Another Record Meteorite Fell in Arkansas in 1886

Arkansas has been a target for meteor impacts more than once, and the recent record established by the Paragould meteorites was no exception. The object that caused this impact was discovered on February 17, 1886, close to the town of Paragould in Miller County, Arkansas.

Under the side of the Johnson County meteorite which, like the recent Paragould fragment, set a record for size of about 6.5 tons, there were others much larger than either of these, but the circumstances of their coming to earth are not known.

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The Johnson County meteorite was much larger than the 830-pound mass which fell last winter near Paragould. The earlier one weighed a fraction less than 100 pounds.

According to Mr. Kuna, "It is almost an exact counterpart of the larger of the Hunsiders' (Aramis, Arizona, meteorite)." The Johnson County meteorite was much larger than the 830-pound mass which fell last winter near Paragould. The earlier one weighed a fraction less than 100 pounds.

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Meteors and Whence They Come

By A. M. HARDING, Ph. D.
University of Arkansas.

The 820-pound Paragould meteor (supporting stand 28 inches wide.)

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Believes Meteor to Be From Mars

Hiram Sheridan, American Airways Flier, Says Dazzling Missile Seemed Certain to Strike His Plane Near Texarkana.

The strange experience of being bombarded from space by a meteor was described yesterday by Hiram Sheridan, of 402 Colfax Avenue, Chicago, III., who in the course of his work as a meteorologist had witnessed the effects of many meteor falls.

"When it seemed that something was about to happen, I turned the camera to the meteorologists in the control room, and told them it was unwise to continue work on the plane," Mr. Sheridan said. "I am certain that the meteor was something that had come from the sky, and not from the ground."
Interest in Meteors

Because They Are the Only Celestial Objects Which Can Be Examined in Detail by Man, They Continue to Attract Attention. The Arkansas Meteor Has Received Much Notice From Astronomers.

By A. M. HARDING, PH. D.

University of Arkansas.


The American Meteor Society, under the direction of Dr. Charles P. India of the Flower Observatory at Upper Darby, Pa., for some time has been making a special study of meteors. The members of this group have devoted much time to the counting of shooting stars and to the directions from which they were seen. In this way much valuable information has been secured with reference to the Parades, the Leonides, the Andromedes and the other meteor showers which occur at regular intervals. This association has also been very active in securing data with reference to meteorites that have been found. By means of this information it has been possible to determine the direction in which these meteors were moving before they struck the earth.

New Society.

There has recently been organized the Society for Research on Meteorites with headquarters at the Hunting Laboratory, 1809 Fairfax Street, Denver, Colo. The purpose of this society, as stated in a recent issue of Popular Astronomy, is "to promote the discovery, collection, investigation, and preservation of meteorites, and to advance the science of meteorology and related science, through the increase and dissemination of knowledge concerning the phenomena." If any of our readers are interested in learning more about meteorites or meteors, we would like to have a part in this interesting phase of astronomical research, which can be carried on by the average person with little or no knowledge of mathematical astronomy, he should get in touch with one or both of these organizations. Both societies have been sending invitations to the general public to accept membership. Anyone who happens to see a fire-bright flash during the air shower has reason to believe that it struck the earth anywhere in its vicinity should immediately notify the writer, or one of the above named societies.

Sounds From Meteorite.

When the 830 pound stone fell near Paragould in the early morning hours of February 17, 1930, the noise was so great that many people were panic-stricken. We would like to imagine what would have been the result had this stone fallen through the roof of one of our city apartments rather than into a farm. In a recent number of Popular Astronomy Dr. G. C. Wylie thus describes the fall of the Paragould meteorite: "The detonations in this meteorite's vicinity were violent enough to awaken practically everyone and to stampede stock from the farms. People were awakened from sleep not only in Arkansas, but also in the adjoining states of Tennessee and Mississippi. Near Poplar Bluff, Mo., about 70 miles from Paragould, the night police made the rounds of the town believing that some huge explosion had been caused by someone dynamiting one of the banks. In the same town a railroad man, who had been awakened, said he had thought when he heard the explosion that the boiler of the locomotive he had just brought to the station had blown up, or that another train had crashed into it."

Watch for Mercury.

