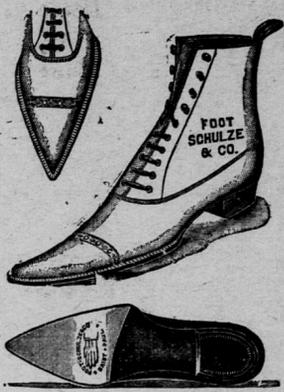


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HEADWATERS OF THE MISSOURI

The River's Utmost Source in the Rocky Mountains, State of Montana—Detailed Narration of Geologic and Geographic Features Concerning the Longest Channel of Water in the World, Its Rise, Course and Length, Now First Published.

The Globe has, from time to time, been first and foremost its efforts to secure for its columns the most reliable and trustworthy results of North-western explorations, regardless of cost and in the interest of its readers. Last year the results of an important archaeological discovery in Northern Minnesota was exclusively secured for the columns of this paper. At that time an arrangement was entered into by which the Globe became a party to an exploration at the source of the Missouri, in the Rocky Mountains, state of Montana, at the utmost limit of the Missouri basin.

of the Missouri at the summit of the Rocky mountains, along the channel of the main Missourian stream-bed to the gulf, is more than 4,200 miles. Still another curious result of piecemeal exploration in the gradual Western migration of geographical discoveries is the peculiar fact, that this principal Missourian stream-bed, maintaining a perennial flowage from the summit of the mountains to the gulf, is known and is now designated by no less than five different names, while the most remote branch, far beyond the mountains bordering the valley surrounding the Upper Red Rock lake in the Centennial valley of Montana, was, up to 1895, unknown, unnamed, and undescribed in any historic or geographical writing, and no record can be found of any visit to it, previous to the explorations conducted by the writer of these pages during the month of August, last year, if any such exists.

as "cold" is a normal temperature, and when uninfluenced by any modification, undoubtedly descends in intensity to -61 degrees Fahrenheit. Throughout all space (which is nothing, and therefore has no limit, and is inconceivably endless) a normal congealing influence exists, which is necessary, near our planet, in connection with obverse influences, to cause rainfall, by expansion, absorption, suspension and condensation, and thence to precipitation, and the constant repetition of these natural phenomena sustains animate existence. When these forces shall have gradually exhausted the power to shower their sustaining influence upon the surface of the earth, all life will as gradually disappear, and a future age will descend upon this planet with an intense severity. The time will come when researches into the past may demonstrate some probability of the course of natural events sure to follow in the coming successive ages.

conception of humanity to a vile ignorance, powerless in its temporary existence to accomplish or fashion any of the great laws creating, governing, and regulating the necessary conditions precedent to the first production of physical life, and its subsequent development, and expansion, and thence to an absolutely certain extinction in the future ages to come.

Some correspondence on this question is deemed of sufficient importance to justify reproduction: Hydrography of the Mississippi Basin.—

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 20, 1895.—Prof. Thomas A. Edison—Dear Sir:—Will you please advise me if electricity can be generated in a perfect vacuum, such as is believed to exist beyond the atmospheric properties surrounding the world?

The information is desired for legitimate purposes, in a consideration of the scientific question concerning the original condensation of vaporous elements into water.

Trusting you may reply, very respectfully, J. V. Brower.

From the Laboratory of Thomas A. Edison.—(Photograph Dictation.) ST. PAUL, Minn., March 27, 1895.—J. V. Brower, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.—Dear Sir:—In reply to your favor of the 20th inst., I beg to state that electric waves undoubtedly travel through the ether throughout the universe. Sun spots disturb the magnetic lines of the earth. Yours truly,

—Thomas A. Edison.

Fortunately, in the furtherance of an enlightened desire for information, the scientific pretenses of astronomy and geology have been applied, which, in connection with chemical and other researches, have broadened and strengthened the human mind to such an extent that the narrow and beaten path of superstitious ignorance has recently been supplanted by a more accurate understanding of the laws of nature.

These allied sciences, which were once held to be the province of the priest, have brought about the strength to tear away the darkened canopy surrounding the original formation of material strength come almost entirely from the central intensity of the north temperate zone, in an isothermal delimitation encircling the earth scarcely five hundred miles in width; an important fact in a study of natural exigencies.

