is an important part. Wherever Soto may have marched with his army from the 18th of June, 1541, until the 17th of the following April, no one has yet successfully fathomed the mystery of the actual localities traversed, except that the direction was northerly and the position west of the Mississippi, which they had called the Rio Grande. It is unlikely that an army would march to the North, under such circumstances and in search of gold, without learning from the natives the character of the country beyond, and yet no authority exists concerning the actual localities penetrated. Had they marched farther to the westward they would have learned, from their own kindred, of Coronado's northward march to the Seven Cities of Cibola, and unquestionably to the valley of the Missouri, in 1540-42. Coronado marched with his mixed army from Culiacan in April, 1540, reached the famed cities of Cibola in the following July, overpowered with force and arms every opposition of the natives, and, searching for gold, penetrated far to the northward, across mountains and plains under the guidance of "The Turk," an Indian of the region, who represented, faithfully in description, but recklessly in fact, for which he was strangled, the wealth of the country and the cities beyond. The identity of the localities, owing to the Spaniard's greed for gold and contempt for geography, cannot be certainly fathomed, but the description they have left of the rivers and nations, the mountains and plains, leave no doubt whatever that they were the real discoverers of the Basin of the Missouri, if not of the river itself. This question of discovery by Coronado's marching horde, being upon the flesh and milk of the buffalo, upon one of the most remarkably bold and daring marches recorded in the annals of American history, has been slow to penetrate to the importance it deserves, and it does not seem that any exploration toward the interior as far as the hydrographic system of the Missouri Basin. The cause for this may be found in the conflicts of authority, the diversity of languages and the zones of temperature. The Spaniards were Catholic, exclusive, cruel to a fault, and avaricious. Their state papers seldom saw the light of day. In discovering the natives, were made, not companions but slaves; and while an ambitious priest might strive to plant the cross of Christ in the Western World, the marches were by armies and the subjection was by force; not yet ended, while Cuban independence is suspended in the balance. For these reasons, we have been loth to offer king or acknowledge the greater importance of the Spanish discoveries north of New Mexico and west of the Mississippi until very recent times. The paper grant was followed by the royal grants, and the maps of this republic, to the fourth degree, continue to indicate the result. The rest is history, from the conquest of Mexico to Santa Fe and the Federal Union, and from the Aztecs to Cortes, Juan de Ornat, and the butchered Spaniards of 1720. Nothing better could be expected from the cruelties, the greed for gain, the overbearing insolence of the Spanish explorers, whose only procedure seemed to be for gold and glory, through the channel of the downfall of a less powerful race of men; and that, too, when millions of the precious metal remained at their very feet, unmined, in the mountains they traversed, and which, since, has become the wealth of a more powerful nation. Spaniards lived in a different atmosphere, and the man of the North succeeded the man of the South in the sequence of time and events. One tortured and robbed the natives, the other rounded him up on reservations. We can now notice concisely the advance of the French west of the Mississippi. The voyage of M. Nicollet, in 1823, to a short distance of the Mississippi, paved the way for the march of discovery by Radisson and Groselliers, about twenty years later, to and across the great river, in Northern Minnesota, where they heard of the Missouri from the lips of the Sioux Indians, which Radisson called the "Forked river." Joliet and Marquette, with their voyageurs and canoes, the 17th of June, 1673, floated out from the mouth

of the Wisconsin to the "broad bosom of the Great River of the West." They found another name, that of Baudouin, for the Mississippi, and upon reaching the mouth of the Missouri, July 1, 1673, they heard of that river as the Pekitians, and upon Marquette's map is indicated, above its mouth, a tribe of Indians which he called Semessit, as before stated. From these two words, which have been fully explained, the first an Ozaukiuk (Sic) name and the last an Oumessourit name, has been derived—Missouri, "Living on the Mouth of the Waters River." The results of the explorations of Joliet and Marquette, with their five voyageurs, who turned back after descending the Mississippi to the mouth of the Arkansas, or near there, need not here be further referred to. They were prompted not to proceed on account of the Spanish occupancy and other obstacles beyond; for, should they not return all the fruits of their labor would be lost to the world. Not so the intrepid Sieur de la Salle, who, a few years later, passed down the Mississippi and took possession of the country in the name of the King of France. To him is accorded the honor of establishing Fort St. Louis on the Illinois, and on his arrival at the mouth of the Missouri, in 1682, named the country Louisiana, that vast territory reaching from the mouth of the Mississippi to the Lake of the Woods and the Pacific coast. The vicissitudes of European warfare changed its possession from France to Spain, and from Spain to France, and in 1803, to the United States, for Bonaparte was afraid to retain it in the event of certain war with England. St. Louis and New Orleans had been founded and the Spanish and French had alternated in possession according to the vicissitudes of maritime expeditions and international treaties. In the meantime, penetration westward from the Mississippi had actively commenced, and the fur trade of the French had taken the place of the greed for gold on the part of the Spaniard. Western migration became the order of the day for traffic with the tribes of the

