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JAMES MCKANNA

FERRY WAY, Across from C. W. Young's Plumbing Shop

American Indian May Have Been First Man of World

[WASHINGTON STAR]

The original American, or the American aborigine, brown or bronze skinned, man sometimes called the "redskin," and to whom the name Indian came to be applied through a typographical error of the early explorers, has come in for a large measure of deep study at the hands of anthropologists, ethnologists and other scientific men.

One of the favorite explanations of the presence of this man on the continent we now call home is that the Indian is or was a Mongolian and came from Asia to the land called America, instead of crossing from Siberia by way of the Alutian Islands and Bering Strait and then journeying southward and eastward into his land of promise.

There are those men of scientific attainments who tenaciously hold to the opinion that the man we call an Indian never had any connection with Asia and is in no way related to the Mongols, the Tartars, the Chinese, or the Hottentots. The contention of these learned gentlemen is that the Indian was an Egyptian or a Carthaginian, or one of the races or peoples occupying those parts of the world, and that he crossed to this land in those remote ages when Atlantis, the fabled continent, which the classic authors blisted at lay between the shores of Africa and what is now known as the Eastern coast of America. He came this far to the West before three thousand or more miles of deep green salt sea rolled and boomed and glistened between the old world and the new.

And still there are other grave men who avow that our Indian came neither from Asia nor Africa, but that he came from Europe, and these gentlemen are divided among themselves into groups, one holding the opinion that he was a Gaul, another that he was a Welshman, another that he was

an Irishman. Perhaps one might find the Indian was a Greek, another that scholars and investigators who could give assurance that the American Indian was originally a Scotchman, an Englishman, a German or a Swede.

So many opinions are held by wise men as to the origin of the Indian that it is perhaps not unreasonable that there should be either confusion or indifference on this subject in the lay of the mind.

But the list of those men holding views as to the Indian's origin has not yet been exhausted. There is a combination of geologists and ethnologists who believed that the Indian—the man whom few Americans have honored and whom few do honor—was the original man. They believe that he was the first man of the earth. Among geologists are those who believe that this land which we call the new world, and sometimes the new continent, is the oldest land in the world. They believe that the first part of this continent to appear above the seas that surrounded the world was that part called the Laurentian hills, north of Lake Superior. The "old world" of Europe, Asia and Africa, had not then been poked its mountain tips above the all-encompassing flood. That was many, many, almost unthinkable ages ago.

At the recent meeting in Philadelphia of the Geological Society of America, one of the distinguished men of the United States geological survey read a paper in which he gave his opinion that the age of the earth is about 100,000,000 years. It is believed by some men that the first man appeared in that early land around Lake Superior and that the Indian is descended from that man. However, there are so many expert opinions as to the origin of the Indian that there is probably room for a few more.

DUNDONALD'S GREAT SECRET REVEALED

Several weeks ago The Empire contained an account of Lord Dundonald's great secret for the annihilation of an enemy. The following account from The People, a London newspaper, is the sequel of the story:

"From time to time during the last hundred years or so, everyone who has heard of Lord Dundonald's plan for the total annihilation of an enemy but the disclosure of the secret has been left to Lord Ellenborough, who, in his book, 'The Gull of Lord Cochrane in 1818,' gives details of the invention. In brief, the plan is death by suffocation from sulphurous fumes and is set out as follows as proposed for use in the Crimean War:

"Memorandum: 'Materials required from the expulsion of the Russians from Sebastopol: 'Experimental trials have shown that about five parts of coke effectively vaporize one part of sulphur. Mixtures for land service where weight is of importance may, however, probably be suggested by Prof. Faraday; as to operations on shore, I paid some little attention.

"Four or five hundred tons of sulphur and two thousand tons of coke would be sufficient.

"Besides these materials it would be necessary to have say as much bituminous coal and a couple of thousand barrels of gas, or other tar, for the purpose of making fortifications to be attacked or others that flank the assaulting positions.

"A quantity of dry firewood, chips, shavings, straw, hay, or other such combustible materials would be required for the kindling of fires, which ought to be kept in readiness for the first favorable steady breeze.

"Aug. 7, 1855.

"DUNDONALD.