It seems to be a problem impossible to solve, of evaporation, rainfall and river channels, we would go back of all known conditions, if we could, to ascertain the original physical production of water.

has been extended in recent times, and it has gradually lightened the burden of the labor and thought necessary to solve many important and complicated questions.

MAGMA.

A few references seem now to be in order, concerning the condition of the interior of the earth's crust and the foundation upon which it rests.

The interesting theory, now accepted as being based upon a foundation of probable fact, that a molten and moving mass of magma constitutes at least a portion of the inner formation of the earth upon which an outer, cooled crust has its downward bearing, is very important in the light of the conclusions of the authorities hereinbefore cited.

Magma is described as a "molten or plastic material lying beneath the surface, which it is desirable to speak of without any specific indication of its mineral character, in discussing the phenomena of volcanism, metamorphism, or the groundmass or basis of a rock."

The moving magma has caused the uplifting of the continents to such an extent, that the rarification of the atmosphere produced the glacial epochs, when a variously estimated thickness of the ice-sheet, similar to the present condition of Greenland, by the force of its enormous weight, depressed the surface covered, gradually, until the climatic conditions again moderated, and the glacial covering disappeared to the northward. The thickness of the crust of the outer portion of the earth has been variously estimated at from twenty to eight miles, while the depth of the atmosphere encircling the earth is unknown, but believed to be at least 100 miles.

Between these two limited extremes, within the delimitation of a few thousand feet, it is known to exist of fauna and flora life is visible, while above or below that line all living forms in nature perish, and it is not an unknown fact that the surface channeled by river flows, and thence to its isothermal depths is the natural home of every living species, according to the requirements of a varied nature of existence.

It is, then, toward the inner movements of the magma formation, in its gradual uplifting of the outer crust of the earth, that the attention is directed, as the primal cause of surface elevations, as variously influenced by mountain-uplifts, volcanic eruptions, and glacial periods, and those natural forces have changed the geoid surface of the mean sea level, until about one-fourth of the original bed of a single ocean (?) has been uplifted into continents and islands, dividing the waters, and constituting river channeling, a natural consequence that followed, by the precipitation of rainfall upon the face of the uplifted earth, and which, seeking its level toward the south, has, in the past, channeled every river bed that has ever existed, paving the way for the birth of mammalia and man.

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ELEMENTS OF NATURE.

It is a very simple proposition to ask what constitutes a river, and a correct answer is as easily formulated; but the question, How was the first river formed? goes deeper into insolated sciences than the present gen-

eration has been able to fathom. Barely four centuries have elapsed since it was believed that the ships of Columbus would sail over that sea, and yet, even in Minnesota, near where these waters are written, we have rock in place over which the waters have passed for more than 50,000,000 years—upwards of 500,000 centuries and life has existed for a much greater period of time.

The transparent and tasteless fluid, which becomes a solid ice at 32 degrees Fahrenheit, and a vapor at 212 degrees Fahrenheit, normally, a liquid between the two extremes mentioned, and which is, chemically, "a compound substance, consisting of hydrogen and oxygen," 770 times heavier than the air we breathe, is the water we drink—a necessity to physical life.

