

## LIFE IN 6000 B. C.

### FACTS FROM VERY ANCIENT TOMBS OPENED IN EGYPT.

The Habits of People Then Very Different from What They Are Now—Nursing Bottles Were Used and Vanity Was Felt—The Oldest Plank in the World.

How long has man been on earth? The answer to this question is being modified by every turn of the explorer's spade. The expedition sent out by the University of Pennsylvania, which has been at work at Nuffer, has through Prof. Hilprecht, its Assyriologist, set the date of 6000 or 7000 B. C. on some of the monuments discovered. Now comes M. E. Amelineau to re-enforce these dates by discoveries in prehistoric Egypt.

In the jars and vases of these old tombs Amelineau has found various cereals, like wheat and rye, proving the agricultural tastes of these people. Date stones are excellent evidence that the date palm was even then appreciated for its food products. Nor were these pre-historic people vegetarians, for if they were why should there be the bones of oxen and the horns of the gazelle in their tombs?

It is almost possible to trace the development of civilization step by step through these remains, for here are earthen plates so rudely shaped as to prove that the potter's wheel, one of the first inventions of primitive man, the world over, was not yet known. Then come other plates and pots and jugs just as surely turned on that very useful machine, showing the next step upward. The following evolution of inventive genius shows itself in the more elaborate pottery, and the use of metals for making rude tools. Hard stone was now cut and shaped, flint, onyx and rock crystal jars and vases were made with such art that their highly polished surfaces astonish the modern discoverer. It seems as if the use of the diamond or some other hard substance must have been known by the people who hollowed out some of these vases, on the inside of which are still to be seen the marks of the cutting implements. It was found that some of the tombs were paved with a kind of rose-colored marble, not native to Egypt, and therefore this must have been imported from some distant country, showing that the men of that time traveled and believed in imported goods much as we do.

From such a stage the perfection of the workmanship and the care displayed in ornamentation increase constantly. The primitive geometrical designs on the earliest pottery give way to drawings from life, and there are representations of ostriches so lifelike as to be easily recognized; a carving of a duck in hard schist in which the shading of the plumage is brought out, and a carving of a bird in the same hard material, where the lines of the feathers are defined. As to wood carving, these old artists were experts. They took the ebony which they had to import and carved perfect statues of men or of Nubian women, which can be identified as such by the low forehead, angular face, small eyes, prominent cheekbones, large mouth, thick lips, and hair parted into a number of tresses. Here is a frog carved out of diorite, as unmistakable as if it had been done by a modern artist.

The men and women were alike fond of personal adornment, for beads of coral, amethyst, emerald and rock crystal, all pierced for stringing, the strings having long since rotted away, were found in large numbers. Here too were ivory and wooden instruments with which the eyelids and brows were colored red or black to make the eyes appear larger.

The furniture was only found in bits for the wood-work had generally rotted away and all that remained was the ivory legs of sofas—the most remarkable finds made. These were so large that it is certain they must have been made of the tusks of the hippopotamus. That this animal was hunted by the early Egyptians is well established by wall paintings, but the proof furnished by the finding of their tusks is far more conclusive, carrying the custom back several centuries. The manner in which these legs are carved to represent the legs of oxen is one of the marvels of all who have had the good fortune to see them.

The work of the jewellers of this early age is by no means primitive, for there are bronze bracelets, cunningly turned into serpents, alloys of silver and gold, copper and brass, and other tools of the earlier stage when pure copper was used. To illustrate how near skin mankind has been through these myriads of years it is only necessary to mention the discovery in one of the tombs of what must have served as a baby's nursing bottle in the long ago. It was an earthen vase, with a hole in the side into which a bit of cloth might be inserted that the baby might draw his milk from the vase. The tombs are primitively constructed, some of the walls being so irregular that it is to be doubted whether the plumb line was then known. But, nevertheless, the interiors of the tombs were most interesting. Some of them were so short that it was evident that no human body could have been laid here at full length, and the explanation was forthcoming when at last in a tomb which no vandal Arab had reached, a body was found all curled up and surrounded with earthenware pots containing food, ointments, etc. Of course, there was no thought then of embalming, and it was entirely due to the dryness of the soil that the body had been preserved at all. In the tomb of the Pharaoh whose name was indicated by a serpent, it was found that there were a number of adjoining chambers, probably intended for the bodies of his wives or of his prominent court officials. The tomb of one of these, by name Nebnoter, "good master," a royal scribe, was among those found. The floor of this tomb was made of heavy gneiss planks, which may well stand as the oldest plank in the world, being some 3,000 and odd years old, as well as can be estimated.

## CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

Mr. Hiram S. Maxim, the inventor, has given his American birthright for a British naturalization certificate.

It is asserted by authorities that Chicago has more rats in proportion to its size than any other city on earth.

A prize fighter is in his prime at 20 to 25 years of age.

A Kansas City woman has brought suit for breach of promise of marriage against her divorced husband, who courted her for a second time.

Since the foundation of the Legal Aid Association in New York 90,000 people, victimized by their fellows have sought and found justice through its efforts.

Pensioners were granted to soldiers in the Spanish war than was expected, the number being 295. There are now 991,519 names of pensioners on the rolls.

Three places at least are known where green snow is found. One of these is near Mt. Heccla, Iceland; another 14 miles east of the mouth of the Obi; and the third near Quito, South America.

Whales' teeth form the coils of the Fiji Islands. They are painted white and red, the red teeth being worth about 20 times as much as the white.

The sword blades forged at Toledo by the Saracens could be coiled up like a clock spring and would resume perfect straightness as soon as released.

It is now proposed to construct a canal connecting Germany with Europe Turkey. The financial success of the Kiel canal has given rise to this project.

In Buffalo a planer is in operation which at each cut removes a shaving full twelve inches wide from solid cast-iron. The knife is between twelve and thirteen inches wide.

In 1877 the number of students at the universities of Italy was under 9,000. This year it is nearly 26,000, or more, in proportion to the population, than Germany or France can boast.

The Glasgow Town Council has awarded a contract for electric traction engines to an American company solely on the ground of an earlier delivery than could be promised in Great Britain.

The Salt Lake (Utah) Herald says that the Mormon church revenues from tithes alone are \$900,000 a year. One third of the amount being cash and two-thirds produce.

An Italian company has asked the Pope's permission to put the vintage of the Vatican gardens into the market as "Leo Wine" at a high price. The Pope, of course, refused his consent.

People who are susceptible to the cold should make a point of wearing loose clothing in cold weather. Loose garments are always warmer than tight-fitting ones, not only because they allow room for circulation, but because they permit a layer of air between the skin and the outside world.

Ice skates can be changed into roller skates by a Washington man's patent, comprising arms for attachment by bolts to the front and rear of the runner, with wheels journaled in the arms, the front wheel being carried by a head which permits it to turn like the front wheel of a bicycle.

The city of Lima and the city of Cordoba, in the Argentine Republic, both claim the honor of having the first printing press in the New World, and both of them were probably established about the same date by the Jesuit missionaries.

Electric capsules is one of the latest inventions. A combination of chemicals has been invented, which, according to the company that manufactures it, a three-grain capsule of it, put into an ordinary battery cell, will yield enough electricity to run a 16-candle power incandescent light for one hour.

The garments of workers in powder mills are pocketless, so that they cannot carry knives or matches, or, indeed, anything, and are made of non-inflammable material. No one is allowed to go about with trousers turned up at the bottom, because dirt is collected in that way, and the merest hard speck is dangerous.

Recently an automobile made the ascent of Mount Washington for the first time. The distance of ten miles from the Pinkham Notch to the summit was covered in two hours and ten minutes, which included delays in replenishing the water tank. This is less than half the time required by carriages drawn by horses.

The Manila Times says that a restaurant in that city which should be run on the American system and where one could get a decent meal without fear of being sickened by a mixture of flies, cockroaches, oil and other abominations, and for a reasonable price, ought to be a little gold mine to an enterprising man.

By staying away from the building yards women aid in the making of ships. No feminine visitors are allowed to go through the Cramp's yard in Philadelphia because every time a woman passes through the shops every one of the 7,000 workmen raises his eyes from his work, and in one minute one man's work for a fortnight is lost to his employers.

A Chicago man who wanted some money to pay his workmen on Saturday night found he had no paper on which to write a check. He wrote a check on a shingle using a big marking pencil, and the check was cashed for \$800.

At a recent flower show in England some sweet pea vines were exhibited which were grown from seed taken from the tomb of an Egyptian mummy buried some 2,600 years ago. The blossoms were of a delicate pink and white and were less than the ordinary size.

