#### THE POMPEII OF THE SAHARA

By FRANK G. CARPENTER. Copyright, 1906, by Frank G. Carpenter.

to Life-It Was Twice as Blg as Pompell, and Had Mighty Temples, Markets and Baths- A Look at Its Houses and Stores—the Ancient Forum and the Arch of Trajan.

Have you ever heard of Timgad, the inderful rulned city of Roman Afa, which the French are now digag out of the sand? It lies about e hundred and fifty miles south of a Mediterranean, and perhaps three indred miles southwest of Tunis. It just over the mountains from the sert of Sahara, on one of the lower ipes of the Atlas, overlooking a vale which in the days of Rome, must live been enormously rich. Pompeti in existence about three hundred ars before Christ, and it was de-A. D. It contained only twenty thirty thousand people, and it was thalf the size of this African city w being unearthed.

Ancient Thaumgadi. Timgad was founded just twenty-ne years after the destruction of ompeli. It was built by the Emperor rajan, whose soldiers aided in its struction. It was then known as aumgas or Thaumgadi. It was sit-ted at the intersection of six Roman ds, and was a fortified camp as well as a great commercial city. The excavations show that it must have been a social capital as well, inhabited by many rich people and surrounded by all the luxuries of Rome at the neight of its glory.

Later Timgad became a religious city. St Augustine was born near it, and, in the seventh century, when the Arab invasion occurred, it had a Christlan church, the ruins of which still exist. The city was destroyed by the Arabs, and since then, for more than thousand years the rain and soil of the Atlas mountains and the dust nd sands from the great Sahara have drifted over it, covering its remains ayer by layer, until the greater part of it has been lost from view:

The French Excavations. For centuries only a few of the more rominent of the ruins rose above e surface. There were columns here d there apparently growing out of e soil. Great mounds covered the half lestroyed buildings, and it was not un-il the French began their excavations, ag about twenty-five years ago, any one imagined that a great lay buried beneath. At present y a comparatively small part of territory has been uncovered, but work is going on day by day, and hin a few years the whole city will exposed to the fierce rays of this lean sun. I saw gangs of men king at the ruins as I wandered t through them this afernoon, and otographed them as they raise columns out of the soil. The of the city still untouched is far above the height of any and the excavated streets run to the edge of the streets and s. still buried.

The Road to Tingad. e here from Algiers on the rail. a distance of about 250 miles. arest station was Batana, a th town at the entrance of the in which Timgad lies. There ed a carriage and drove for y-five miles up this valley to the of the excavations. The only we passed on the way was Lain-This was also prominent in the f the Romans, and it has ruins would be considered wonderful they not overshadowed by the ones here. The road to Timwas built by the French, and it is od as was the Appian Way when gad and Rome were still in their The grades are so gentle that houses went on the trot, and we ered the distance in less than three We met many soldiers at bese, but outside of them nothing

ow we crowded a caravan of camgoing sullenly along, and now passvillages of low brown tents, the es of Bedonin shepherds who feeding their flocks on the footof the Atlas. At places in the y, we saw Arabs plowing; but the is now semi-arid and it shows but e signs of the fertility it must have when this region was the granary Rome. I imagine that the rainfall then much greater than now, and nay be that the cutting away of the as has been the case with n. Palestine and other lands.

In the Rulned City.

have already been here for the
er part of two days. I am living
he fittle hotel which has been put or the excavators and strangers, have been going over the ruins an old French soldler, who has been connected with the work of

almost despair of giving you a ention of the character and ev-of the parts already uncovered, old Roman houses, like the Jerutogether, and although Timgad ded only 100 acres it was a bee-of humanity, and its people need-ess space than many an American of one-tenth the size.

The Streets of Timga business and residence centors.

remedy is always applied externally, and has carried thousands of women through the trying crisis without suffering.

FRANK G. CARPENTER VISITS AN other at right angles. There are miles OLD ROMAN CITY, ON THE of these streets already exposed, and FIGE OF THE DESERT, WHICH one can walk over them on the same pavements on which the Romans rode IS BEING UNEARTHED BY THE in their charlots. I tramped much of my way in the cuts cut by the chariots. and I found the stones of the roads Timgad Has Been Dead Fifteen Hun- worn smooth by the feet of these peodred Years, But it is Now Coming ple fifteen centuries since. The main streets are flagged with great blocks of limestone, about three feet wide and



Frank G. Carpenter.

often four feet long, fitted closely to gether. Under every street is a deep sewer running from one end of it to the other, and the whole city is un-derlaid with drains. Nearly every house has its own connection with the sewer, and 'there are public conven-

lences in all parts of the city.

