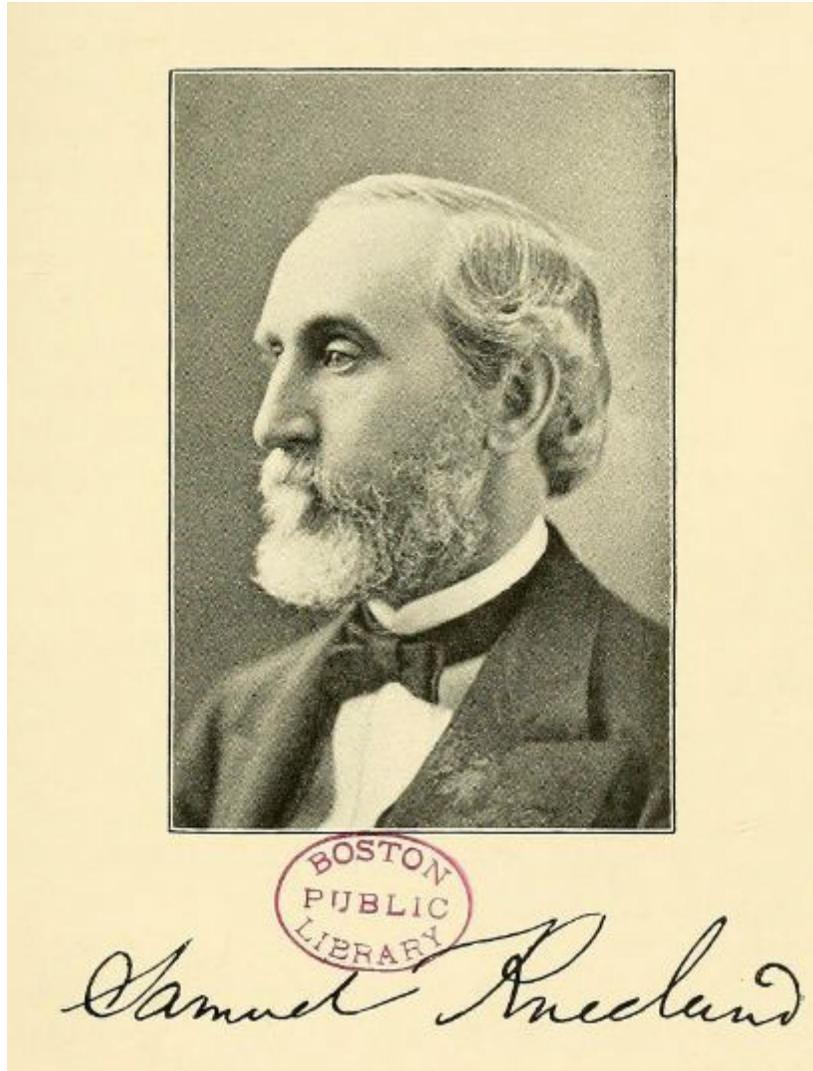


**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**



**“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,  
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY**



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1821**

 August 1, Wednesday: [Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) was born in Boston, Massachusetts, the 1st son of the merchant Samuel Kneeland (May 8, 1794- ) and Nancy Burt Johnson Kneeland. The infant was cross-eyed. He would be educated at Boston Latin School.

Friends and members of the Protestant Episcopal Church met at 5PM in a Raleigh, [North Carolina](#) home and agreed to form a congregation to be known by the name of “Congregation of Christs [*sic*] Church.” They elected a 5-member Vestry that included John Haywood, State Treasurer of North Carolina, as Senior Warden, John Louis Taylor, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, as Junior Warden, and William Henry Haywood, Jr., later a United States Senator, as Clerk.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5th day 1st of 8 M 1821 / Rode in the Stage this mornig to [Portsmouth](#) & -?[obscured] the Select Quarterly Meeting - Dined at Uncle R Mitchells came home with Uncle Stanton's Waggon & returned with H & John & lodged at Uncle Stanton's. -*

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

**NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT**





**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1840**

The 2d published history of [Harvard College](#), by Josiah Quincy, Sr.



[William Emerson Faulkner](#) graduated, 4th in his class.

[Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) graduated.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**NO-ONE'S LIFE IS EVER NOT DRIVEN PRIMARILY BY HAPPENSTANCE**



[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.****DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.****1843**

[Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) graduated from [Harvard College](#) with an AM and MD.

In 1828 New-York Hospital had been forced to shut down its obstetric services due to the ravages of puerperal fever, a disease that we now know is due to an infection, usually with *Streptococcus pyogenes*, sometimes with *Staphylococcus aureus*. During this year it took [Harvard](#) professor Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes 21 days to write a monograph, THE CONTAGIOUSNESS OF PUERPERAL FEVER ([New England Quarterly Journal of Medicine and Surgery](#), 27 pages), first read on February 15, 1843, before the Improvement Society, about this dreaded childbirth disease that was killing so many mothers. While both the theory of [contagion](#) and the supposed



existence of unviewably tiny germs were known, no one had as yet connected these two theories. Infection still carried with it an aura of moral deficiency, and therefore this monograph which incautiously referred to medical doctors as “instruments of death” would excite little more than animosity and would have no



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

discernible impact on medical practice. One of Dr. Holmes's colleagues, commenting on such strange hypotheses, would write that

I prefer to attribute [puerperal fever] to accident, or Providence, of which I can form a clear conception, rather than to contagion of which I cannot form any clear idea.

(Dr. Holmes's monograph was not only offensive and ineffective, but also, it was conveying no new information. The thesis that puerperal fever was contagious and transmissible had already been clearly and systematically demonstrated four decades earlier, by Dr. Alexander Gordon in Scotland. It would not be until the late 19th Century that the bacterium *Streptococcus pyogenes* would be discovered. In 1847 in Wien, Dr. Ignac Phillip Semmelweis would again theorize that puerperal fever was probably being transmitted to healthy expectant mothers by their physicians and would advise his fellows that they should all be washing their hands with a solution of calcium chloride before and after they examined patients, but again there would be resistance.)



**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?  
— NO, THAT'S GIVING TOO MUCH TO THE HISTORIAN'S STORIES.  
LIFE ISN'T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**

