

4) They were in pairs and very often in fours, two before and two behind. The distance apart aided me in ascertaining the size of the animal.

I ascertained at least seven different species, and called them all Hippoid, from the uncleft foot or hoof, but nearly all were \rightarrow longer than they should have been for exact analogy ~~to~~ to horse tracks; and many of them were sharp at the edges especially forward and made a decided indentation in the sand below the level of the track. The animal seemed to walk upon its ~~feet~~ toes or the end of the foot in the smaller ones.-----

The country must have swarmed with these animals, the tracks were so numerous. Certain tracks, I believe are there to this day, on the surface of rocks, too large to have been moved or disintegrated - a series of tracks ten or twelve in number, & thwarted by others.

Irish
New Orleans, Louisiana
March 5-1877

Prof J.W. Dawson,
Dear Sir,

The last number of the Contemporary Review contains an article from your pen, in examination of Huxley's lectures in New York;

That was the best presentation of the subject of evolution, from the highest authority, Darwin & Herbert Spencer not excepted.

The latest and choicest arguments from a confessedly mastermind are presented in his "Demonstrative evidence."

You have left not a single ground for evolution to stand upon. The fabric is utterly demolished.

President Garland in the South

(6) your article (line 3-6 of page 16) has actually occurred and was discovered & announced 28 years before the orohippos. - If it be worth the research and you could help me to find in Prof Foster's collections, if you any thing of them, that paper; - or in the Smithsonian Collection, any of the rocks I presented, we might produce the testimony required.

The whole research in favor of development & evolution appears to me so fruitless, the horse being only one of many ~~thousands~~ of animals, that its proof is nearly useless, except to satisfy those who attach importance to the proof it would afford.

Pardon the liberty I have taken in addressing you, & believe me to be with much respect your fellow seeker for truth

Principal
J.W. Dawson
Montreal, Canada.

(58)
Several other localities occurs to present like specimens. About 6 miles N.E. of this locality (which extended about 2 miles along the Rocky) a well dug on the estate of about 13 feet deep brought up several tracks in the small stones excavated. Again in Washington County about 1 mile west of Independence I saw among stones brought ^{to} wall a well, or from those excavated, a series of the same kind of tracks; - both being small - the size of a new foaled colt.

The fossils are all disintegrated or broken. Though shells appear in the vicinity they are all so small in fragments as to be unrecognizable. I sought in vain. - No other tracks are found, but the Hippoid though they run through 6 or 7 species and probably 3 genera.

I took several specimens with my collections of the natural history to

8) Smithsonian Institute, in the summer of 1857; and then accompanying Prof Henry to Montreal to meet the American & British Association. I prepared, rather hurriedly, a paper for the Geological section.

I was not permitted to read it, for the crowd of papers; and the committee sent it back to me. The paper gave the geological position exactly (as I have since ascertained both from Geological Survey of B.F. Thomas & Dr Moore). It contained some 30 drawings of tracks - and named the several -

My occupation as a Civil Engr & my research chiefly in Physical science, withdrew me from that subject, and my return to Louisiana after the war buried the paper and the subject.

Some time in 72 My old friend the late Col J.W. Foster wrote me for information about Indian mounds

and with my reply to him (see his "Prehistoric Races,") I inclosed the drawings of the Hippoid Tracks and he died during the preparation of his work for the press. What became of the sheet I know not, and the pile of rocks with other by the hand red was strown, I know not whether during the civil war.

Until the importance given to this subject by the discoveries of Marsh & Cope, ~~by the~~ in the Territories of the West, I have not thought the matter worth seeking, and I have constantly expected that they would stumble upon the "Fossil Horse that walke upon one toe" in their explorations, and thus render my discoveries 20 years earlier, unnecessary. But the fact that this development was earlier than the Orobifffos, and the very contingency to which you allude in

2) Our Review has presented us with two articles on "Mind & Matter." In the section "Objection answered," has given the "Coup de grace" to Evolution and Development, in a satirical strain that harmonizes well with your essay.

But it was not to compliment you on the triumphant treatment of the subject, that I have commenced this note.

It was to call your attention to the discovery of the uncleft hoof of a certain quadruped in the Eocene Tertiaries of Texas as early as the year 1856.

The locality was in Fayette County and upon the tract of land known as the Rutersville League. (See any Gazetteer.)

The writer was then Aspt. of the Texas Military Institute. With the students he was making

3) a collection of the natural History of the County of Fayette. Certain tracks in the rocks that are the foundation of the Rocky, a stream of that neighborhood attracted our attention which at first were thought to be accidental, though very curious.

I at once treasured the discovery and kept a careful look-out for the tracks, and was rewarded by the curious fact that the stone steps to the female college was distinctly marked by five tracks of a mule, about the size of a large sheep! I set about the collection of such stones as could be headed on where tracks were made, and in the course of the six months that followed I had collected in my yard about a ton of such rocks & stones.

Now for the very curious part of the record. The tracks varied in size from a small Jack or Mules track to the that of a large Rabbit.