The streets are lined with curbstones and the principal avenues have great marble columns on each side of them. some of which are broken and some almost perfect. Many of these columns are entirely missing, but their places beyond the curbstones can be plainly seen. One can stand in some of these streets and look for a mile through rulned pillars, easily pictur-ing to himself the grandeur of Timgad in its prime.

On the Way to the Forum. Let us make our way along the main avenues, which lead through the center of the town, to the Forum. We enter one by a great stone gate decorated with carvings over flagstones cut the upper part of the city at the edge into deep ruts by the charlot wheels, of the hills. I went through it this There are pillars on both sides of the morning and sat for a time in one of streets, reaching on and on to the the boxes which faced the marble rosare acres upon acres of ruined buildings ranging in height to that of my head or higher. The ravages of time, of siege, and of the Mohammedan their own entrance, which led directly iconnoclast have cut away the tops of to the stage. There was no roof over the buildings, but enough of the walls this theater; the audience sat out in are still left so that one can see just how they were constructed, and can the valley and mountains ever before walk from room to room, through

At the right side of this main street, facing the Forum, ran a covered passageway, the top of which rested upon these pillars. This was for foot passengers who could there move along without danger from the throng of chariots and horses in the street outside. At the same time the people could see out between the columns. On the other side of this facade or passageway the residences faced, and on the opposite side of the roadway the houses came close up to the column-lined street.

house after house.

On the Vio Decumanus Maximus, which cuts the street, I have described at right agles and leads from the great arch of Trajan to the Forum. one side is lined with stores. The greatest number of stores are right near the Forum, and they probably formed the chief mercantile houses of the city. Each establishment had a main room facing the street, with another in the rear, which was probably used as a warehouse or as a private room for its owner. Decumanus Maximus had deep ruts in the flags from one end of it to the other, and it is easy to imagine it filled with the gay throng of the days of the Emperors Trajan and Marcus In the Roman Butcher Shops,

I walked through store after store in this quarter, and then went to another part of the city where was the Roman market. The market place was surrounded by columns, and it still shows many evidences that it was was a beautiful place when the people from all the country about came here to buy and sell. The stalls of the meat market were on a platform running in a half-moon facing the market place. The marble counters behind which the butchers stood are still intact, and they bear the marks of the cleavers used in chopping off the steaks of the past. These counters are marble slabs, each about a foot thick, and about five feet in I crawled under one, and stood in place of the butcher trying to imagine the customers who waited outside for spring chickens, roasts of lamb and rump steaks fifteen hundred or more years ago, and in my mind's eye I could see Mrs. Caesar testing the breastbone of a fowl, and Madame Cicero telling the boy to cut her a steak off the loin and watching him to see that he did not cheat in the weight. Later on I saw in the museum the weights which were used to measure the meat. They are balls of stone ranging in size from that of my head to a marble.

A City of Luxury. Some of the houses of Timgad were are divided up into streets magnificent. They had marble

tiful and pure.

Moman's hapmens can be complete without children; it is her nature to love and want them as much so sair is to love the beau-

critical ordeal through which the expectant mother must pass, were, is so fraught with dread, pain, suffering and danger, that the

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The museum has many mosaics equal to almost anything discovered at Pompeli. They are made of bits of stone, some of which are no bigger than a baby's finger nail so fitted together that they seem one solid block. They are of many colors and represent the famous characters of mythology. One about fifteen feet square shows. Venus riding through the sea on a centaur, while the dolphins swim about below. Another represents the triumph of Neptune, and others show various scenes connected with the gods and goddesses of old Rome.

Right near the Forum I explored a palace which contained about sixty odd rooms, some of which are still decorated with marble columns. When I came in the floors seemed to be nothing but plaster, but as I scraped my fect on them I saw the mosaic be-This house had a wide entrance porch, the floor of which was a little above the level of the street. and the stones at the front showed plainly the marks made by the carriages as they drove out and in. had bath rooms with hot and cold chambers, the floors of which were of mosaic, such as are now in the

The Baths of Timgad. If it be true that cleanliness is next to godliness, these old Romans were not ungodly. There are ruins of baths here, which show that this old town of Timgad, ranging in size from fifty to one hundred thousand people, had better accommodations of that kind than any of our largest cities of today. Just outside the chief entrance gate stands the ruins of an enormous building, covering almost two acres, which was devoted to bathing and gymnastics. It was built of brick, and some of the mosaic floors are still to be seen.

