

## SEASONABLE RECIPES.

**Jumbles.**—2 cups of sugar, 2 eggs, 1 cup of butter, 2 tablespoonfuls of sour milk, scant half a teaspoonful of selenites.

**Grease Spots.**—To remove grease spots from worsted or woolen goods, rub with dry magnesia and a woolen cloth.

**Light Pudding.**—1 quart of milk, 3 eggs, 6 tablespoonfuls of flour, and a little salt.

**Flour Pudding.**—1 quart of milk, 6 eggs, 8 tablespoonfuls of flour, and a little salt; bake half brown.

**Crullers.**—2 cups of sugar, 1 of sour milk, 3 eggs, 1 teaspoonful of selenites, 3 tablespoonfuls of melted butter.

**Soda Cake.**—1 cup of sugar, 1 tablespoonful of butter, 1 cup of sweet milk, 2 eggs, 1 pint of flour, 1/2 teaspoonfuls of baking-powder.

**Soda Biscuit.**—1 quart of flour, 1 cup of butter and lard mixed, 1 teaspoonful of salt, 3 teaspoonfuls of baking-powder; mix with enough milk to make soft enough to roll out.

**Mush.**—Stir corn-meal, mixed to a paste with cold water and salted, into a pot of boiling water; add more meal if not thick enough; boil an hour, stirring frequently to prevent lumpiness; serve hot, and eat with cold milk.

**Potato Feast.**—Grate 6 good-sized potatoes; add 1 cup of salt, 2 cups of sugar, and 5 quarts of boiling water; simmer together till the potatoes are thoroughly cooked, and stir the mixture frequently while cooking, to prevent burning. When cool, stir in one cup of yeast; leave it in an open vessel till it rises, and then put it in a jug or stone jar, and keep it close. This will keep even in hot weather.

**Fricassee Beef.**—Take any piece of beef from the fore-quarter, such as is generally used for corned, and cook it tender in just sufficient water to have it all evaporate in cooking. When about half done, put in salt enough to season it well, and half a teaspoonful of pepper. If the water should not be done out soon enough, turn it off and let the beef fry 15 minutes, turning it often. It is very good, and preferred by some of the best roast beef. Make the gravy of the water turned off, or add water from the teakettle and one or two tablespoonfuls of flour. Serve with vegetables and salad, or apple-sauce.

## Some Extinct American Animals.

When the theory of evolution began to displace the old theory of specific creation, its opponents were wont to call triumphantly for missing links. If species are the result of gradual development by progressive variation, they said, we ought to find an abundance of intermediate forms; where are they?

The advocates of evolution could only reply: They will appear when sought for. Darwin even ventured the prophecy that in course of time links would be found connecting the extremely specialized one-toed horse with the normal four and five-toed mammals. The readers of the *Scientific American* know how completely the prophecy has been fulfilled in the numerous and increasingly specialized horse-like creatures which roamed over our Western plains during the tertiary period of geology. At the beginning of the period the four-toed orohippus was most like the horse that was to be, though it exhibited many unhorselike characteristics. From that time down to the present the chain of development is complete, the precursors of the horse steadily growing more and more horselike in head, and foot, and general structure of body and limb. In the middle tertiary, the mesohippus had but three toes, a slender splint of bone being the only vestige of the lost toe; and in the mihippus the splint had vanished. Later the three nearly equal toes of the mihippus had become three very unequal toes in the hippian, the large middle toe being the main if not the entire support of the animal. At the close of the period, the prevailing form was a true horse, in which the dwindled and useless side toes of the hippian had ceased to exist as toes, appearing only as slender splints under the skin. In the modern horse these splints are sometimes seen, attesting its relationship with the horses of prehistoric times.

Similar, if not positive, evidence of evolution is borne by the remains of tapirs, rhinoceroses, and other hoofed animals. In eocene times the most prominent of the unequaled-toed ungulates were the hyracoid and the paleohippus, the former allied to the lophiodons and tapirs, the latter to the paleotheriums of the European tertiary. Both these families embraced animals varying in size from a small rhinoceros to a peccary. In the miocene period, these families attained a great development in form, variety and size; the group became more distinctly separated from each other, and some of them possessed remarkably specialized character. There were, however, no true tapirs, which afterwards became so numerous. The ascendant forms of this period were rhinoeocerids, represented by the dicroideratid, with its pair of horns side by side on the nose, and the very interesting genus *hyracodon*, which furnishes a connecting link between the paleotheroid animals of the eocene and the true rhinoceroses of the miocene. The miocene period also produces several species of a more perfect rhinoceros, still hornless. But more remarkable than any of these, indeed in some respects the most remarkable of all the animals brought to light in the strata of the West, were a number of species of grotesque appearance and gigantic size, resembling the existing rhinoceros in general appearance, but larger, some

of them approaching the elephant in size and length of limb. They have been named titanotheriums, brontotheriums, and samburidons, and appear to have died out during the miocene epoch. While they lived they must have played the part of the then extinct *untherium* of the eocene (of which more directly), and that afterwards filled by the mastodons and elephants of later ages.