that transaction (all honor to Jefferson and his advisers) may be summarized here: Louisiana, area, in 1803, acres..... 796,733,440 Value at the government price..... \$15,000,000 Stipulated price..... \$15,000,000 Price per acre, a fraction less than 2 cents. Value at the government price..... \$12.52 \$1.25 per acre..... \$868,416,800 In capabilities of natural sustenance, a population of 24,000,000, from the Mississippi to the Pacific coast, can be maintained. When this remarkable domain, augmented afterward in the southwest, came into the possession of the Federal Union, that grand array of fur companies, too numerous to mention and too complicated to describe in this unpretentious address, sustained in traffic a horde of traders, trappers, hunters and voyageurs, limited only by the extent of the frontier. Their customers were the Indians and their trade was in pelts, while their approaches were the rivers and their highways the plains. Stockaded posts dotted the line from Saskatchewan to the Gulf, from St. Louis to the mountains, and from Superior to the Missouri, and the Mississippi assumed the importance of a national highway, the impetuous boldness of its original discoverers, not now as of the Spaniards nor the French, but by that American nation of men, whom to the English were a star in the West and to the Red Indian a shadow in the East. There are reasons for this. The inherent ambition for an advance by man, from whatever motives and in numerous ways—national, religious, economic, political, personal—and from those various causes particularly influencing the separate characteristics of diversified life. The Indian and his lion, the beaver and bear gave way, and the aptitude of events inspired the memorable words: "Westward the march of empires takes its way."

LEWIS AND CLARKE—WESTERN STATEHOOD. The charming and enchanting pen of Washington Irving, in volumes of history, on statements of fact, has given to the world a permanent record of the westward march and the most stirring scenes lived and enacted on the "Bison Plains," with "The Hunter Nations," on the branches of the Missouri, the mountains and buttes, the rivers and canons, caves and plains, peaks and gulches, the whole broad bosom of the Western wilds, for more than seventy years after Lewis and Clark's arduous journey, the results of the war-whop of the savage, his dances and scalp; the trader's revenge; the trapper's wild life; the explorer's courage; the miner's greed; the sportsman's luck; the marches of the armies, and the battles of the nations; the graves of the dead, and the lives of the living; studies of the scientists; surveys of the government; ministers' missions; the inroads of slavery; political plots; Mormonism; stage lines and robberies; hold-ups and horse thieves; the waylaid emigrant, and the murderous onslaughts; the cannibal's hunger and haste; organized robbery; and the vigilance of the trapper and hunter, the trader, the army and the Indian, the stage driver and highwayman, the rancher and the traveler, the scientist and scholar, historian and geographer; captain and tramp, men, women and children of all climes and colors and of all nations and conditions, pleasure-seekers, artisans, farmers and laborers, the devout and the criminal, the chaste and the fallen have contributed to the pages of that grand history of the West, that will live long after the waters of the Missouri were reddened with blood from its source to its mouth, and from the days of Marquette to the date of its states, when lawful order emerged from the disturbances where chaos reigned.

THE UTMOST SOURCE OF THE MISSOURI. On the 28th day of July, 1895, and soon after my return from the source of the Mississippi, Bemidji, Cass and Leech lakes, in an examination of the tumuli, relics and remains of prehistoric man found at those points, I departed on another expedition in search of the utmost source of the Missouri river. The time occupied traveling westward from St. Paul, Minn., to Helena, Mont., was very pleasantly enjoyed on the Northern Pacific railroad, which traverses the great west



LILLIAN HACKETT CULVER, Botanist and Explorer at Source of Missouri.

ethnologic writers seem determined to systematically modify and change about all the names found in tribal nomenclature to such an extent that the most distant future will witness an established interruption in pronunciation and orthography that seems to foreshadow the obliteration and abandonment of all the original names of the different stocks and tribes. The great Dakota nation and related tribes occupied nearly the entire Missouri basin. Each band was named according to the character or location where they resided, as described by Riggs in his "Dakota Language," 1851, from Mille Lacs in Minnesota to the Black Hills and the upper Missouri. On the other hand, the designations now in use, to a very great extent, were unknown and unheard of among the Indians, until the modifications were adopted by the whites and extended to them in written descriptions. A few are noted: Naudowessiou (Sioux), Nation of the Boz (Buffalo). Ozaukiuk, Ozaukies, Sauks, Sac (Spout-ine). Gomisaurites, Missourites, Missouria, Misouri. Anishinabing, Gijway, Chippawa, Chipeway (Spoutinon). The word "Indian," so universally adopted, was never heard of or spoken until after the landing of Columbus, when it was supposed he had reached India, and the natives were thence known as Indians; now, it vulgar