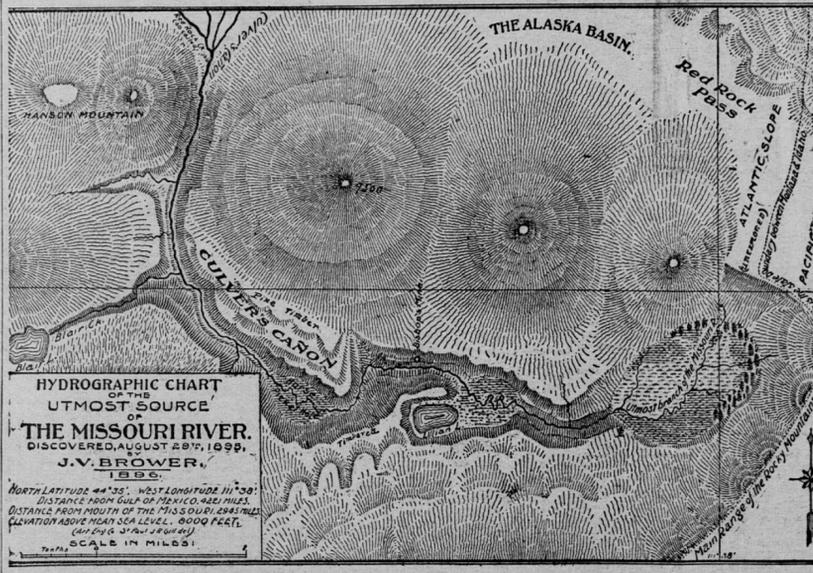
Heat, which is a sensation thrown off from an energy created by the combination of specific elements, commonly proceeds from condensation caused by carbon in connection with oxygen, and in its greatest intensity has an unknown limit of more than 6,300 degrees Fahrenheit.

The element commonly called air "is a respirable fluid which surrounds the earth and forms its atmosphere. It is inodorous, invisible, insipid, colorless, elastic, possessed of essential to respiration and combustion, and is the medium of sound. It is composed by volume of twenty-one parts of oxygen and seventy-nine of nitrogen. These gases are not chemically united, but are mixed mechanically."

The physical condition commonly described as "cold" is a normal temperature, and when uninfluenced by any modification, undoubtedly descends in intensity to -61 degrees Fahrenheit. Throughout all space (which is nothing, and therefore has no limit, and is inconceivably endless) a normal congealing influence exists, which is necessary, near our planet, in connection with obverse influences, to cause rainfall, by expansion, absorption, suspension and condensation, and thence to precipitation, and the constant repetition of these natural phenomena sustains animate existence.

When these forces shall have gradually exhausted the power to shower their sustaining influence upon the surface of the earth, all life will as gradually disappear, and a future age will descend upon this planet with an intense severity. The time will come when researches into the past may demonstrate some probability of the course of natural events sure to follow in the coming successive ages.

Scientific descriptions of the causes which formed the sun, earth, and planets are all problematic. The most acute and philosophical minds have been, and must continue to be, utterly incompetent to correctly determine the time and manner, when and how a great natural law concentrated the elements into the visible and wonderful combination of solids and vapors and fluids, metals and matter, magma and material, which have been forcibly thrown together in the formation now constituting the earth as a planet. There are, however, some considerations which may be drawn upon to somewhat strengthen probabilities, in the



UTMOST SOURCE OF THE MISSOURI RIVER. DISCOVERED AUGUST 29th, 1895. J. V. BROWER.

North Latitude 48° 30' W. Longitude 112° 30' DISTANCE FROM GULF OF MEXICO 4,200 MILES. DISTANCE FROM MOUTH OF THE MISSOURI 4,200 MILES. DISTANCE FROM BEAVER HEAD RIVER 6,000 FEET. (SEE GLOBE FOR DETAILS)

study of sun-spots, the depth of the atmosphere, the law of gravity, the existence of an unknown electrical quantity, and the cyclical tendency demonstrated in meteorological phenomena, as compared with information gained from the observation of other planets, and the numerous solar conditions existing as made available by astronomical researches. Whether electricity can be generated equally within the space of a perfect vacuum, as in the presence of a surrounding atmospheric body, is yet to be determined, as also the minimum reality in the character of the condition of the central force of cyclonic demonstrations in nature.

The distribution of extant natural matter undoubtedly always existed in space, and whether electricity could cyclonically create an energy sufficient to inaugurate the original power of gravitation is conjectural. In that manner or by some similar stupendous force all nature was upheaved in the heavens, and thence the introduction of a systematic order out of chaos; and air, water and earth, heat and light, were precipitated from this union of forces, as the children of an Impersonal, Imperial Parent, forcibly uniting protoplasmic properties to an extent sufficient to cause the induction of life itself, with the power and qualities of sexual reproduction. The magnificently wonderful distribution of the gifts of nature in the formation of the solar system, of which the earth is an insignificant part, reduces the

and yet, in a vaporous condition. In its separated properties, all water undoubtedly always existed in space previous to the formation of the earth and the birth of life in its different forms.