Insurmountable Drawback

"Lord Ellenborough points out, how-

KUSKOKWIM IS NOT THE RIVER OF DOUBT

The Kuskokwim will no longer be Alaska's "river of doubt." The secretary of commerce announces that a field party of the coast and geodetic survey, after three years' labor, in the short season, has succeeded in charting a practicable navigable channel from Bering Sea well into its mouth. This is practical work for the opening of Alaska, while the Alaskians are waiting for the government at Wash-

SHINGLE MILL STARTS

The Wrangell Shingle Company started operation last Monday morning with a full crew. Manager F. E. Smith states that he has a good season before him and expects to keep the mill pounding until late in the fall.

With both mills starting this week, Wrangell is entering upon a good summer and prosperity is coming our way. (Wrangell Sentinel.)



Gambling By Any Other Name

In buying the necessities of life millions are lost, to the thousands lost in actual gambling. And this is so because the average person has a prejudice born of foolish pride or is prone to "take a chance."

In the matter of clothes, if a man be prejudiced in favor of the custom-tailor he will pay forty dollars for a suit no better than the high grade ready-to-wear suit at twenty-five. If prone to take a chance, he buys an ill-fitting, shoddy, "ready-made," simply because it is a few dollars cheaper than a suit of real intrinsic worth. There is a lesson in the economy that satisfies in

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ALASKA'S TRADE.

The report of the collector of customs for the district of Alaska for the calendar year 1914, recently transmitted to Washington, shows that the great northern country has not been materially affected by the depression elsewhere, although that depression did retard some important developments and reduced the price and production of copper and some fish products. Had it not been for this, the year's transactions would have been the largest in the history of Alaska. As it is, the showing is a great one. During the year Alaska's imports, the greater portion from the United States were valued at \$25,849,244, while its exports were valued at \$44,614,856. The total value of Alaska's commerce was greater than that of the year 1913, but slightly short of that of 1912.

Contrary to the impression which prevails elsewhere, the greatest value of Alaska's exports was not in gold. The exports of domestic gold and silver to the United States was but \$14,728,905, but little over one-third of the total exports of the territory. Its fisheries products alone are more valuable than the output of the mines of Alaska.

Considering how little had been done for the protection of vessels engaged in Alaska's trade, it is worthy of more than passing note that during the year 805 vessels entered and 810 cleared in the domestic trade of Alaska and 378 entered and 349 cleared in the foreign trade, making a total of 1,183 vessels entered at the custom house. These vessels during this year carried just short of 50,000 passengers. Here is a commerce of \$76,464,100 in annual value, employing nearly 1,200 vessels, carrying 50,000 passengers or the protection of which Congress refuses to make appropriations at all adequate to the needs, notwithstanding the urgent appeals made by the Department of Commerce. (Seattle Post-Intelligencer.)

MYTH OF THE BURNED WITCHES

Paying its respects to the "New England conscience" as "a ghost that will not down," the Herald revives a myth that will not down when it says, "At such wholesale sport as with burning the New England conscience was never known to shy."

There were a score or so of individuals lashed in connection with the Salem witchcraft delusion, but none was burned. Yet the popular tradition persists, and no doubt will live on when even Gull-we-Hill itself is forgotten. Trevelyan said in substance that though a mistake of history may die out, if it has survived a hundred years it can never be corrected. Probably all the documentary proof to the contrary has not served to correct this particular myth in more than two centuries, and doubtless it will

be believed while the sacred cod hangs in the State House at Boston. In no branch of historical research has there lately been more painstaking work than in dispelling the inaccuracies of "popular" history—in giving new certificates of character to Nero, muckraking the Fathers of the Republic and removing the haloes from the great. Yet, the more the record is set straight, the more the old myths endure. (New York World)

GOO GOO!

(Chicago News.)
There's a great difference in the last words of famous men; but their first words are all about the same.

IT WOULD SEEM EASY.

(Chicago Herald.)
There shouldn't be any trouble establishing a popular government in Mexico, considering the sort of government that seems to be the most popular in that country.

QUALIFIED.

(Chicago Herald.)
The British control of the sea is at present a monopoly tempered by submarines.

For first class tailoring go to F. Wolland, Third St., second door from the Post Office. Besides carrying the largest stock of woollens and tailors' trimmings he has the best equipped tailor shop and employs the best of workmen. As for styles of fashion he keeps the most popular and highest in the Sartorial Art Calendar.
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