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HUGE ARMORED CREATURE OF PREHISTORIC TIMES INSTALLED IN GRAHAM HALL

By ELMER S. RIGGS

Associate Curator of Paleontology

The fossil skeleton of a strange prehistoric animal, designated by the scientific name *Eleutherocercus*, was added last month to the exhibits in Ernest R. Graham Hall (Hall 38). This animal is related to the armadillo family, and its kind are often called the "giant armadillos" as well as by the name glyptodonts. Its striking feature is the bony armament which covered body, head and tail. Although armored like a battle-tank for defence, the creature was doubtless quite inoffensive in its habits. Members of the family were common in South America from forty million years ago to within the last few thousand years.

An innovation in connection with this exhibit is a miniature restoration in half relief, modeled by Mr. Phil C. Orr of the Museum staff, who also assembled the skeleton. This model, one-fourth natural size, shows the animal as it must have appeared in life.

The skeleton of this glyptodont was discovered and excavated in Argentina by the Marshall Field Paleontological Expedition, led by the writer. The animal was more than ten feet long, and in addition to the great shell which covered its body, had a helmet to protect its head, and a heavy sheathing composed partly of overlapping rings over its tail. The tail was a mobile

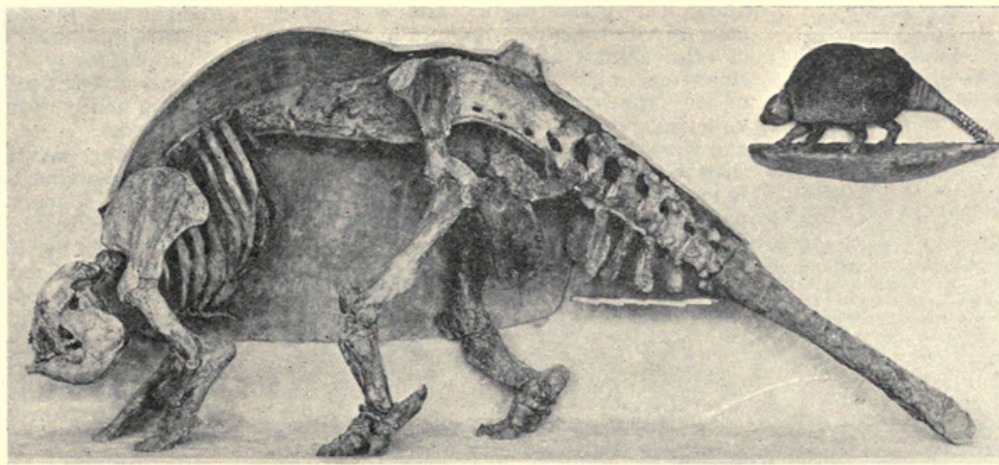
fighting equipment, the animal apparently was peaceful and unaggressive, and was thus armed purely for protection against predacious creatures. The front feet each had four toes, and the hind feet three. Each toe was covered with a short blunt hoof.

Eleutherocercus fed upon plants, grinding them up between rows of prismatic teeth. It had no tusks or other front teeth fitted for

seizing food, and most likely gathered with thrust-out tongue the plants and leaves upon which it fed. The earliest known specimen of the animal was discovered and named by an Argentinian scientist. Abundant fossil remains have since been found in South America, but only a few species are known to have found their way into the northern hemisphere.

All of the glyptodonts are now extinct, and it is believed that some of the later members of the family were probably exterminated by early man. They belonged to the great order of Edentata,

which includes also the armadillos, anteaters and sloths, both extinct and modern species.



Skeleton and Model of Glyptodont

A new exhibit in Ernest R. Graham Hall showing fossil remains of armadillo-like creature known as *Eleutherocercus*, and a miniature restoration of the animal as it is believed to have appeared in life.

weapon which ended in a war-club studded at the end with horny knobs. Despite this

other materials. The jades in this bequest, when added to the large number already on exhibition in Hall 30, will, it is believed, make Field Museum's collection the foremost one of its kind in the world.

METAMORPHIC ROCKS COLLECTED

A series of geological specimens of a kind very difficult to obtain, and of great importance for demonstrating the phenomena connected with progressive metamorphism or changes occurring in rocks, has been received at the Museum as the result of a collecting trip made last month by Mr. Sharat K. Roy, Assistant Curator of Geology. Mr. Roy gathered the material in Dutchess County, southeastern New York, one of the few localities where suitable specimens are obtainable. The collection will be used in a new exhibit.

An exhibit of this type is difficult to assemble because there are so few localities where rocks extend uninterruptedly, showing gradations of increasing metamorphism. The specimens collected make clear the change of sedimentary clay through the stages of shale, slate, and phyllite into mica schist. The causes of these changes are heat and pressure, the former due to the intrusion of various kinds of magmatic matter (i. e., molten material from the interior of the earth), and the latter due to mountain folding.

QUININE TREES DISCOVERED IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Cinchona trees of the coffee family have long been famous as the source of the drug quinine, well known as a remedy for malaria, worst plague of the tropics. The trees have been supposed to be confined to South America, chiefly to the Andes, except for the extensive plantations made of them in the East Indies.

It is of considerable scientific interest to be able to report the discovery of wild cinchona trees in Central America. In a collection of plants received recently at Field Museum from the National Museum of Costa Rica is a specimen of *Cinchona pubescens*, the tree from which commercial quinine is obtained. It was collected in the wet forests near San Ramon, Costa Rica, by Professor Alberto Brenes, a well known Costa Rican botanist.

The quinine of commerce is now obtained wholly from plantations of the trees made in the East Indies, where the trees were introduced with great difficulty and expense about eighty years ago.

Because of the ruthless manner in which the wild trees were long exploited in the Andes, being cut by thousands or millions in order to strip them of their bark, they are now almost or wholly extinct in many of the regions where once they were extremely abundant.

—P.C.S.

DEATH OF MRS. GEORGE T. SMITH MOURNED AT FIELD MUSEUM

News of the death on September 8 of Mrs. George T. Smith (Frances Ann Gaylord Smith), of Chicago, was received with deep regret at Field Museum. Mrs. Smith had been a good friend and supporter of this institution for years, and in recognition of her generous contributions of funds and valuable material had been elected a Patron, a Contributor, and a Corporate Member. In her honor, and in memory of her late husband, George T. Smith, Hall 24, devoted to the archaeology of China, was given the name George T. and Frances Gaylord Smith Hall by action of the Board of Trustees in 1931. Mrs. Smith was especially interested in the Chinese collections, being herself the possessor of an excellent private collection of Orientalia, and she made many important additions to the Museum's material in this field.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Museum, held on September 21, the names of Mr. and Mrs. Smith were added to the roll of the Museum's Benefactors (which includes all persons who have contributed \$100,000 or more to this institution).

In the settlement of Mrs. Smith's estate, Field Museum receives a most notable collection of several hundred items of rare and beautiful Chinese objects of jade, porcelain, ivory, tapestry, embroidered silks, and



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