

Publication of the Carnegie Museum: Serial No. 43

THE CARNEGIE MUSEUM
PITTSBURGH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1906

1906

tons were recovered, in many cases material enough being supplied, it is believed, to enable us to set up in their entirety the skeletons of various species of extinct ungulates and carnivores. A paper upon this quarry, from the pen of Mr. O. A. Peterson, appeared in the last issue of the Annals.

Dr. Percy E. Raymond, from March the 15th until July the 1st, assisted Professor Schuchert of Yale University, during that time taking charge of the classes in historical geology formerly conducted by the late Professor C. E. Beecher. During his stay at Yale he was enabled to pursue certain investigations, which could not be carried on in Pittsburgh, owing to lack of the necessary literature. In the middle of July Dr. Raymond and Mr. Earl Douglass went to the West and undertook extensive explorations in Minnesota, Dakota, and Montana, returning very late in the fall. They devoted much of their time to the study of the geological formations of the regions which they visited. The collections made by Mr. Earl Douglass contain a great many vertebrates of interest. Those made by Dr. Raymond are rich in invertebrates and are calculated to throw a great deal of light upon the relations which subsist between the geological formations of the western and the eastern parts of the continent. The work in the field has been supplemented by a great deal of work in the laboratories, which of course has been carried on under the most difficult conditions, because of lack of room and proper appliances in the temporary quarters which are fitted up in the basement of the new building. Some important specimens collected in former years have been freed from the matrix. During the last months Mr. Arthur Coggeshall and his assistants have been engaged in preparing a framework upon which to mount the skeleton of the Diplodocus. A replica of this skeleton was in the spring of the year mounted at the British Museum of Natural History, and on May the 12th it was formally presented to the Trustees of the British Museum by Mr. Carnegie, the occasion being made notable by the gathering of two or three hundred scientific men to witness the unveiling of the reproduction of this great dinosaur. Full accounts of this event were published in the various journals of the day and in the scientific magazines, and it is not necessary in this connection for the

Director to allude further to the occasion. By a strenuous effort we hope to be able to have the original skeleton of the *Diplodocus* mounted in the place which has been assigned to it in the Hall of Paleontology by the first of November of the present year. The work of mounting the original specimen, owing to the great weight of the bones and their extreme brittleness, is a far more difficult task than the work of mounting the replica which is now in the British Museum. In the latter case, the replica being quite light, we had to deal with weights which could be estimated in hundreds of pounds; in the case of the original we are dealing with tons. In order to avoid unsightliness through an excessive multiplication of iron supports, Mr. Coggeshall has planned a system for supporting these huge bones upon steel castings, which are strong and at the same time light. The amount of metal appearing to the eye is reduced to a minimum, and we hope by resorting to the new devices which have been evolved in our thought to present a mount which in graceful appearance and at the same time in solidity of structure will surpass anything which has as yet been attempted along these lines.

To the Trustees of the British Museum we are deeply indebted for the gift of a number of reproductions of types of rare species contained in the Natural History Museum at South Kensington.

The Director, owing to the embarrassment which was experienced in dealing with our collections, because much that we possess has been necessarily stored out of sight, resolved to accord to a number of the gentlemen connected with our working force the privilege of preparing scientific papers upon matters with which they are more or less familiar. A number of excellent papers by several gentlemen connected with the staff have been prepared and published, or are in progress of preparation and will shortly be published.

SECTION OF COMPARATIVE ANATOMY AND ZOÖLOGY.

Considerable work has been accomplished by Mr. Townsend in cleaning and preparing for mounting a number of skeletons which we possess. It is the hope of the Director in the