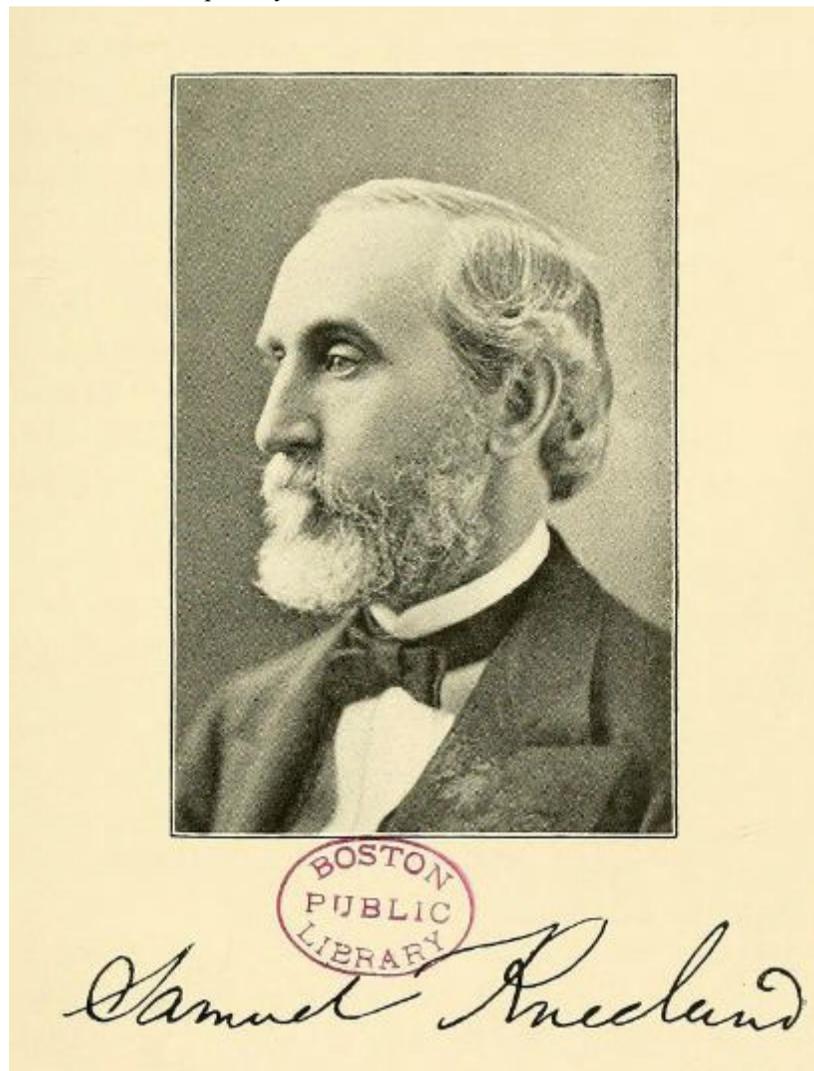


**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1845**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) became a demonstrator of anatomy in the [Harvard Medical College](#). He also served as physician to the Boston Dispensary.



In the Dudlein lecture for this year, Amasa Parks warned the students of [Harvard](#) that “Our beloved land is threatened with serious evil from the inroads of the papal church.” He suggested, however, that “the Protestant mind” was strong and would “at last prevail over Papal discipline.”

I am no alarmist.



DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

1846

January: [Bronson Alcott](#) wrote Charles Lane in New-York, mentioning that [Henry Thoreau](#) had prepared a lecture on [Thomas Carlyle](#) to deliver before the Concord Lyceum.

Frederick Douglass sailed from Ireland to Scotland. Until May he would be touring Scotland, on an unsuccessful campaign to persuade the Free Church of Scotland not to accept any funds from enslavers in the American South. (After this he would be putting in seven months of similar effort in England proper.) Guess what? The anti-slavery society of which he was an agent sent a white man along with him to handle the money. –They might be anti-slavery, but they weren't fools, they knew one couldn't trust a black man with one's money. I don't know how Douglass reacted to this unstudied insult.



The Town Council of Concord confirmed that

the public good does not require the licensing of any person as a retailer to sell distilled spirits of any kind in this town except for medicinal purposes and the arts.

[Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#)'s "On the contagiousness of puerperal fever" was published in the [American Journal of the Medical Sciences](#) (11: 45-63), pointing out that puerperal fever could be produced by the inoculation of a woman with fluid from a sick woman or from the body of one who had died after labor, as well as from air vitiated by sick persons, especially when several women were together in a hospital ward, ill with puerperal fever. He asserted that this [contagion](#) could be carried by the physician, clothes, and everything that had been in contact with a woman already infected. This is said to have received the Harvard Medical School's Boylston Prize of \$50 or a gold medal of that value in 1843; however, I have been unable to verify this to be accurate



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

— and the following advertisement would seem to indicate that it is inaccurate.

### BOYLSTON MEDICAL PRIZE QUESTIONS.

**THE Boylston Medical Committee, appointed by the President and Fellows of Harvard University, consists of the following physicians:—**

**JOHN C. WARREN, M.D.**

**WALTER CHANNING, M.D.**

**ENOCH HALE, M.D.**

**GEORGE C. SHATTUCK, M.D.**

**GEORGE HAYWARD, M.D.**

**JOHN WARE, M.D.**

**JACOB BIGELOW, M.D.**

**JOHN RANDALL, M.D.**

At the annual meeting of the Committee, July 28, 1841, the Boylston Premium, of fifty dollars value, for the best Dissertation on the question—"To what extent is disease the effect of changes in the chemical or vital properties of the blood?" was awarded to J. F. W. Lane, M.D., of Boston.

The questions for 1842 are, 1st—"To what extent is the human system protected from smallpox by inoculation with the cowpox? Is the protection increased by re-vaccination; and if so, under what circumstances?"

2d. On the diseases of the kidney; and the changes which occur in the appearance and composition of the urine, in health and in disease.

Dissertations on these subjects must be transmitted, post-paid, to John C. Warren, M.D., of Boston, on or before the first Wednesday of April, 1842.

The following subjects are offered for 1843:—

1st. The best method of warming and ventilating rooms for preventing and curing disease.

2d. The structure and diseases of the teeth, with a numerical solution of the question, Can caries of the teeth be retarded by mechanical processes?

Dissertations on these subjects must be transmitted, as above, on or before the first Wednesday of April, 1843.

The author of the successful dissertation on either of the above subjects will be entitled to a premium of fifty dollars, or a gold medal of that value, at his option.

Each dissertation must be accompanied by a sealed packet, on which shall be written some device or sentence, and within shall be enclosed the author's name and residence. The same device or sentence is to be written on the dissertation to which the packet is attached.

Unsuccessful dissertations are deposited with the Secretary, from whom they may be obtained if applied for within one year after they have been received.

By an order adopted in 1826, the Secretary was directed to publish annually the following votes:—

1st. That the Board do not consider themselves as approving the doctrines contained in any of the dissertations to which premiums may be adjudged.

2d. That in case of the publication of a successful dissertation, the author is considered as bound to print the above vote in connection therewith.

*Boston, July 29, 1841.*

*A. 4—4w*

**ENOCH HALE, Secretary.**

This information, that "puerperal fever could be produced by the inoculation of a woman with fluid from a sick woman or from the body of one who had died after labor," indicates to me that Dr. Kneeland was not a physician, but a murderer. It indicates to me that in the case of at least one healthy mother with healthy infant—a charity patient no doubt at the downtown Boston medical facility of Harvard College, expecting and needing nothing more than sanitation and respect—under the guise of "treatment" and under the guise of "care" fluids had been drawn with malice aforethought from the corpse of a mother who had just dies of the puerperal fever, and injected into her without her knowledge or consent, in order to demonstrate the accuracy of her physician's prediction, that she would be killed and her infant left motherless.