I spent some time in these baths. A large part of the outer walls are still intact, and the rooms, although they are broken in places can be easily traced. There are thirty-five of them running about a grand hall forty feet wide and seventy-five feet long, where the men went through their gymnastics or rested and loafed after bathing. There were many hot chambers for steam and vapor baths, and several cold plunges with large swimming pools. The hot rooms had mosaic floors, with underground flues and fires. The ruins of the heating arrangements are such that even now they could be repaired and the baths used as in the past. In the southern part of the city are other baths, and in many of the houses so far excavated there are remains of private bath

A Theater Senting Four Thousand. Timgad had a theater which seated more than four thousand people. wonder how many towns of fifty thousand in our country have amusement halls that size. This theatre was in made of stone, and there is a covered passageway for exit. The actors had the open, with a magnificent view of them. The seats are of stone, and they run around the arena in the shape of a half moon, rising tier above tier. The orchestra played in the cres-

cent below. library, or public lecture room, of this ancient town. I do not suppose that ancient Thaumgadi had an Andrew Carnegie, but its ruins show that this building would have been a worthy monument to any corn king of old Rome. It has the shape of a half circle, with steps running round it, and shelves in the walls, where the scrools of manuscript were stored. Another curious structure was a building devoted to the selling of flowers with fountains to keep the flowers fresh.

The Forum of Timgad has been entirely unearthed, and it bears evidence of having been far larger and more stone courts are almost intact, and many of the tall marble columns wich surrounded it are still here. It bears every evidence of having been a magnificent place. It is reached by stone steps. About it on every side were covered passageways upheld by pillars of marble. At one end, behind marble columns, was a great stone rostrum. I suppose for the speakers. and there was an extensive lobby and retiring rooms somewhat as in our capitol at Washington. Adjoining the Forum was a chamber

of commerce built of marble and limestone. This building is supposed to have served as a sort of stock exchange and tribunal of justice combined. It had a statue of Justice in it, a part of which still exists. The Temples of The City.

There are several ruined temples in Timgad. One was devoted to Victory and another to the Jupiter of the Cap-The walls of the latter are six feet in thickness, and are made of great blocks three and four feet in length. Some of the enormous columns which formed the back of this structure still stand. They are on a high platform which overlooks the whole city. Each column is fifty feet high; it is fluted and carved: and its capital is of wonderful beauty. I climbed up to the base of these great columns and took a bird's eye view of the ruins. With the broken marble pillars here and there among them, the half broken houses looked more like a palatial cattle yard of brick and stone than a city. This, Rome, w however, is only at first. The ruins about it. of the famous old city spring at once into view, and the wealth of the past ed pens, and the streets, the roads of the Third Augustan Legion, and through them. Just below me were recent explorations show that it was great blocks of marble, pieces of a large Roman camp. broken statues. I could see the stone arches of the gates outside the city tables upon which the Romans offered their sacrifices, and beyond them the homes of the city. The columns beside me were as big around as a hogshead and they rose above me to te height of a four-story house. They structure has a peristyle, with handwere made in blocks, each of which must have weighed many tons. They were probably chisted out on the so high without the ald of modern machinery I cannot imagine. This are ruins of baths at Lambese, from temple had twelve columns in front

The Arch of Trajan. At the entrance of the Vio Decuma-I have said, was founded by Trajan, and this arch is a splendid monument has aged by the weather, and as the sun shone upon it this morning it took on the color of old gold, making a great frame standing out against the blue sky. The arch has three entrances, two at the sides for foot passengers and one in the center for carriages. The road through vious.

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the central arch has been cut door by the chariot wheels. Birds were flying about through this arch as I visited it today, and. looking beyond it, over the plain, 1 could see the black tents of the Bedouins with the sheep feeding near them. They were grazing among the heads of ruined columns and on land covering that part of Timgaa which has not yet been excavated. In the Timged Museum.