Very interesting evidence of evolution is also furnished by the equal-toed hooved animals, represented now by pigs, hippopotami, camels, chevrotains, deer, antelopes, sheep and oxen. Their remains appear but sparingly during the miocene period, but become abundant in the miocene. During this period the first mentioned family were represented chiefly by huge swine-like creatures, some of which approached the hippopotamus in size. There was also an allied four-toed form, more like true pigs; but all the species were of the peccary type. The sole existing survivor of the form on this continent is the South American peccary, apparently an unmodified remnant of the old miocene fauna.

A much more remarkable family was the oreodontidae, which began in the later eocene, extended through the miocene, when they swarmed enormously, dying out in the early miocene. In nearly all points of structure, they were intermediate between ruminants and swine, furnishing a complete line of transition between those now widely separated groups. Their remains are found in great abundance, both in species and individuals; and a gradual modification, corresponding with the chronological position, can be traced from the earlier, more generalized forms to the latest and most specialized; thus affording one of the most complete chains of evidence yet found in favor of a progressive alteration of form, not only of specific but of generic importance, through advancing ages.

Exceedingly suggestive, too, is the history of the camelidae as exhibited in our tertiary strata. Here was apparently the original home of this singular group, now represented only by the llamas of South America, and the two camels of the old world. During the middle and later tertiary ages, transitional forms from the more generalized ruminants—animals increasingly camel-like and llama-like in character—were abundant in North America, whence they probably migrated during the glacial epoch to the present homes of the existing members of the family, along with the horses, tapirs, and peccaries, which disappeared from this country about that time.

Not less interesting is the story told by the remains of these unique miocene monsters to which the names titanotherium, uintatherium, dinocera, loxodon, and eobasileus have been given: huge creatures intermediate between the orders represented by the rhinoceros and the elephant. Professor Flower compares them to broken piers of the bridge by which the gulf, that now so completely divides the orders of the perissodactyle ungulates and the proboscidea, may have been passed over. They were all elephant-like in bulk and general appearance, yet presented a combination of characters which made them unlike any thing elsewhere known. Their feet were five-toed, their legs straight and massive; their necks longer than the elephant's, and their skulls broad, narrow head much more like the rhinoceros's than the elephant's. But their distinguished peculiarity was their frontal armament of three pairs of horns, which, with their enormous size and strength, must have made them formidable indeed. Their end is yet a mystery. It has been suggested that at the close of the miocene period they may have migrated to Asia to lay the foundation of that family which first appears in the old world under the more familiar forms of the typical proboscideans—the elephants, mastodons, and mammoths. None of these appear in America earlier than the miocene period, a long time after they had become abundant in the old world.

Among the carnivora which preyed upon the abundant herbivorous fauna of the great plains, forests, and lake regions of the tertiary ages, not a few furnish extremely cogent evidence of specific evolution. There were among them fierce creatures, larger than wolves (*synaptotherium* and *mesonyx*) which presented such a combination of characters that it is impossible to rank them with either of the existing families of the order to which they belong. In some respects they were like dogs, in others they were bear-like; in still others they were more generalized than any existing members of the order. Then there were several species of *hyena*, some larger than any of the European forms, and others no larger than a fox; "the last survivors of a group notably differing from any now known." In the character of their skulls they stand intermediate between wolves and opossums. In the earlier periods, still more generalized types abounded, some of them combining the generic characteristics of half a dozen of our specialized modern carnivora.

Perhaps the most remarkable of these comprehensive types was the tillo-dontids, which seem to have combined the characteristics of several distinct groups, the carnivores, the hooved animals, and the rodents. Some of them were as large as the tapir. Their molar teeth were of the ungulate type, their canines small, their incisors rodent-like. Their heads were bear-like, their general structure like that of the ungulates, their feet plantigrade. Two distinct forms abounded: one in which the incisors grew from persistent pulp, like

the beaver's, the other having all the teeth rootless.

The dominant types of tertiary flesh-eaters, however, were various modifications of felids, fierce cats, some of them surpassing our modern lions and tigers in size and strength. Chief among them in the miocene age were the saber-toothed tigers, which seem to have overrun the whole world about that time, and to have lingered in some parts until the human period. It is one of the puzzles of paleontology to account for the extinction of this highly specialized type, apparently the fittest of all the cat family to win in the struggle for existence. Happily for man they did not survive in force to contest his progress toward the mastery of the earth. —*Scientific American.*

## A Black Hills Incident.

You remember Isaac Spencer Parsons, a fellow of infinite mirth and jollity. He had enlisted in the Wyandotte Rangers, and yesterday he went out from the fort on a private foraging expedition. This morning his mangled remains were brought in. His body was found in a piece of dead wood about five miles from camp. He had been shot and scalped by the Indians, his ears cut off, and his body otherwise horribly mutilated. But when you tell the story of his death, tell also that he died as an American should—with his face to the foe. And nigh him was found the evidence that he had sold his life dearly, and before he had been overpowered he had sent two of his assailants to the happy hunting grounds. Poor Spencer's rifle and pistol had been taken and his body stripped by the pensioners on Uncle Sam's bounty. —*Cor. Troy (N. Y.) Press.*

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