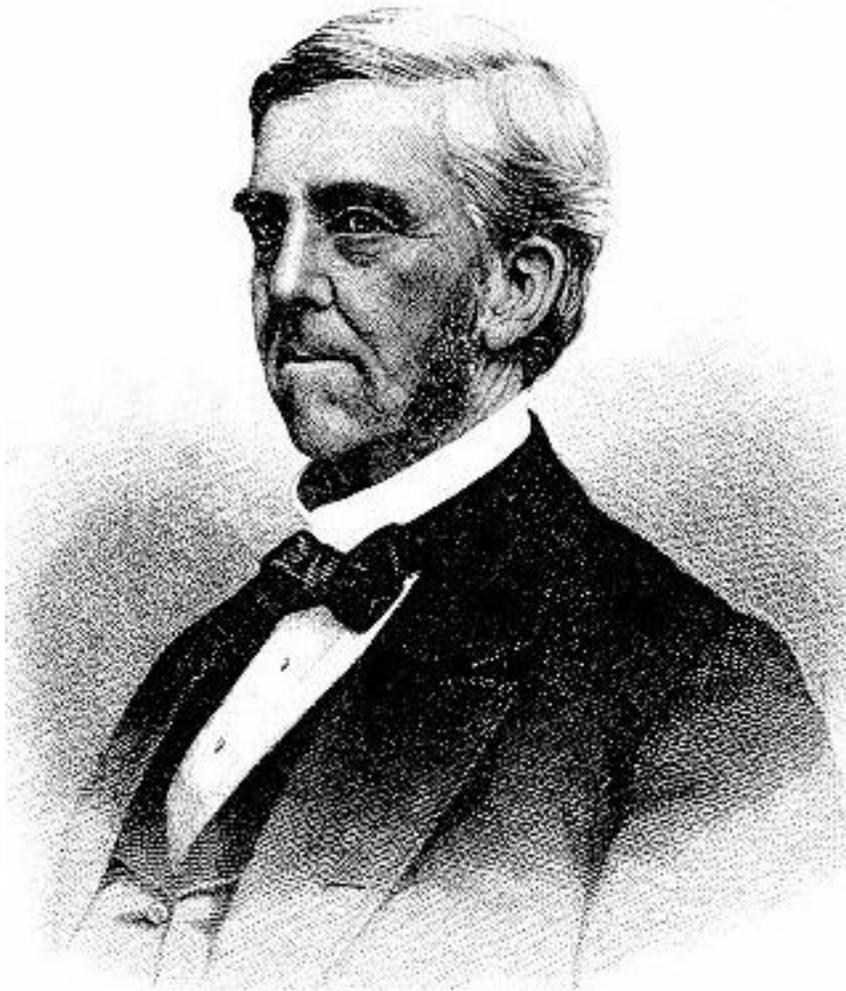
We are not informed of the name of this mother who had been murdered, or of this infant who had been left motherless by this heartless monster of a medical practitioner, [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#)

**CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT**

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.****DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.****1847**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) received [Harvard Medical College](#)'s Boylston Prize, of either \$50 or a gold medal of that value at the recipient's option, for an essay "Hydrotherapy" in the [American Journal of the Medical Sciences](#) (Philadelphia, XIV, 75-108). He would spend two years in professional studies in Paris before beginning the practice of medicine in Boston. He published a translation of ANDRY'S DISEASES OF THE HEART. He would pass some time in Brazil, and also visit the Lake Superior copper region.

Doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes became Parkman Professor of Anatomy and Physiology at [Harvard Medical College](#).<sup>1</sup>



[Professor John White Webster](#) succeeded in getting the \$400 he had borrowed from [Doctor George Parkman](#) in 1842 brought forward into a loan of \$2,432 funded by a syndicate of his [Harvard College](#) colleagues including Parkman. As security for this note he offered his collection of gemstones and geological specimens.

1. Dr. Holmes would hold this post for the next 40 years. He would become dean of the Harvard Medical School, a post he would hold until 1882.

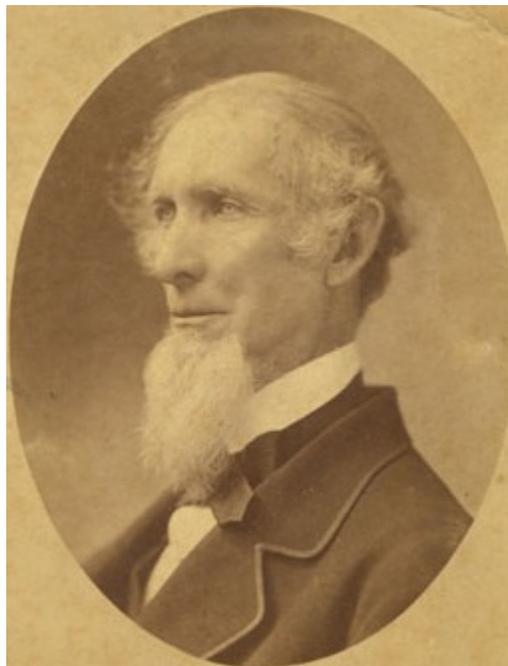


**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1848**

[Dr. Josiah Clark Nott](#)'s SKETCH OF THE EPIDEMIC OF YELLOW FEVER OF 1847, IN MOBILE. Also in this year, TWO LECTURES ON THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BIBLICAL AND PHYSICAL HISTORY OF MAN, DELIVERED BY INVITATION, FROM THE CHAIR OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, ETC., OF THE LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY, IN DECEMBER, 1848.<sup>2</sup>



**THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT**





DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

1849

August 1, Wednesday: In [New Bedford](#) during the late 1840s, bands and other marching groups and societies were turning out in force for parades on the anniversary of the emancipation of the slaves of the British West Indies, with the city's schoolchildren joining in as well.

EMANCIPATION DAY  
ABOLITIONISM

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) got married with Eliza Maria Curtis, daughter of Daniel T. Curtis, Esq. of Cambridge, Massachusetts, grand-daughter of General Paul Curtis of the American Revolution. They would have a son

2. Do you get the point of the clause “CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BIBLICAL AND PHYSICAL HISTORY OF MAN” in this title? The point is that although the GENESIS story has us all descending from Adam and Eve, black and white splitting off from each other in a later timeframe, the polygenist argument has God creating each race of humans as a separate act of creation, with its own “Adam” and “Eve” progenitors — so that there could be no blood connection whatever (so long as there is not, shudder, miscegenation, which obviously was not what God intended and would defeat God's plan for us) even though all humans are the same one human species. [Professor Samuel George Morton](#) himself had been reluctant to explicitly espouse polygenism because it was such a major challenge to the biblical creation story. There are, however, various inventive ways by which the creative mind might extrapolate around the GENESIS story in order to salvage both the righteousness of racism and the wrongness of miscegenation, and the racists of course carefully played all these angles. The point was to figure out one or another neat trick by which to allow that the GENESIS story, because it was holy scripture, was the literal truth of human origins, while meanwhile salvaging polygenism and therefore the bottom line, which of course was white master-racial superiority over the black servant creation.

We should bear in mind, of course, that Dr. Nott was himself a mocker of religion. He loved to point at the believers in God who tended to flock, when they were ill, not to their religion but to his operating table, and derogate them as hypocrites. We must suspect, therefore, that in seeking to force a connection between scripture and biology in these two lectures at New Orleans, he was merely offering an argument that he supposed might be persuasive for whatever foolish folks were of such a frame of mind.