All the relics found at Timgad are kept in the museums here, and the collection already gives live pictures of the old Roman days. Some of the rooms are walled with mosaics, and they contain enough broken-nosed statues to people a town. There are some cases filled, with gold coins and others containing jewelry of gold, some of which is set with precious stones. There are rouge pots like those discovered at Pompeli, and there are finger rings of gold. There are surgical instruments, including pincers and forceps of steel, beautifully made knives of various kinds, and needles of all sizes. There are Roman lamps of bronze and of clay. There are bronze handles of vases, and beautiful pieces and vessels of iridescent glass. Altogether the collection is wonderful; but it is shut up here twenty-five miles from the nearest railroad, so that few people ever be-

During my stay I have photographed some of the ruins and have measme that the work of uncovering the city is to go steadily on, but that the present appropriation of only about work. The excavating is carefully done, and in the remaining twothirds of the city yet to be uncovered many treasures must lie. There must be more or less gold and pre-

A Land of Roman Ruins. There are relics of the Romans scattered all over this part of the world. Nearly every town in Algeria of any size has more or less it shows the remains of a great Ro- plain sight toward us, and expecting man aqueduct. I came across the old and demanding that they shall be Roman wall many times while ex- fed. ploring Algiers, and not far from here is Constantine, which was nam-

show that it covered several miles, and in its center is a building of stone ninety-two feet long and seventy-two feet wide, and as nigh as a four-story house. The facade of this some Corinthian columns.

Near it is a temple which was built during the reign of Marcus Auin honor of Septimus Severus. There which have been taken beautiful mowas a great temple surrounded by a

nus Maximus now stands the remains On the site of Lambese the French of the Arch of Trajan. The city, as have now built an enormous barracks for such soldiers as they send to Atand this arch is a splendid mondate to his memory. It must be eighty or one hundred feet in height. It is of troops going through their evolutions on the site of the old camp, just as

Many a good thing slips through a man's grasp because he is too pre-

#### Land the Basis of Wealth.

(Continued from Page One.)

to say that by the middle of the present century, when our population shall have reached the two hundred million mark, our best and most convenient coal will have been so far consumed that the remainder can only be applied to present uses at an enhanced cost, which would probably ompel the entire rearrangement of ndustries and revolutionize the common lot and common life. This is not a mere possibility, but a probability which our country must face. The Mighty Iron Interest. The prospect of the mighty iron in-

terest is even more threatening and more sure. Our available iron deposits have been carefully catalogued. All the fields of national importance have been known for at least twenty years. Within that time their boundaries and probable capacity have been estimated, and the whole country has been prospected for this king of min-The most reasonable computaerals. ion of scientific authority affirms that existing production cannot be maintained for fifty years, assuming that all the available iron ore known to us in mined. In fact, the limitation is likely to be less than that pe-

Glance at Great Britain. If any man thinks this prophecy of danger fantastic, let him glance at Great Britain. That nation was not. so extravagant as we, because it dia not compel the instant exhaustion of its resources by a tariff prohibiting such imports, and because its surplus population could and did scatter over the globe. But it has concentrated effort upon the secondary form of industry-manufacturing-at the sacrifice of the primary-the tillage of the soil. Its iron supply is now nearly exhausted. It must import much of the crude material or close its furnaces and mills. Its coal is being drawn from the deeper levels. The added cost pinches the market and makes trade smaller both in volume and in profits. The process of constriction has only begun. None are advertising it, only the few understand But already there is the cry of want and suffering from every street in England. From a million to a million and a half of men are hovering together in her cities, uttering that most pathetic and most awful ultimatum, "Damn your charity, give us work." And this is only the beginning of that industrial re-adjustment which the unwise application of industry and the destruction of natural resources must force everywhere. He who doubts may easily convince himself by an honest investigation of the facts, that this is no sensational prediction, but something as established and inevitable as an eclipse or the return of the seasons.

The most amazing feature of our situation, indeed is its vast and compelling simplicity. Reliance Upon Soil.

Every people is thus reduced in the final appraisal of its estate to reliance upon the soil. This is the sole asset that does not perish, because it contains within itself, if not abused, the possibility of infinite renewal. All the life that exists upon this plant, all the development of man from his lowest to his highest qualitites, rest as firmly and as unreservedly upon the capacities of the soil as do his feet upon the ground beneath him. The soil alone is capable of self-renewal, through the wasting of the rocks, of plant through the agency through its chemical reactions with the liquids and gases within and without. A self-perpetuating race must rely upon some self-perpetuating therefore, looking at humanity as something more than the creature of a day, is the productivity of the soil. And since that, too, may be raised to a high power or lowered to the point of disappearing value, it is of the first consequence to consider how the peo ple of the United States have dealt with this, their greatest safe-guard and their choicest dower.

