

Grasping Reality with Both Hands

The weblog
of Brad DeLong. Since 1999.
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Briefly Noted for 2020-09-12

Ghouls. Ghouls all the way down: **Xeni Jardin**: *Herman Cain, Who Died of Covid-19, Tweets 'pe Virus Is Not as Deadly' as Believed* <https://boingboing.net/2020/08/31/herman-cain-who-died-of-covid.html>: ‘@THEHermanCain: "It looks like the virus is not as deadly as the mainstream media first made it out to be. 08:49 8/31/20..." Herman Cain died of COVID-19. That's it. That's the blog post...

The StoryGraph Beta <https://beta.thestorygraph.com/>

Wikipedia: *Henry Bartle Frere* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Bartle_Frere#Outbreak_of_Zulu_and_Boer_Wars...

Wikipedia: *Annette Gordon-Reed* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annette_Gordon-Reed...

Wikipedia: *History of Grand Central Terminal* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Grand_Central_Terminal#Grand_Central_Depot...

Fire in California: *Fire Activity Map* <https://ucanr.edu/sites/fire/Safety/Current/...>

All Turtles <https://medium.all-turtles.com/...>

Economic History Association: *Conference Program and Papers* <https://eh.net/eha/conference-program-and-papers-4/>
...

Plus:

Buce: *The Luckiest Horse in the Fifth Millennium BCE* <https://underbelly-buce.blogspot.com/2008/08/luckiest-horse-in-fifth-millennium-bce.html>: ‘David W. Anthony... *The Horse, the Wheel, and Language*.... he date is about 4800 BCE; the place is in what he chooses to call “the Pontic-Caspian steppes,” just above the Caspian Sea. The “why” is interesting: apparently not for riding, but for food—horses were big and meaty and could live over the winter in cold climates (riding came later). AS to “how,” the flip answer is “it wasn’t easy,” which is not surprising when you stop to think of it: horses—or, more precisely, stallions—are a notoriously tricky lot and they wouldn’t take kindly to being stabled or hobbled or slapped into harness. But as to precisely how, the DNA evidence provides a remarkable clue.... "the male aspect of modern horse DNA, which is passed unchanged on the Y chromosome from sire to colt, shows remarkable homogeneity. It is possible that just a single wild stallion was domesticated.... [A] relatively docile and controllable stallion was an unusual individual—and one that had little hope of reproducing in the wild. Horse domestication might have depended on a lucky coincidence: the appearance of a relatively manageable and docile male in a place where humans could use him as a breeder of a domesticated bloodline. From the horse’s perspective, humans were the only way he could get a girl. From the human perspective, he was the only sire they wanted..." So here’s to you, Mr. Lucky, the granddaddy of them all...

.#brieflynoted #noted #2020-09-12

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