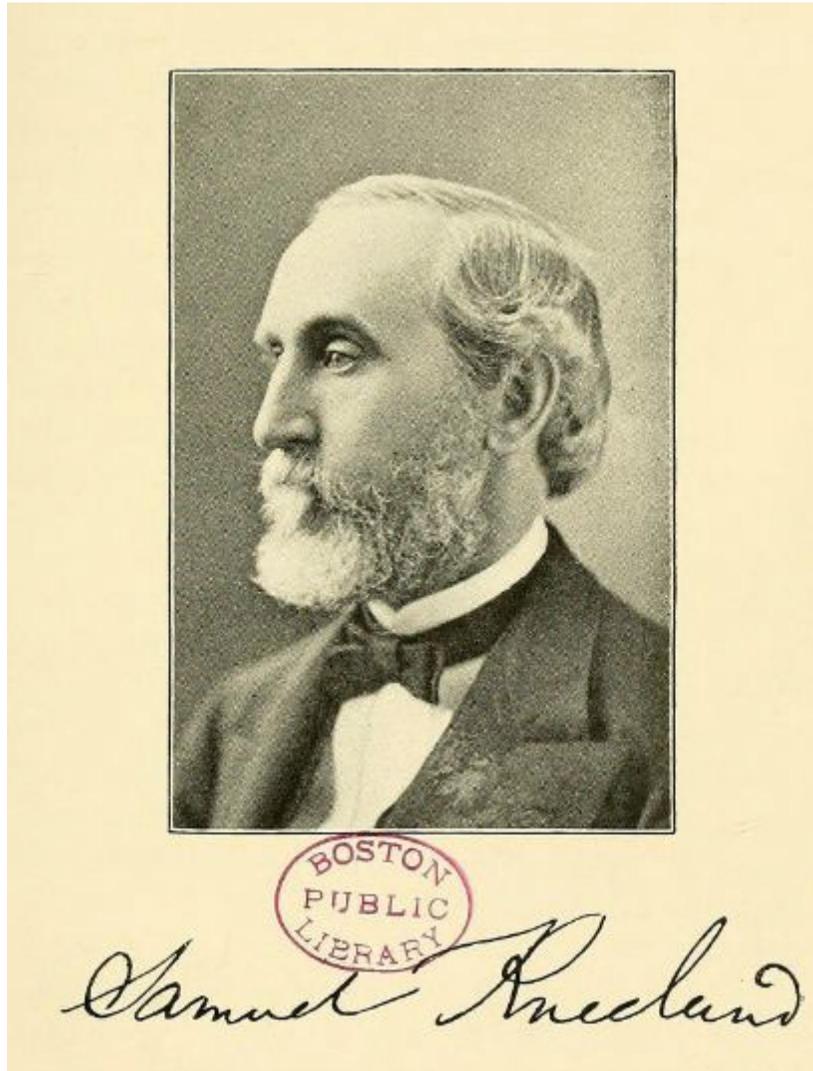
Charles Hamilton Smith, a naturalist from England, was like Samuel George Morton a believer in polygenism, the theory that the races of humankind had been created separately. His THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE HUMAN SPECIES, published during this year, maintains that there have always been three fundamentally distinct human types: The Caucasian, the Mongolian, and the Negro. [Samuel Kneeland, Jr., M.D.](#) had authored an 84-page introduction to the American edition in which he laid out the evidence that supported polygenist creationism and insisted that the Genesis record in the Bible was entirely compatible with there having been multiple “Adam” and “Eve” progenitors.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

and a daughter, Samuel Kneeland on December 10, 1850 and Eliza Curtis Kneeland on October 21, 1852.



(We can be quite certain that in the case of this 1850 childbirth by Mrs. Kneeland, and in the case of this 1852 childbirth by Mrs. Kneeland, her murderous physician husband did not experiment to demonstrate yet again as he had proved in 1846, that “puerperal fever could be produced by the inoculation of a woman with fluid from a sick woman or from the body of one who had died after labor.” No, this particular mother was no charity patient — who might be killed for the improvement of science and her unfortunate infant left motherless. This one was the physician’s spouse, and the infant in question was the physician’s own child, and thus mother and infant would be awarded the very best of care! She, no, *she* was not injected.)

The [cholera](#) was making an extraordinary visit to [Ireland](#). The [Morning Herald](#) editorialized that “A feeling is becoming very general that some mode of nationally supplying the DIVINE mercy should be immediately adopted, with reference to the pestilence which is now raging among us. It is no longer to be doubted or denied that not in our generation has a visitation of like severity been known. The worst periods of the cholera of 1832 did not approach in extent or intensity to that through which we are passing. We entirely accord with the feeling



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

we have described, and trust that Parliament will not separate without some appeal being made to the heads of her Majesty's Government as to the propriety of such a step. There is something exceedingly awful in the mysterious character of this pestilence. Nearly twenty years has it been a known disease, in one sense, throughout Europe; and yet, in another sense, it remains utterly unknown to this moment. Medical professors of the highest attainments are obliged to admit that they know not how or whence it comes; how or in what cases or circumstances it acts; or of what character the remedies ought to be. All the modes of dealing with it are little better than guesses. One insists on brandy, another prefers ice mixed with salt. Chloroform is the remedy here, bleeding there. Heat or cold, stillness or friction, all manner of differing or opposing modes of treatment, are advocated on all sides, and with equal zeal. The plainest facts are called in question. A Doctor H., at Liverpool, declares that in one week he effected 74 cures! All the other doctors of the town assert with decision, that he has effected no cures at all." The Limerick Chronicle reported, on the bright side, that the supply of potatoes was looking up this year, so that although you might fear to die of the cholera this season, this season you need not fear to die of **famine**: "Precisely at this time last year unmistakable symptoms of the potato disease were generally visible in our market. At present, we have sincere pleasure in announcing that no sign of any distemper affects the large supply now at market in Limerick."

**THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT**





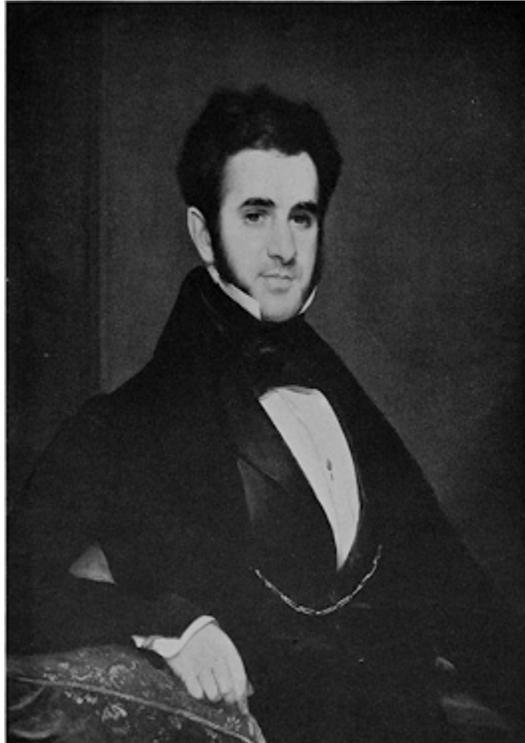
**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1850**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) described the dissection of a *Crocodilus lucius* for the benefit of the members of the [Boston Society of Natural History](#).