Pre-Emietly Agricultural Country. This is pre-eminently and primarily an agricultural country. Its soil has been treated largely as have been the forests and mineral resources of the away off in the heart of North Africa, | nation. Only because the earth is more leng-suffering, only because the process of exhaustion is more difficult and occupies a longer period, have we escaped the peril that looms so large in other quarters. The reckless disured many of the columns and build- tribution of the land; its division ings. I have also talked with the di- among all the greedy who choose to rector of the excavations. He tells ask for it; the appropriation of large areas for grazing purposes, have absorbed much of the national heritage. Only one-half of the land in private \$12,000 is not enough to hurry the ownership is now tilled. That tillage does not produce one-half of what the land might be made to yield, without losing an atom of its fertility. Yet the waste of our treasure has proceeded so far that the actual value of the clous stones and it may be also the soil for productive purposes has alremains of beautiful statues, mosaics ready deteriorted more than it should and relics which will throw a new have done in five centuries of use. light on Roman North Africa.

A Land of Roman Ruins. | Vidual cases, little approaching intensive agriculture in the United States There is only the annual skimming of the rich cream; the exhaustion of virgin fertility; the extraction from I have seen the hand of old the earth by the most rapid process Rome in nearly every place I have of its productive powers; the deter-It has left its marks about loration of life's sole maintenance. Algiers, Oran and Tlemcen. The lat- And all this with that army of another ter city was ancient Pomaria, and hundred million people marching in

From 1860 to 1900 is a far cry. In ed after Constantine the emperor of that time our population leaped Rome, which has more or less ruins from 31,000,000 to 76,000,000. In that time a vast area of wilderness was put beneath the plow. Yet in those Lambese, about twenty miles east same years the area of improved land everywhere strikes your eye. The of here, was built by the Romans in the North Atlantic States remained houses are now little more than wall- A. D. 125 to form the headquarters stationary. It is now steadily on the decrease. In the South Atlantic States while the enclosed area is The ruined larger the farming area has decreased by more than 2,000,000 acres. The test of values is still more indicative Every farm properly cared for should be worth more money for each year of its life. The increase of population and demand, the growth of cities and markets, and the development of diversified farming with density of settlement should assure a large increment. Even where large quantities ground, but how thew were raised relius, and also a great arch put up of new and fertile land are opened, these influences, together with the lowest cost of transportation in the world, should make the growth of of it, and twenty-two pillars of these half an acre and in one of the forums values steady. Within the twenty enormous proportions on the platform one of which measured more than years between 1800 and 1900 the aghalf n acre, and in one of the forums gregate value of farm lands and im provements, including buildings, declined in every one of the New Eng-and the Middle States except Massi-chusetts alone. The total decrease in values, for these ten States, of the first asset of a civilized people is more than \$390,000,000. Nor is the attempted explanation by the census bureau of this shrinkage either adequate or convincing. This change in the section of oldest cultiva-tion under modern conditions is significant. It is not singular. The soil of the South is moving on the

same decline, though the fact is less obvious in the total change of agricul-

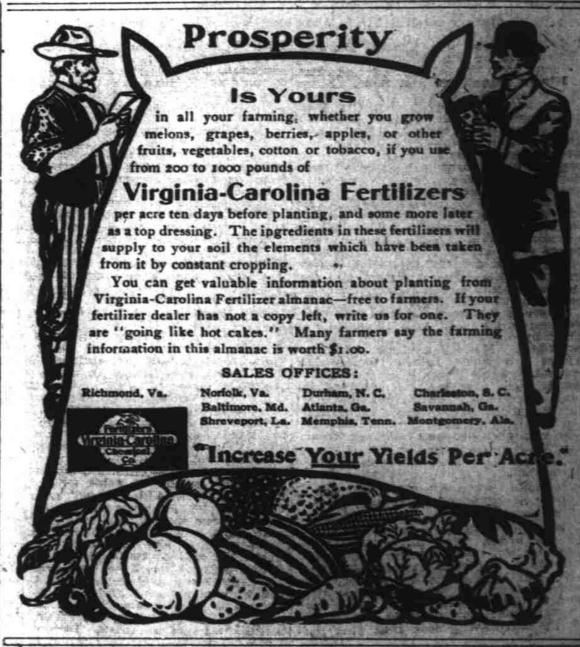
(Continued on Page Three.)

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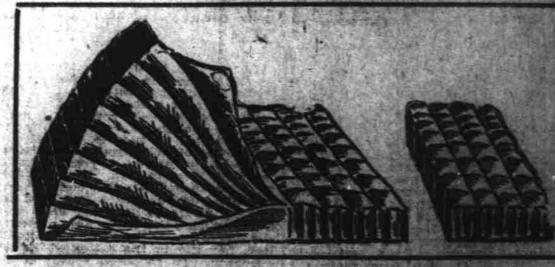
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