Extant substances may, in different ways, be overtaken by dissolution and dissemination, but absolute obliteration is impossible, and the weight of natural matter, in one or more forms, will always and eternally exist. Nothing whatsoever can add to or take from the bulk, existing in all space, notwithstanding the fact that physical transformations are caused by an uninterrupted natural sequence caused by the vicissitudes of climate, time and conditions.

These brief considerations need not determine, that, in whatever manner the earth may have been precipitated as a molten mass of material solar debris undoubtedly drawn from the particles everywhere present, in space, one is as competent as another to theorize, so far as natural facts are concerned, for philosophic minds still continue to remain simply an embodiment in human nature, incompetent to solve the deepest question in its own existence.

An accepted theory, that the earth in its earlier condition was a molten mass, does not offer any certainty concerning the character of the phenomenal combination of the elements that precipitated it, as such; and the able sagacity of geological science, in an attempted solution of the origin of life, have partially determined the character of the transformation that followed during successive geological periods. Toward those periods an acute and determined examination

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PRELIMINARY REFERENCES. The true length of the Mississippi from its greater ultimate reservoir above Itasca lake, to the Gulf of Mexico is 5,525 miles by the channel of the river, whilst, in the other hand, the distance from the ultimate reservoir of the Missouri at the summit of the Rocky mountains, along the channel of the main Missourian stream-bed to the gulf, is more than 4,200 miles. Still another curious result of piecemeal exploration in the gradual Western migration of geographical discoveries is the peculiar fact, that this principal Missourian stream-bed, maintaining a perennial flowage from the summit of the mountains to the gulf, is known and is now designated by no less than five different names, while the most remote branch, far beyond the mountains bordering the valley surrounding the Upper Red Rock lake in the Centennial valley of Montana, was, up to 1895, unknown, unnamed, and undescribed in any historic or geographical writing, and no record can be found of any visit to it, previous to the explorations conducted by the writer of these pages during the month of August, last year, if any such exists.

Toward the results of those explorations and some subsequent studies, with accompanying papers, the attention of the reader is now directed, trusting that the same may be received in a kindly spirit of critical consideration, commensurate with the desire for a more extended information that prompts these preparations, which, no doubt, are not without error of various kinds.

Scientific descriptions of the causes which formed the sun, earth, and planets are all problematic. The most acute and philosophical minds have been, and must continue to be, utterly incompetent to correctly determine the time and manner, when and how a great natural law concentrated the elements into the visible and wonderful combination of solids and vapors and fluids, metals and matter, magma and material, which have been forcibly thrown together in the formation now constituting the earth as a planet. There are, however, some considerations which may be drawn upon to somewhat strengthen probabilities, in the

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from New England to the Pacific slope; the grandest land in all the world. The sun of the white man rose in the East, and the night of the Indian enveloped the West. Under the very able direction of Maj. J. W. Powell, the ethnologic history of the American Indian has assumed a scope commensurate with the highest purpose involved in the official investigations for which the bureau of ethnology was established; and time will demonstrate that perhaps an hundred volumes of carefully prepared public reports will be necessary to unfold and display all that can be learned of the origin, existence, character, habits and fate of the numerous cognate nations, tribes and bands, articulating probably four hundred languages and two thousand dialects, who legitimately possessed the larger part of the northern portion of the Western Hemisphere when discovered under Spanish auspices; and much of that unfolding must necessarily rest upon the basis of individual opinions, as variously influenced by impressions, interpretations and purposes, gained in the fields of ethnologic research.

No hope exists of throwing any new light upon any of the intricate questions enveloping Indian history, at this time; yet they have been the most important and eventful epochs affecting civilization in the basin of the Missouri. The Iberian, Gaulish and Anglo-Saxon conquests, approaching successively the coasts of the gulf, the river St. Lawrence and the Atlantic seaboard, registered the commencement of the downfall of tribal life in North America. This beautiful and bounteous land, probably uplifted from the depths of the ocean, had been the scene of active and war-