

Courtesy of the American Museum of Natural History

A great flying reptile so constructed that it must have been a marvel unsurpassed in soaring flight

When Kansas Was a Sea

At the time the gigantic flying reptile shown above soared in the sky, millions of years ago, western Kansas was in the heart of a great inland sea.

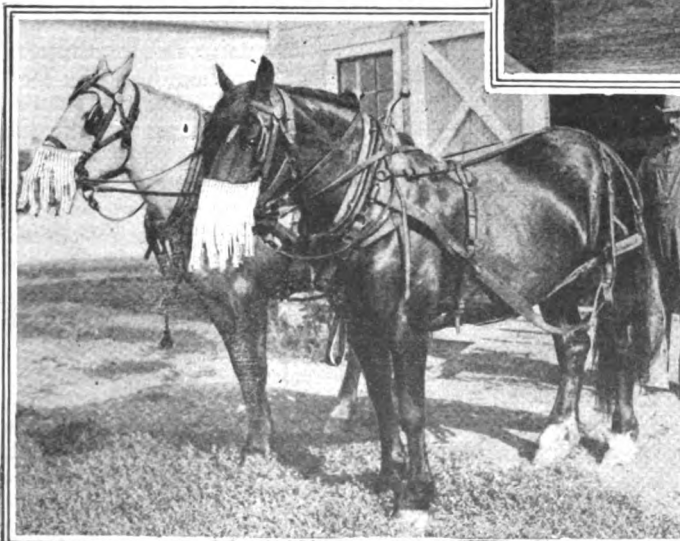
The toothless *Pteranodon* measured twenty-one feet straight from tip to tip across the wings. A large condor might extend as much as thirteen feet stretched out, but in proportion the ancient flying reptile weighed less. It was all wings and head, the wings being covered with a thin leathery membrane like the wings of a bat. Little claws at the side of the "wing-finger" enabled the creature to hang like a bat while resting.

Mr. Handel T. Martin, curator of the Geological Museum of Kansas University, discovered the *Pteranodon* in the chalk deposits of western Kansas. The mounted skeleton may now be seen in the Museum of Natural History, New York.

Veils for Horses

When a horse wears a veil across its face just below its eyes it is not trying to look as if it came from a harem, but is attempting to keep the flies and gnats from landing on its nose and lurching there.

The end of a horse's nose is a favorite meeting-place for bugs. In fact, some of them try to raise their families there. And the horse is helpless. Its tail won't reach around that far, and its bit restrains its tongue. A veil is its only protection.



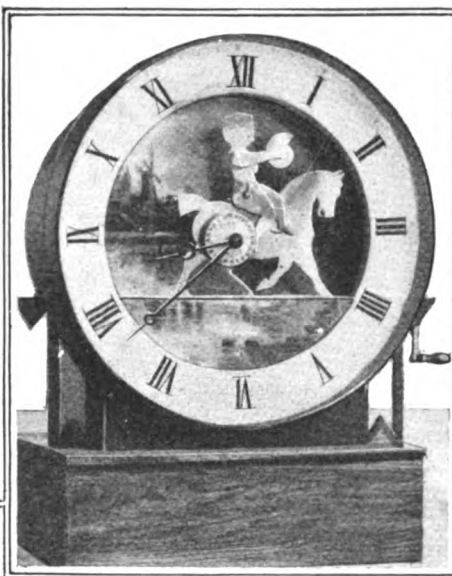
These horses are not trying to be beautiful; their veils ward off the bugs that try to live on a horse's nose

A Curious Clock

"That is a curious clock in your shop window; will you tell me about it?" the stranger asked.

"Well," said the inventor, Mr. S. C. Swindler, "having an idle clock in the house, the thought struck me that I could make that clock operate a large sign which I thought I could myself manufacture. I went to work, and in three days had it crudely operating my sign. I spent my spare time for three years improving the device, and now you see how it works."

The works of the clock operate circuits of electric current which cause the letters of a sign to flash. A very small per cent of current is used, since the clock takes the place of a motor.



The works in this clock operate a mammoth electric sign



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The parrot that called "Ma, come get 'em!" and caused the arrest of a burglar

The Parrot Burglar-Alarm

"Ma, come get 'em! Ma, come get 'em!" was the cry that rang shrilly through the stillness of the house.

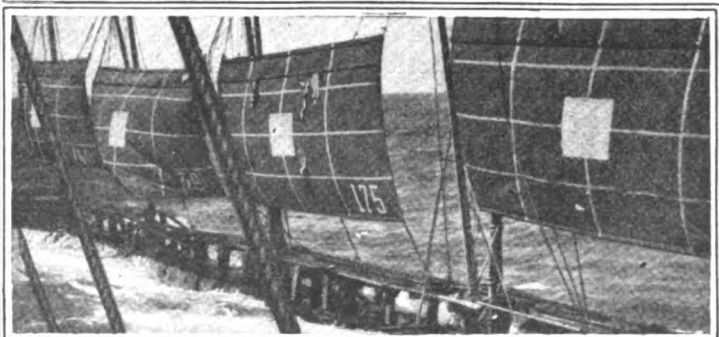
Cecilia Sherman, the ten-year-old daughter of Samuel Sherman, knew at once what the parrot meant, for the family pet had been trained to pronounce this phrase at the sight of strangers.

The girl ran upstairs, and brushed against a strange man coming down the stairs. She ran after him as he darted from the house, and was joined in the chase by her cousins Julia and Sadie. The girls were better runners than the man, and when they caught up with him the three held him until a policeman came and arrested him.

Targets of the Big Guns

BOOM! The great guns are firing. As the smoke rises and the rumbling echo rolls away, the sailors watch eagerly. Did they hit the target? From the deck of the battleship the targets look like tiny black patches with white spots in the middle. But a close-up view is quite different, as you see in the picture below.

On target No. 175 three hits are plainly seen. The numberless target next to it boasts of three patches that cover up holes made in an earlier test.



These are some of the targets at which the United States battleships fire when they try out their guns