Solstol is an enthusiastic cyclist. He declares that he has to thank his bicycle and his vegetarian diet for the robust health which he still enjoys at the age of seventy. Twenty years ago a celebrated Russian physician advised Tolstol to avoid too much muscular exercise, but the patient was obstinate, and did exactly the contrary. He has ever been a lover of sports and remains in the best of health.

## AN IDLE HOUR.

Have you ever observed at a theatre or concert that the people who are most deeply interested appear between the acts to be quite weary of the whole thing, yawning half a dozen times in succession? The reason of this is a physiological one. When your attention is much absorbed in anything exciting or touching, you breathe in a very shallow manner, and take into your lungs only half enough air. Consequently, when your attention is relaxed, you have to make up the deficiency. This you do by yawning, which, after all, is only breathing a very deep breath. If you watch a man at a play, and observe that he is greatly moved by some incident, you may feel sure that when the scene ends he will sigh, and a moment or two later yawn repeatedly. Of course the yawning, so far from being a sign of weariness, is a proof of the liveliest appreciation.

The most expensive material ever produced for a dress was that purchased by the German Empress last year from Lyons. It was white silk brocade, having flowers birds and foliage in relief, and cost \$125 a yard, the actual value of the raw silk, it is said, being \$100. The Empress was so struck with its beauty that she had not the heart to cut it up and it was eventually turned into curtains. The price paid for the material is about double as much as the famous cloth of gold that Louis XIV. had made into a dressing gown.

Any poor child who likes to present himself or herself at the gate of the Royal Palace at Madrid at 6 o'clock in the evening can have a bowl of porridge. This custom originated through the young king having been detained in a remote district, owing to a breakdown of the engine. He became hungry, but no food was obtainable; his mother improved the occasion by telling him that many a poor child had to go to bed hungry, which so impressed the youngster that he urged his mother to institute this charity.

Holland's young Queen has a decided fondness for pretty clothes. A large assortment of dress goods was sent to the palace the other day, and the mother proceeded to choose for the Queen some alpaca and plain material; but Wilhelmina flatly refused to abide by the selection, and chose figured silks and brilliant dress materials, even for morning wear. She said that her loving parent might make use of the plain stuff if she liked them, but she wanted something prettier.

The Rev. John Watson (Ian MacLaren) told the following story in the course of a lecture of his recent visit to America. An illiterate negro preacher said to his congregation: "My brethren, when de fust man, Adam, was made, he was made of wet clay, and set up agin de palings to dry." "Do you say," said one of the congregation, "dat Adam was made of wet clay, an' set up agin de palings to dry?" "Yes, sar, I do." "Who made de palings?" "Sit down, sar," said the preacher sternly. "Such questions be dat would upset any system of theology."

## HERE AND THERE

The population of Jerusalem is 48,000. Of these 28,000 are Hebrews. More than 2,000 varieties of orchids are now under cultivation in Europe.

Twenty-five Chinese pupils are enrolled in the Chicago public schools.

The postal money order business between the United States and Canada amounts to \$50,000 a week.

Europe, with a population of over 385,400,000, has over 21,000,000 men ready for her armies in case of war.

London schools during the past summer sent numbers of boys and girls to the public baths to learn swimming.

To-day more than eighty per cent. of the cost of running this government is caused by wars, past, present and prospective.

There are in use 1,500,000 railroad cars, and the total car wheels in use aggregate 12,000,000. They represent about 3,600,000 tons of iron.

In the grammar schools in Chicago the sexes are about even in numbers, but in the high schools the proportion is about three girls to one boy.

Plans are forming for the amalgamation of twenty-six North of Ireland hotels on the plan of the Gordon hotels, an English consolidation of some years' standing.

January and October of the same year always begin with the same day. So do April and July, also September and December. February, March and November also begin with the same day.

An artist residing in Florence, Robert Davidson, has discovered the oldest known caricature of a light between knights. It is dated 1320, and was found on the inside cover of a manuscript.

Litchfield, Minn., is one of the points of supply for frogs for the markets in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago. The local newspaper says proudly that the shipment of frogs from Litchfield the past season has been "enormous."

The curves at Linberg, W. Va., on the second division of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, are being removed and replaced with a tangent, thus eliminating about twenty-four degrees of curvature. About 14,000 cubic yard of material will be excavated.