[Augustus Addison Gould](#) authored a MEMOIR OF AMOS BINNEY, a deceased colleague at the [Boston Society of Natural History](#).



He also authored, in this timeframe, the following submissions:

- An Account of Some Tame Fishes and Turtles at Hingham, Mass. [Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History](#), iii, p. 175.
- Remarks on Specimens of *Lymnæa* from Lake Superior. [Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History](#), iii, p. 181.
- On the Occurrence of *Helix hortensis* of Europe on an Island near Cape Ann. [Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History](#), iii, p. 181
- Descriptions of New Species of Shells from Africa presented by Dr. Perkins. [Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History](#), iii, pp. 193-197 (*OTIA CONCHOLOGICA*, pp. 206-210, 1862).
- Lake Superior, its Physical Character, Vegetation, and Animals, compared with those of other and similar regions, by Louis Agassiz. Boston (Art. v, Catalogue of Shells, with Descriptions of New Species, by [Augustus Addison Gould](#), pp. 243-245).
- On the Occurrence of Ixodes in a Human Subject. [Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History](#), iii, pp. 335, 351.
- Descriptions of Sixteen Species of *Melania*, regarded as new by Mr. J.G. Anthony. [Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History](#), iii, pp. 359-363.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1853**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) described the skeleton of a Great Chimpanzee *Troglodytes Gorilla* for the benefit of the members of the [Boston Society of Natural History](#).

A skeleton noticed in the bank of the Sudbury River directly behind the Isaac Moore house was presumed to be native American.

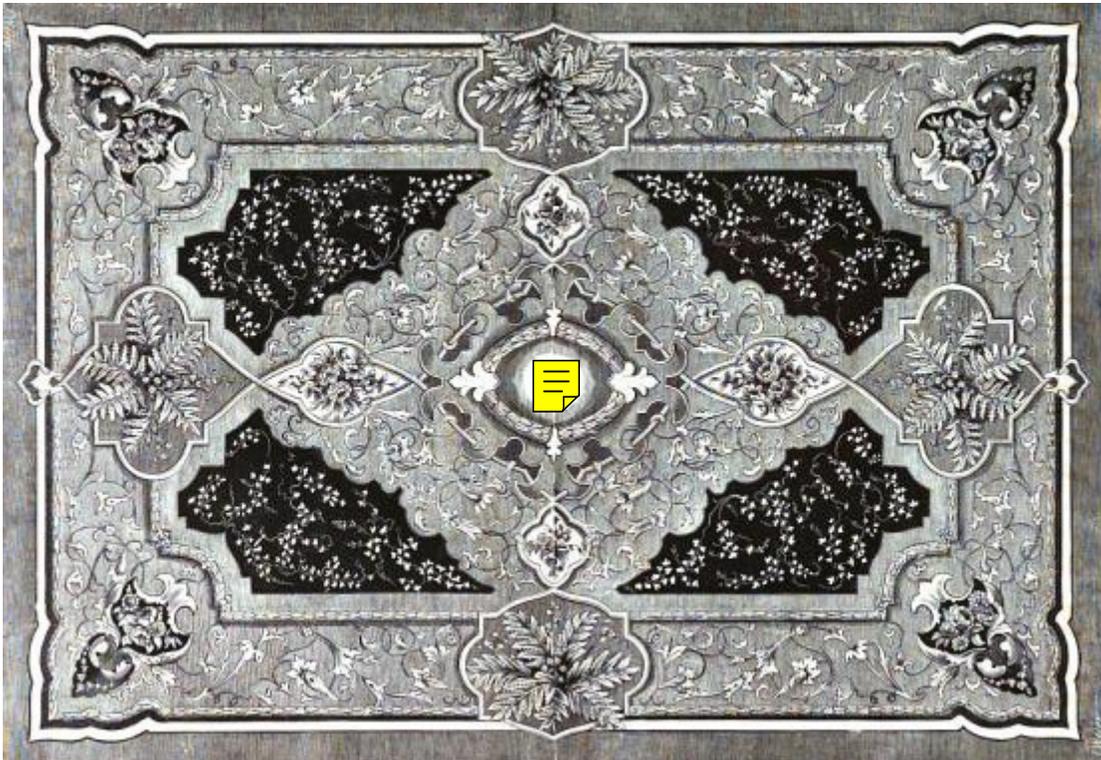
The [Boston Society of Natural History](#) purchased, at auction, some stone slabs exhibiting fossil footprints of dinosaurs that had roamed the Connecticut Valley during the Triassic Period.

**PROCEEDINGS, FOR 1853**

**WHAT I'M WRITING IS TRUE BUT NEVER MIND  
YOU CAN ALWAYS LIE TO YOURSELF**

[HDT](#)[WHAT?](#)[INDEX](#)**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.****DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.****1854**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) contributed to Charles Rush Goodrich's edition, *SCIENCE AND MECHANISM: ILLUSTRATED BY EXAMPLES IN THE NEW YORK EXHIBITION, 1853-4. INCLUDING EXTENDED DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, WITH ANNOTATIONS AND NOTES RELATIVE TO THE PROGRESS AND PRESENT STATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE, AND THE USEFUL ARTS* (New York: G.P. Putnam and Company, 10 Park Place. London: — Sampson Low, Son, and Company).



## **SCIENCE AND MECHANISM**

In this year Hermann Ludwig von Helmholtz reasoned that all temperature differences would eventually average out, over the course of time, into a universally uniform temperature: all flows of heat from here to there would disappear at the “heat death of the universe.” All it would take was for the universe to exist long enough, and it was inevitably going asymptotically to approach a state where all energy would be more or less randomized to the point at which there could be no further significant flowing of energy from place to place. (This sort of thinking had originated in the year 1824 when Thoreau was but seven, when Nicolas Léonard Sadi Carnot had in the course of thinking about the conversion of heat into mechanical work made some pregnant observations about the loss of available energy as heat, realizing that the efficiency of this conversion depended on the difference of temperature between an engine and its environment, and then in 1850, when Thoreau was about 33, recognizing the significance of some work by James Prescott Joule on the conservation of energy, Rudolf Clausius would formulate the 2d Law of Thermodynamics in the initial simple form that contrary to the caloric theory of heat popular at the time, which considered heat as a liquid, heat does not



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

spontaneously flow from cold to hot bodies. From that new awareness, Clausius would be able to infer in 1865, subsequent to Thoreau's death, the law that Sadi Carnot had proclaimed in 1824, and coin a definition of a new quantity, which he named "entropy." Clausius would at that point give this 2d Law of Thermodynamics its definitive present formulation, that entropy tends to increase in any isolated system. The philosophical problem in this is a problem that has to do with our tendency toward future-worship. It has to do with the consequentialist attitude in ethics. This "heat death" thingie which began in 1824 and proceeded through 1850 and 1854 to 1865 was entirely incompatible with our moral consequentialism, our future-worship, because it pointed up the fact that eventually, inevitably, there won't be any sort of livable future anymore, and nothing will be morally legitimate or illegitimate, and everything will be as if no human being had ever lived and struggled and hoped and dreamed and thought. The shit would really hit the fan in the popular mind when a 29-year-old would publish his first successful fiction, in 1895. This would be H.G. Wells and his science-fiction fantasy THE TIME MACHINE. The book would be suffused with the sadness of knowing that eventually our sun would be exploding, and then fading away, and that eventually, the entire universe would be reduced to a big dull blah. The only "inconvenient truth" that Al Gore is now adding is an awareness that since human civilization is inevitably subject to the "Law of the Most Limiting Condition," our demise is bound to come a whole lot sooner than folks had, during the 19th Century, been imagining.)