which passed up the river and some down toward its mouth. In that way the habit of the Missourians became fixed near the junction of the Missouri with the Mississippi; hence they were known as people "Living on the Mouth of the Waters." Their reduced numbers, from a powerful and savage tribe, came from warfare, and the destructive influence of smallpox, which depopulated their ranks until they were no longer able to withstand the onslaughts of their enemies, and claiming the protection of the Otos, consolidation and extinction as a separate tribe followed. Like all other North American Indians, they knew nothing concerning their origin, save only those traditional lines of uncertainty, which their successors in the Western country have been unable to fathom. As bloodthirsty savages, they figure in contemporary history, treacherous and cunning in modes of action to an extent equaled by the later tribes of the same stock, who have plundered, murdered, and mutilated the frontier settlers, and ravished their wives and daughters; until retaliation followed with the same vengeance; and rifle-pits and trenches for defense are scattered on the plains nearly the entire length of the Missouri and many of its branches, now relics of past decades for the Indian, becoming subdued, likewise became subverted, and the graves of the dead mark the progress of the change. The name Missouri has come down to the present generation in a modified form, and

WHITE HORSE, Chief of the Missouri Indians.

plains. The voyage of Hennepin and Acaout to St. Anthony, and La Hontan's River Longue bear but little or no significance as regards the Missouri, although La Hontan's faithful fiction might seem to refer to that stream, unless comprehensively understood. NATIONAL TERRITORIAL CHANGES. A brief consideration seems now appropriate concerning the general advance of civilized life from the East toward the West, across the Mississippi. The treaty of Utrecht had enlarged, in 1713, the British possessions in America. At Fontainebleau, Nov. 3, 1762, the sixth article of the Preliminary Treaty of Peace entered into by England, Spain and France, irrevocably fixed the middle of the channel of the Mississippi as an international boundary between the possessions of England and France, in America; Spain abandoning to England all claims east of that river, which meant her Florida possessions, which were afterwards again relinquished. On the same day, by a secret donation and a later acceptance, Louisiana, west of the Mississippi, passed from France to the Spanish crown, and practically the whole of the basin of the Missouri, with an undetermined and indefinitely described limit, became Spanish territory. The Revolutionary war, which brought into existence the Federal republic as the United States of North America, came next. It was a prophetic destiny, foreshadowed by the effect following the cause, for the peace of the East had been almost constantly disturbed by avaricious influences emerging from opportunities more or less directly connected with colonial possessions in America, and England had few sympathizers in the loss of the brightest gem in the crown of her realm, and a Washington, and the Fourth of July decorate the pages of an irrevocable history. As secretly as Louisiana has been ceded to Spain in 1762, the treaty of San Ildefonso, in 1800, retroceded the same to France, and Napoleon Bonaparte ordered its sale and cession to the United States, which was consummated April 30, 1803, and then followed an end to the district territorial possessions as divided by the channel of the Mississippi, and the broad plains and valleys, mountains and streams of the Missouri basin became a territorial possession of the United States, only slightly intruded by a British dominion in the remote Northwest. The following brief monetary statement of



lands of the Red River of the North near Moorhead and Fargo, in the dry basin of the great Lake Agassiz, across which the fields of golden grain could be seen in almost unlimited extent. Passing westward out from the Red River valley and into the James River valley of North Dakota, tributary to the Missouri, the surface of the country gradually changes. It is in the Dakota states where the greatest pressure of artesian flowage is obtained; a remarkable system of deep wells have been located recently east of the Missouri. With one day's time at my disposal, I drove out from Bismarck to the Sibley rifle-pits on Apple creek, where thirty-five years before I had, with the Sibley command, met the treacherous Sioux face to face, when the only salutation was by carbines and cartridges, tomahawks and scalping knives. Proceeding on my way, I noticed after passing through the Bad Lands, a village of prairie dogs, west of Medora and east of Andrew's station, where were a vast number of burrows, probably as many as five thousand in all, and seemingly a dog for every burrow. The valley of the Yellowstone, with all its historic interest, is not disappointing in the varied scenes presents, and the Crow Indian can be found, not numerous or threatening as in former years, but on a final resort, through which the Northern Pacific winds its way to Billings, Livingston and Roseman, the latter situated in the re-

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