Mrs. Cornelia Anderson, a poet who lives at Cumberland, Md., has a very handsome black cat named Sebastian. Mrs. Anderson has had Sebastian's ears pierced and in each one he wears a valuable diamond. It is needless to say that the cat is carefully looked after by the poet.

Dampness has ruined the tomb of President Garfield, in Lakewood cemetery, Cleveland, and the structure will have to be entirely rebuilt.

The blind, hearing and slave all belong to the same family.

## BANK DON'TS.

The Lincoln National Bank of New York furnishes a list of "Don'ts," as follows:

"Don't draw a check unless you have the money in the bank or in your possession to deposit."

"Don't test the courage and generosity of your bank by presenting or allowing to be presented, your checks for a larger sum than your balance."

"Don't draw a check and send it to a person out of the city, expecting to make it good before it can possibly get back; sometimes telegraphic advice is asked about such checks."

"Don't exchange checks with anybody; this is called 'kiting' and is soon discovered by your bank. It does your friend no good and discredits you."

"Don't quarrel with the teller because he does not pay you in money exactly as you wish; as a rule he does the best he can. In all your intercourse with the bank officers treat them with the same courtesy and candor that you would expect and desire if the situations were reversed."

"Don't give your check to a stranger. This is an open door to fraud, and if the bank loses through you it will not feel kindly toward you. When you send your check out of the city to pay bills write the name and residence of your payee thus: 'Pay to John Jones & Co., of Boston.' This will put your bank on guard if presented at the counter."

"Don't commit the folly of supposing that because you trust the bank with money the bank ought to trust you by paying your overdrafts."

"Don't suppose you can behave badly in one bank and stand well with the others. Remember, there is a clearing house."

"Don't think it is unreasonable if your bank declines to discount an accommodation note. If you want an accommodation note discounted, tell your bank frankly that it is not, in their definition, a business note."

## RANDOM COMMENT

A policeman doesn't seem to be so important after all when you get to know him.

For your house windows use kerosene for polishing. Nothing else will make them shine so brightly.

When the doctors in consultation on the case belong to two or three different schools the patient generally has a fighting chance to recover.

All street railway companies operating in the city of New York are required by law to run at least one closed car in every four at all seasons of the year.

From criminal statistics a German sociologist has decided that property rights of all kinds are respected more generally by married than by the single.

One of the most prominent lawyers of Oklahoma City is Laura Lykins, a half-blood Shawnee woman, who was graduated from the legal department of the Carlisle Indian School in 1911.

A Topeka (Kan.) man found in his garret the other day a pamphlet, which among other curious things, contained this paragraph: "Westward of the Missouri River this side of the Rocky Mountains is a great desert, uninhabited by civilized society, where there is neither law nor gospel." How the writer of that sentence would stare at alive, and go to view this "desert."

Overrun with rats, the city of Copenhagen, Denmark, is trying to reduce the pest by offering a small bounty on each rat brought to the morgue. In the first week 6,094 were officially recorded as killed; the number grew to 6,316 in the second week, and to 6,740 in the third. When the weekly slaughter reaches 10,000 it is thought some impression will begin to be made on the army of rodents. Meantime rat catching is a popular and lucrative sport with the youth of the town.

## FEMININE OBSERVER.

When a man continually prates of his own ability to withstand the banishments of the fair sex we are forcibly reminded of the fact that the building warranted fireproof is generally the first one to burn.

The woman who is always grumbling over little things never has any attention paid to her when she has a real grievance.

When we are not paying a man to cut grass or rake up leaves we are paying him to shovel snow.

There will never be the romance about eloping in an automobile that there has been when a played-out horse and an irate father made a harrowing combination.

No matter how base a woman pretends to be she is bound to experience a feeling of pleasurable excitement when she raises the first layer of tissue paper from the something in the box sent by express.

## WOMANKIND

A cup has to be too small to drink out of before the women will admit that it is pretty.

After a girl marries she begins to yawn in company without seeming to be very much ashamed of it.

After a girl passes seventeen she begins to lose her angelic look and become human.

The women pay too much attention to thinning up their voices in sweetness for the telephone and not enough to brevity.

It is estimated that some women walk five miles a day in going to the corner with departing guests. She has so much of it to do that she has been compelled to abandon her custom of walking to the front gate with her husband.

When a woman comes downtown looking particularly worried, you can't tell whether she is dreading to go to the dentist and have a tooth pulled or dreading the ordeal of taking a bath when a fire one suits her better.

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