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1857**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#)'s "On the Birds of Keweenaw Point, Lake Superior," in Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, Volume VI, pages 231-241.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BSNH**



DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

1858

January 15, Friday: Would this have been the occasion on which [Henry Thoreau](#) read, in the PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOSTON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY, Volume 4, a contribution by Dr. W.I. Burnett dating to July 20, 1853?

**Dr. Burnett alluded to the fact that it is not uncommon to find toads in such a situation as to make it highly improbable that they could have gone through the usual stages of the tadpole state under the ordinary circumstances. He mentioned, that his attention had been recently called to the fact of their existence in great numbers in a garden in the vicinity of Boston, where there was no water for their tadpole existence, and where it was impossible that they could have entered from without. He referred to the opinions of Naturalists on this subject, as follows :**

*Lowe* (Ann. Nat. Hist. XI., April, 1853, p. 341) notices the improbability of toads having passed through the larval or tadpole state, in cases of their appearance in places where there is no water, and where it is impossible that they should have come from distant brooks.

*Jenyns*, (Ibid. XI., June, p. 483,) who has observed reptile life, agrees with *Lowe* in his hypothesis, and thinks that gills never existed, or disappeared very shortly after birth.

It would also appear that like facts were noticed by many of the older Naturalists, *Shaw*, *Ray*, and others, who regarded them as indicative of the viviparity of these animals.

The anurous Batrachians have, as is well known, no copulatory organs, the fecundation taking place as the eggs escape, by the semen which is spread over them by the male. It is therefore highly improbable that there is viviparity as in the case of some snakes, (*Watersnake*, *Rattlesnake*, &c.); the young are probably brought forth as tadpoles, but soon lose the peculiarities of their larval state, and acquire, prematurely, the functional conditions of terrestrial animals.

**Dr. Burnett presented specimens of the young toads which he had spoken of, and which were, he said, smaller than any fully developed toads he had ever seen, which had passed through the tadpole state in the ordinary way.**

—and a contribution by [Dr. Charles T. Jackson](#) dating to December 1852, and made notes on these in his 2d Commonplace Book?



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

Dr. C.T. Jackson said, that he had recently observed in a pond near Plymouth, Mass. The Bream (*Potomis vulgaris*) guarding its eggs. The nest was formed of gravel pasted together with the eggs, and over it the fish kept its watch. On driving it away, it constantly returned when the alarm had passed. It could be approached so as to be easily thrown on shore with the hands. On breaking up the nest, the fish disappeared. Similar facts had been noticed of late years in the habits of many fish, but Dr. Jackson was not aware that they had been noticed with regard to this species.



January 15, 1858. At Natural History Rooms, Boston.

Looked at the little grebe. Its feet are not webbed with lobes on the side like the coot, and it is quite white beneath. Saw the good-sized duck—velvet duck, with white spot on wing—which is commonly called “coot” on salt water. They have a living young bald eagle in the cellar. Talked with [Dr. Kneeland](#). They have a golden eagle from Lexington, which [K.](#) obtained two or three years since, the first Dr. Cabot has heard of in Massachusetts. Speaking to him of my night-warbler, he asked if it uttered such a note, making the note of the myrtle-bird, *ah, te-te-te te-te-te te-te-te*, exactly, and said that that was the note of the white-throated sparrow, which he heard at Lake Superior, at night as well as by day.<sup>3</sup>

Same afternoon, saw Dr. Durkee in Howard Street. He has not seen the common glow-worm, and called his a variety of *Lampyris noctiluca*. Showed to [Agassiz](#), Gould, and [Jackson](#), and it was new to them. They thought it a variety of the above. His were luminous throughout, mine only in part of each segment. Saw some beautiful painted leaves in a shop window,—maple and oak.

**THE BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY**

3. *Vide* his report, July 15, 1857.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1860**

October 13, Saturday: In New-York, [Edward, Prince of Wales](#) was photographed by Matthew Brady. (Presumably, since this was before the prince became widely known as "[Dirty Bertie.](#)" he wouldn't have been hiding anything that looks like a stinkhorn mushroom behind that hat.)

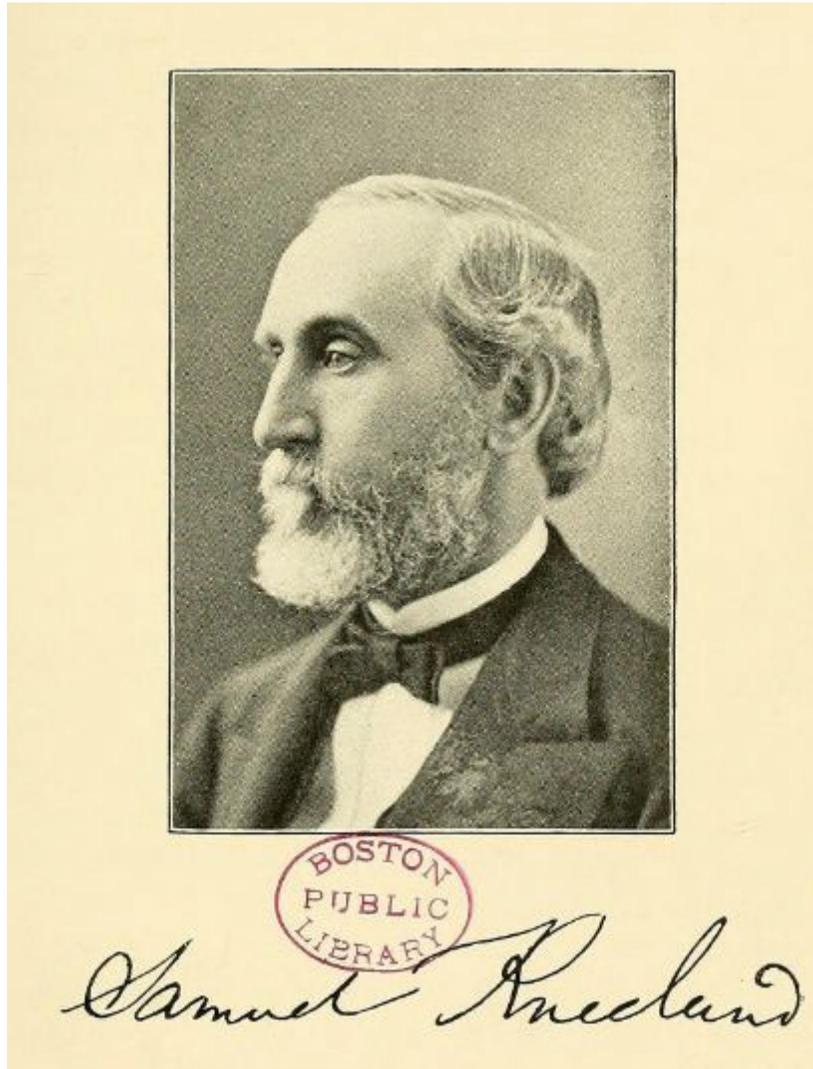




**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

[Henry Thoreau](#) wrote to [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) of the [Boston Society of Natural History](#).



