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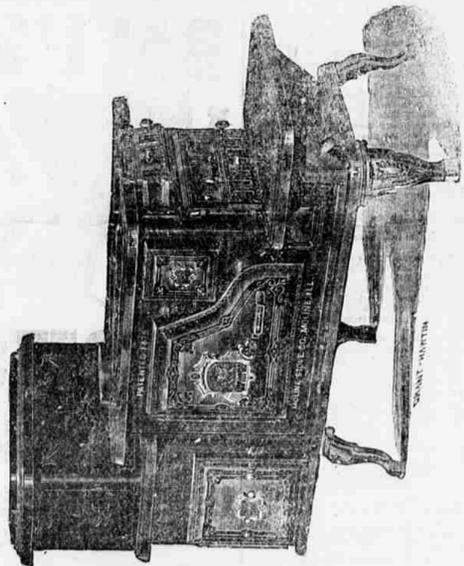
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**BEAVERS IN THE ROCKIES.**

Interesting Observations About Their  
 Curious Dams.

New York Sun.  
 Medicine Bow Range beavers have been an active factor in the formation of mountain parks. I do not write of parks such as the South, Middle and North parks in the Rocky mountains in Colorado, but of those from one to eighty acres in area, that lie in the mountain solitudes surrounded by unbroken forests—parks that are covered with a dense growth of grass and willows in clumps. These parks, where the feed is plentiful and the cover excellent, are the favorite feeding places of elk and deer. When the sun sinks behind the snow-clad peaks the air above these parks grows chilly, and the blood of vampirish insects, the scourge of the mountains in early summer, circulates slowly; and, as the shadows of the pines advance across the parks, these blood-sucking insects, that fairly stiffen the light air during the heat of the day are benumbed, and by 6 o'clock in the evening, if the altitude be 11,000 feet, they have retired for the night. Then the deer rise from the thick cover in the forest, where they have lain motionless in hiding from flies, and walk slowly toward these parks to drink of the cold water, and to feed throughout the night. These parks have, almost without exception, been formed by the filling up of beaver dams.

This summer my business of opening a placer mine has kept me in the highlands. The pick and shovel have laid bare the old works of the beavers. The method of the formation of these small parks has been made clear to me. Many years ago, long after the flow of gravel, known among placer miners as "wash gravel," had ceased, and vegetation covered the bottoms of the narrow valleys that had been gouged out of the granite hills by ice and water, the beavers searching for sites for homes, entered the mountains. Avoiding the rocky canyons and deep gorges, where the water was swift and had sufficient force to sweep away any rock, the intelligent animals might erect, they sought the points where reef of rock of extraordinary hardness had withstood the gouging of ice and wear of water. These reefs, acting as dams, retarded the flow of water sufficiently to allow the sediment it was charged with to be precipitated. This depositing of sediment for many years created a comparatively level tract of land above the beaver dam. Just above this granite point the beavers began work. A deep trench was dug across the valley on the line of the proposed dam. This ditch was invariably sunk through the muck and sand, and, in the majority of cases, through the compact, gold-bearing gravel. On the uncovered couch of the golden gravel foundations of the dam were laid. Selecting trees that stood in proper positions, the beavers gnawed them off close to the ground. Judging from the many beaver dams I have uncovered this summer, the animals thoroughly understood the art of felling timber. It is seldom that a tree bearing the marks of their teeth is found outside of the line of their dam. Trees forty feet long and a foot in diameter are not uncommon in these old works. The trees, when cut, fell into the trench. Muck and clay, bound together with coarse grass, were packed solidly into the around the lower logs, making a watertight foundation for the dam. The upper works were built of smaller trees, and, in the lower dams, pine boughs cunningly interwoven. The surface of the dam that was next the water was covered with a thick, compact layer of clay and muck. The absence of all deciduous woods in the lower dams is marked. The dam finished, the family were established in their home. Houses—rude mounds of sticks and clay—were built in the slack water. Being surrounded by water, they were safe from assaults of carnivorous animals during the summer, and, freezing solidly, they successfully resisted all attacks made on them during the winter. The beavers were safe. They reared their young. The family increased rapidly. More houses were built.