If you have another opportunity to catch a glimpse of the little planet Mercury, which is so close to the sun that it is extremely difficult to observe. Mercury is now an evening star and sets about an hour after the sun. Perhaps you may be able to see this little companion world in the southwestern sky some evening this week. It will be found almost directly north of Fomalhaut and almost on the boundary line between the constellations Aquarius and Piscis.

From time to time people have wondered whether there might be a planet between the sun and Mercury. In fact, a planet which was announced in 1899 and was even given a name, Vulcan. What better name could be found for this tiny world which apparently existed almost within reach of the flames from the sun, than Vulcan—the god of fire and of the forge. Again in 1939, this same announcement was made but recent observations have convinced the astronomers that Vulcan does not exist.

Many people become interested in the planet Mercury because it is so difficult to see. This planet never gets very far from the sun and consequently it must be observed very soon after sunset or before sunrise if it is to be seen at all. It is usually completely lost in the brilliant light of the sun's rays and goes down below the horizon before it becomes dark enough for us to see it. Our curiosity is naturally aroused by a world which remains hidden most of the time and many people are wanting to know more about Mercury.

Observing Mercury.

Recorded observations of Mercury go back to 264 B.C. The planet was not recognized by the Greek scientists as the same body when seen east of the sun as when seen west of the sun. They called it Apollo when it was evening star and Mercury when it was evening star. Mercury is invisible most of the time. In fact Copernicus, the celebrated astronomer, is said never to have seen it.

The amount of heat received from the earth, so that it would probably be rather uncomfortable for us if we should try to live on that world. Since Mercury is much closer to the sun at some times than at others, the amount of heat falling on the planet varies from time to time. In fact, when Mercury is closest to the sun it receives two and one-half times as much heat as when it is furthest away. In six weeks the sun would increase to more than twice the apparent size if observed by someone living on that planet. This alone would be sufficient to cause serious damage to the earth.
The Grootfor

The Distinction of Being the Largest Meteorite in the Years Ago in Southwestern Africa. Its

By A. M. HARI

University of

THE GROOTFONTEIN METEORITE.

--Courtesy-Popular Astronomy.

A 460-pound meteorite, believed to be the same which was seen by several bank robbers the night of December 3, has been found near Sebree, by H. J. Shomer and the Rev. Charles Parker and is now on display there.

SOURCE OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC印

Mr. H. B. Parker, who saw the display about five miles east of McRee where the Residence Special train from St. Louis. He described the meteor as being as large as a house with a long tail similar to a comet, which was thrown aside in a phosporous light like an aeroplane.

The United States Weather Board received an official report of the meteor by H. B. Cole, meteorologist at the Weather Bureau, explaining that none of his observers was on duty at the time.
Arkansas is soon to have a zero milestone.

The monument will be erected on the grounds of the state capitol building, and will serve as a landmark for travelers and tourists.

The exact site of the marker has been chosen by a committee of the Board of County Judges, and the design is currently being finalized.

The monument will be sponsored by the Arkansas State Capitol Commission, which has granted permission for the installation.

The dedication ceremony will take place on the 100th anniversary of the capitol building, which was completed in 1915.

The monument will be a significant addition to the state's historical landmarks, and will serve as a valuable reference point for visitors and residents alike.

The project is being funded through a combination of government grants and private donations, and is expected to be completed within the next 12 months.

The dedication ceremony will include performances by the state's official musical groups, as well as a parade and other festivities.

The monument will also feature a time capsule containing historical artifacts and documents, which will be opened on the 100th anniversary of the capitol building.

The project is a collaborative effort between the Arkansas State Capitol Commission, the Arkansas Capitol Construction Commission, and the Arkansas Historical Commission.

The monument will be a fitting tribute to the state's rich history and the many contributions of its citizens.

The dedication ceremony will be broadcast live on television and online, allowing even those who cannot attend in person to share in the celebration.

The monument will be a lasting symbol of the state's commitment to preserving its history and honoring its past.

The project is a joint venture between the state government and private donors, and is expected to provide a significant economic boost to the local economy.

The dedication ceremony will feature performances by local musicians and dancers, as well as a speech by a prominent state official.

The monument will be a permanent reminder of the state's past and a source of pride for its citizens.

The dedication ceremony will be attended by state officials, members of the military, and other dignitaries, as well as the general public.

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