In the course of this communication he made reference to [Spencer Fullerton Baird](#)'s MAMMALS OF NORTH AMERICA. THE DESCRIPTIONS OF SPECIES BASED CHIEFLY ON THE COLLECTIONS IN THE MUSEUM OF THE



DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION (Philadelphia: J.B. Lipincott & Co., 1859).



Concord Oct 13<sup>th</sup>  
1860  
Dr. Samuel Kneeland  
Dear Sir,  
The members  
of the Nat. Hist. Soc. may  
be interested to hear, that  
a female Canada Lynx  
(*L. Canadensis*, or Loup  
[Cervier]) was killed, on the  
9<sup>th</sup> of September, in Carlisle,



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

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*about three miles from  
the middle of Concord.  
I saw the carcass, & have  
the skin & skull, which  
I have set up. It is as  
large as any of its kind  
which I find described. I  
was at first troubled  
to identify it in the books,  
because it has naked  
soles, though [I] believed*

Page 2

*it to be the Canadensis.  
Audubon & Bachman give  
“soles hairy” as one of the  
specific characters of this  
species, and “soles naked”  
as a specific character of  
L. Rufus. Emmons [(in  
the Massachusetts<sup>[1]</sup> Reports)  
says further & more par-  
ticularly, “The two most  
remarkable characters  
of the Lynx [[i.e. [the] Canadensis]]  
are the beautiful pencils  
of black hair which orna-  
ment the ears, and the  
perfect hairiness of the soles  
of the feet, which have no  
naked spots or tubercles  
like the other species of the  
feline race:” and, speaking  
of the Bay Lynx, he says  
that it “is easily distinguished  
from the preceding by*

Page 3

*the shorter pencils of hair  
upon the ear, and by  
the nakedness of the balls  
of the toes. This last char-  
acter, it appears to me,  
is sufficiently important*



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*in the borealis [i.e. Canadensis]  
to constitute it a genus  
by itself[.]”  
At length, I obtained a  
copy of Baird's "Mammals[“;]  
but still I was not satis-  
fied till I had read to near  
the end of his account,  
when he says that he has  
received a second speci-  
men, “in summer pelage”,  
and that “the pads of  
the feet in this specimen  
are distinctly visible, not  
being at all overgrown, as  
in winter specimens.” This  
is my animal, both in this*

Page 4  
[and] *in other respects.  
I am thus minute  
because it is not yet  
made quite distinct enough,  
that hairy soles are  
no more characteristic  
of this Lynx than naked  
soles are.  
Judging from the above  
descriptions, the only peculiarity  
in any specimen is a distinct  
black line commencing at  
the eye and terminating  
in the black portion of  
the ruff.  
I suspect that some  
of the Lynxes killed in  
this vicinity of late years,  
and called the Bay Lynx,  
were the Canada Lynx.  
Yrs truly  
Henry D. Thoreau*



October 13. P.M. – Up river.  
I find no new cones on Monroe's larch by the river, but many old ones (the same was the case with the hemlocks

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

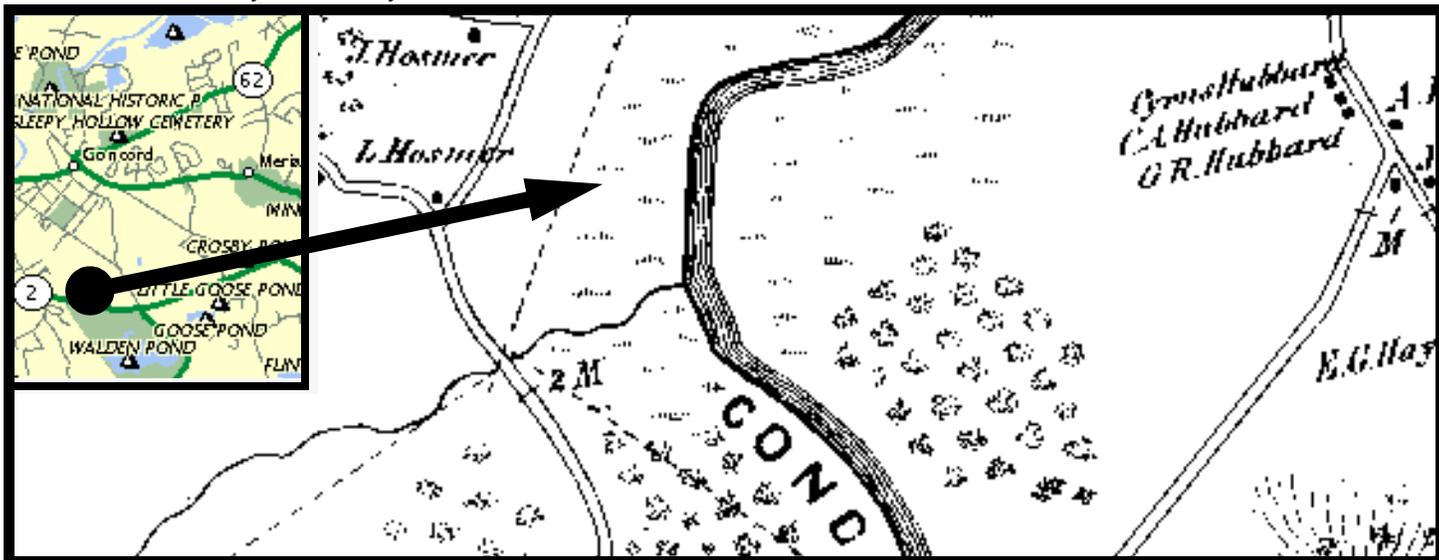
DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

on Assabet), unless those imperfect ones with a twig growing from their extremity were this year's, – but I think they were last year's. Last year both white pine, hemlock, and larches bore abundantly and there were very few white oak acorns. This year, so far as I observe, there are scarcely any white pine cones (were there any?) or hemlock or larch, and a great abundance of white oak acorns in all parts of the town. So far as I have observed, if pines or oaks bear abundantly one year they bear little or nothing the next year. This is a white oak year, not a pine year. It is also an apple and a potato year. I should think that there might be a bushel or two of acorns on and under some single trees. There are but few in the woods. Those spreading trees that stand in open pastures fully exposed to the light and air are the most fertile ones. I rejoice when the white oaks bear an abundant crop. I speak of it to many whom I meet, but I find few to sympathize with me. They seem to care much more for potatoes. The Indians say that many acorns are a sign of a cold winter. It is a cold fall at any rate.