The mountain valley, though apparently level above the dam, actually had great inclination, and the slack water, though it extended from mountain flank to mountain flank across the valley, did not extend up it more than thirty or forty feet. As the years rolled by, coarse swamp grass and willows sprang into life around the edges of the water. Sand and earth, torn from the mountain sides by tiny streams of water, formed during the rainy periods, and when the snow melted were carried by the creek to the slack water of the dam and there deposited. Gradually—it must have taken many years—the first dam was filled up, and no longer afforded the beavers a safe home. Instead of raising the dam they cut a perpendicular slot in it, so as to drop the water. Moving up the stream to where the edge of the water was before they cut the dam, they dug another trench, sinking it to the bed rock. The wood of willow bushes appears in this section and dam, showing that this wood was established in the country at the time of the building of the second dam. The second works are always longer than the first and generally higher. Some of them are very extensive. One that I have often seen is 100 feet long and eight feet high, and though probably built many years ago, as great pine trees are now standing on it, as is as old as on the day it was finished. The dam completed and the houses built, the beavers were again established. Again the deposit of sand and earth shoaled them out of their houses. Again they moved up stream. This successive building of dams up the stream was carried on until the mouth of the canyon or gorge next above the upper dam forbade further operations. When the last dam was filled up, the formation of the park was complete. The beavers, having performed their part in Nature's plans, abandoned the park. Moving up stream to where another reef jutted across the valley, they resumed operations. It may be that several families of beavers entered the valley at about the same time, and selecting different reefs for building sites, the formation of the parks in the same valley was simultaneous; but I think not, as in many cases the upper dam of the upper park is still inhabited by beavers. It is noteworthy that the upper dam of a park abandoned by

beavers is generally intact, showing that the animals retained the uselessness of draining off the water, as they had no suitable ground on which to build another dam.

The works erected by the beavers resulted, in my opinion, in the formation of the mountain parks. As affecting the interests of the animals, it has been disastrous. They have been forced to migrate in search of other homes.

Revitalizing the blood is absolutely necessary for the cure of general debility, weakness, lassitude, etc. The best enricher of the blood is Brown's Iron Bitters!

How They Looked.

Detroit Free Press.  
 On the Jefferson avenue line the other day a man with an umbrella and woman with a basket were the only occupants of a car for several blocks. The man not only stared at her, but rested his umbrella on his chin and took a long look. She was at first nervous, then vexed, and by and by she cried out:

"Why do you stare at me in this rude manner?"

"I am not staring at you to be rude, madam, but simply to study you."

"Well, I want you to stop it."

"Certainly, madam; but I assure you that I was regarding you in the light of a piece of statuary."

"That's all right, sir, and I have been regarding you in the light of a baboon, but we'll both quit regarding or one of us will walk the rest of the way home!"

He turned his head and regarded the back end of the horse in the light of a beautiful landscape, but it didn't seem to really satisfy his artistic longings.

Never Give Up.  
 If you are suffering with low and depressed spirits, loss of appetite, general debility, disordered blood, weak constitution, headache, or any disease of a bilious nature, by all means procure a bottle of Electric Bitters. You will be surprised to see the rapid improvement that will follow; you will be inspired with new life; strength and activity will return; pain and misery will cease, and henceforth you will rejoice in the praise of Electric Bitters. Sold at fifty cents a bottle, by C. F. Goodman.



Mark This! Upon the condition of the stomach, liver, bowels, and the general health and vigor of the system, depends the success of all medicinal treatment. If these organs are inactive or in a state of irritation, the best of medicines will be of no avail. Tarrant's Seltzer Aperient is a remedy that will cure all these ailments. It is a purely vegetable preparation, and is sold by all druggists.

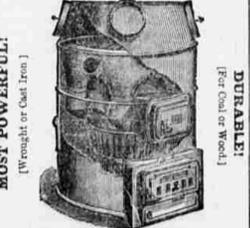
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health and avoid sickness. Instead of feeling tired and worn out, instead of aches and pains, wouldn't you rather feel fresh and strong?

You can continue feeling miserable and good for nothing, and no one but yourself can find fault, but if you are tired of that kind of life, you can change it if you choose.

How? By getting one bottle of BROWN'S IRON BITTERS, and taking it regularly according to directions.

Mansfield, Ohio, Nov. 26, 1881.  
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