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## AGE-OLD STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE VIVIDLY PORTRAYED IN KNIGHT PAINTING

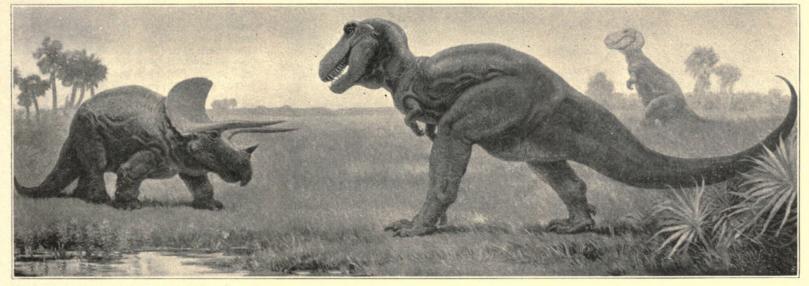
BY ELMER S. RIGGS Associate Curator of Paleontology

One of the most striking of the mural paintings of extinct animals by Charles R. Knight exhibited in Ernest R. Graham Hall (Hall 38) shows a battle between two great dinosaurs. The names of these ancient land-lizards are *Triceratops* and *Tyrannosaurus*. Each was a champion of his particular clan and the struggle represented is age-old in the animal world—the fight for existence.

The name *Triceratops*, translated, means "three-horned-face." The animal which

blown sands of the Dakotas, Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, New Mexico and the western provinces of Canada. They reached a size greater than that of any living elephant. The head was armed with a pair of long tapering horns which arose above the eyes, while a smaller single horn pointed the nose. A bony shield extended from the back of the head and protected the neck from attack. Legs, feet and tail were stout and somewhat clumsy. *Triceratops* was a habitual plant-eater. He fought upon the defensive when need arose, or rushed his enemy as a ponderous lancer. A fossil skull was a hunter and a killer. His fore legs were small and of little use to him but he stalked about upon his strong hind legs like a great bird and ran swiftly in pursuit of prey. His jaws were massive and set with long and pointed teeth, with which he seized and killed his prey. Any kind of animal of his time might easily have fallen victim to his attack. Even the horned and sturdy *Triceratops* could not long stand at bay before him.

Tyrannosaurus was likewise a native of North America. His fossil remains have been found in the ancient desert sands of



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#### The Beginning of a Fierce Combat

More than 100,000,000 years ago such encounters as this between the three-horned dinosaur *Triceratops* (at the left) and the great flesh-eating dinosaur *Tyrannosaurus*, were frequent on the North American plains. The painting is one of the series of twenty-eight by Charles R. Knight, presented to the Museum by Ernest R. Graham, and now exhibited in Hall 38.

of Triceratops is exhibited in Graham Hall.

bore it was among the last of his race. He belonged to a line of animals which once roamed North America and parts of Asia. Their fossil remains are found in the wind-

# ich once *Tyrannosaurus* received his name, meaning "tyrant-lizard," from his aggressive and overbearing habits. He fed upon flesh; he

## C. SUYDAM CUTTING PRESENTS COLLECTIONS FROM BURMA

An important collection of plants for the Department of Botany, and a collection of insects for the Department of Zoology, were received last month by Field Museum as gifts from C. Suydam Cutting of New York. Mr. Cutting, an Honorary Member, Patron, Contributor and Corporate Member of the Museum, who has participated in a number of Museum expeditions, and has personally sponsored several, visited the Museum on July 5 while passing through Chicago. The new gifts result from an expedition

The new gifts result from an expedition sponsored by Mr. Cutting, and conducted by Captain F. Kingdon Ward, noted British botanist, into the "unknown triangles" of Upper Burma and beyond.

Upper Burma and beyond. The plant collection presented to the Museum consists of 635 herbarium specimens, chiefly from the high mountains of the Burma-Tibet frontier, near the sources of the Irrawaddy River. The series is eminently welcome and useful, says Paul C. Standley, Associate Curator of the Herbarium, because it comes from a region not represented heretofore in the Museum's botanical collections, and but poorly if at all in any American herbarium.

Burna, known to most Americans from Kipling's On the Road to Mandalay, usually is visioned as a country of steaming tropical jungles. An altogether different picture is painted by Captain Ward in a recent account of his expedition, published in the Gardeners' Chronicle of London. He describes vividly the magnolias and rhododendrons of the temperate rain forest at altitudes of 6,000 to 8,000 feet, and the coniferous forests of still higher elevations. He is most enthusiastic, however, regarding the brilliant flowers of the cold snowy region at 12,000 to 15,000 feet. Here there were further rhododendrons, lilies, richly colored gentians and primroses, blue poppies, and Wyoming, Montana and Canada. His line apparently died out entirely along with that of *Triceratops* approximately 100,000,000 years ago.

other attractive plants, seeds of some of which were taken to England. Captain Ward's skillfully prepared specimens of many of these, as well as other plants new or otherwise noteworthy, will be preserved in Field Museum's study series, which is being developed to illustrate the flora of the entire world.

The second gift from Mr. Cutting consists of 201 insects collected in the Adang Valley of Upper Burma by Captain Ward and Lord Cranbrook. All of these were taken at elevations ranging from 8,000 to 12,000 feet, and they are of much interest in that they illustrate the insect fauna of high elevations, as well as due to the fact that they are of species new to Field Museum's collections, reports William J. Gerhard, Associate Curator of Insects. To indicate the various kinds of insects found at high elevations it may be mentioned that the collection includes beetles, flies, sawflies, ichneumonflies, wasps, bees and bumblebees.



Riggs, Elmer S. 1932. "Age-Old Struggle for Existance Vividly Portrayed in Knight Painting." *Field Museum news* 3(8), 1–1.

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