The shore at Clamshell is greened with pontederia seed which has floated up and been left there, with some button-bush seed and some of those slender bulbs of the lysimachia and those round green leaf-buds of the *Utricularia vulgaris*. Thus, probably, are all these dispersed. I also see large masses of the last-named weed lodged against the bridges, etc., with the conspicuous greener leaf-buds attached. I find no yellow lily seeds, only a few white lily seed-pods. These are full of seeds the color of apple seeds and but a quarter as big. They sink in water as soon as the slimy matter which invests them is washed off. I see a white lily stem coiled up with many whorls like a wire spring.

Whorls

They are almost only white lily pads that are left now. There is some of the fresh-water sponge in this the main stream too. The *F. hyemalis* back, and I think I see and hear the shore larks. The shrub oaks on J. Hosmer's hillside this side of Hollowell place have already passed the height of their beauty. Is it not early on account of frost?



At Holden Swamp.—Now, as soon as the frost strips the maples, and their leaves strew the swamp floor and conceal the pools, the note of the chickadee sounds cheerfully wintryish. I see many pine and oak tree tops in the woods that were blown off last spring. They lie many rods from their trunks, so that I have to look a little while to tell where they came from. Moreover, the butt of the piece over which I stand looks so large compared with the broken shaft up there so high that I at first feel sure it did not come from there, – which [?] it did, – and so am puzzled to locate it. The lentago fruit is quite sweet and reminds me of dates in their somewhat mealy pulp. It has large flat black



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seeds, somewhat like watermelon seeds, but not so long.

The scientific differs from the poetic or lively description somewhat as the photographs, which we so weary of viewing, from paintings and sketches, though this comparison is too favorable to science. All science is only a makeshift, a means to an end which is never attained. After all, the truest description, and that by which another living man can most readily recognize a flower, is the unmeasured and eloquent one which the sight of it inspires. No scientific description will supply the want of this, though you should count and measure and analyze every atom that seems to compose it.

Surely poetry and eloquence are a more universal language than that Latin which is confessedly dead. In science, I should say, all description is postponed till we know the whole, but then science itself will be cast aside. But unconsidered expressions of our delight which any natural object draws from us are something complete and final in themselves, since all nature is to be regarded as it concerns man; and who knows how near to absolute truth such unconscious affirmations may come? Which are the truest, the sublime conceptions of Hebrew poets and *seers*, or the guarded statements of modern geologists, which we must modify or unlearn so fast?

As they who were present early at the discovery of gold in California, and observed the sudden fall in its value, have most truly described that state of things, so it is commonly the old naturalists who first received American plants that describe them best. A scientific description is such as you would get if you should send out the scholars of the polytechnic school with all sorts of metres made and patented to take the measures for you of any natural object. In a sense you have got nothing new thus, for every object that we see mechanically is mechanically daguerretyped on our eyes, but a true description growing out [OF] the perception and appreciation of it is itself a new fact, never to be daguerretyped, indicating the highest quality of the plant, – its relation to man, – of far more importance than any merely medicinal quality that it may possess, or be thought to-day to possess. There is a certainty and permanence about this kind of observation, too, that does not belong to the other, for every flower and weed has its day in the medical pharmacopoeia, but the beauty of flowers is perennial in the taste of men.

Truly this is a world of vain delights. We think that men have a substratum of common sense but sometimes are peculiarly frivolous. But consider what a value is seriously and permanently attached to gold and so-called precious stones almost universally. Day and night, summer and winter, sick or well, in war and in peace, men speak of and believe in gold as a great treasure. By a thousand comparisons they prove their devotion to it. If wise men or true philosophers bore any considerable proportion to the whole number of men, gold would be treated with no such distinction. Men seriously and, if possible, religiously believe in and worship gold. They hope to earn golden opinions, to celebrate their golden wedding. They dream of the golden age. Now it is not its intrinsic beauty or value, but its rarity and arbitrarily attached value, that distinguishes gold. You would think it was the reign of shams.

The one description interests those chiefly who have not seen the thing; the other chiefly interests those who have seen it and are most familiar with it, and brings it home to the reader. We like to read a good description of no thing so well as of that which we already know the best, as our friend, or ourselves even. In proportion as we get and are near to our object, we do without the measured or scientific account, which is like the measure they take, or the description they write, of a man when he leaves his country, and insert in his passport for the use of the detective police of other countries. The men of science merely look at the object with sinister eye, to see if [it] corresponds with the passport, and merely vise or make some trifling additional mark on its passport and let it go; but the real acquaintances and friends which it may have in foreign parts do not ask to see nor think of its passport.

[Gerard](#) has not only heard of and seen and raised a plant, but felt and smelled and tasted it, applying all his senses to it. You are not distracted from the thing to the system or arrangement. In the true natural order the order or system is not insisted on. Each is first, and each last. That which presents itself to us each moment occupies the whole of the present and rests on the very topmost point of the sphere, under the zenith. The species and individuals of all the natural kingdoms ask our attention and admiration in a round robin. We make straight lines, putting a captain at their head and a lieutenant at their tails, with sergeants and corporals all along the line and a flourish of trumpets near the beginning, insisting on a particular uniformity where nature has made curves to which belongs their own sphere-music. It is indispensable for us to square her circles, and we offer our rewards to him who will do it.

Who [*sic*] describes the most familiar object with a zest and vividness of imagery as if he saw it for the first time, the novelty consisting not in the strangeness of the object, but in the new and clearer perception of it.



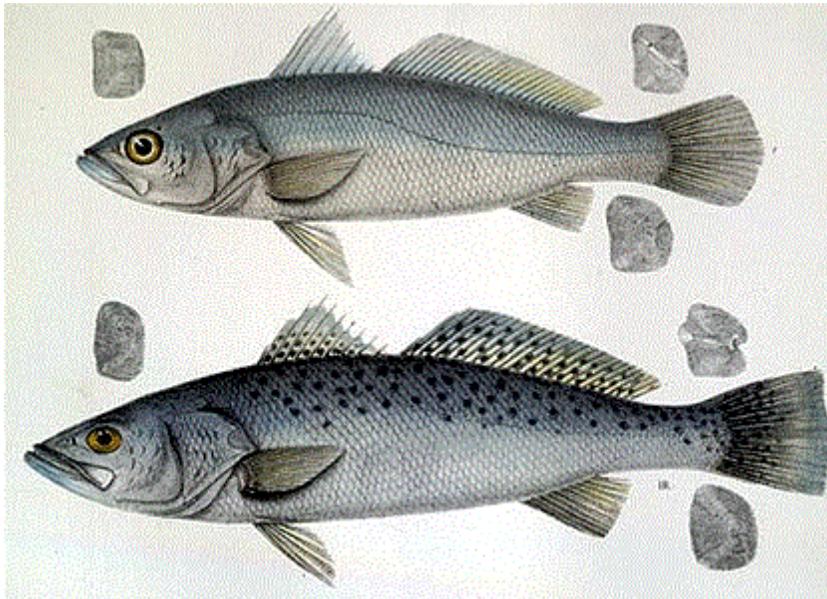


**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1862**

A 2d edition of [Dr. John Edwards Holbrook](#)'s ICHTHYOLOGY OF SOUTH CAROLINA was prepared. The illustrations were provided by Tappan & Bradford in Boston and the printing was done by Welch, Bigelow and Company in Cambridge, Massachusetts. When civil war broke out, Dr. Holbrook became head of the examining board of surgeons in South Carolina.

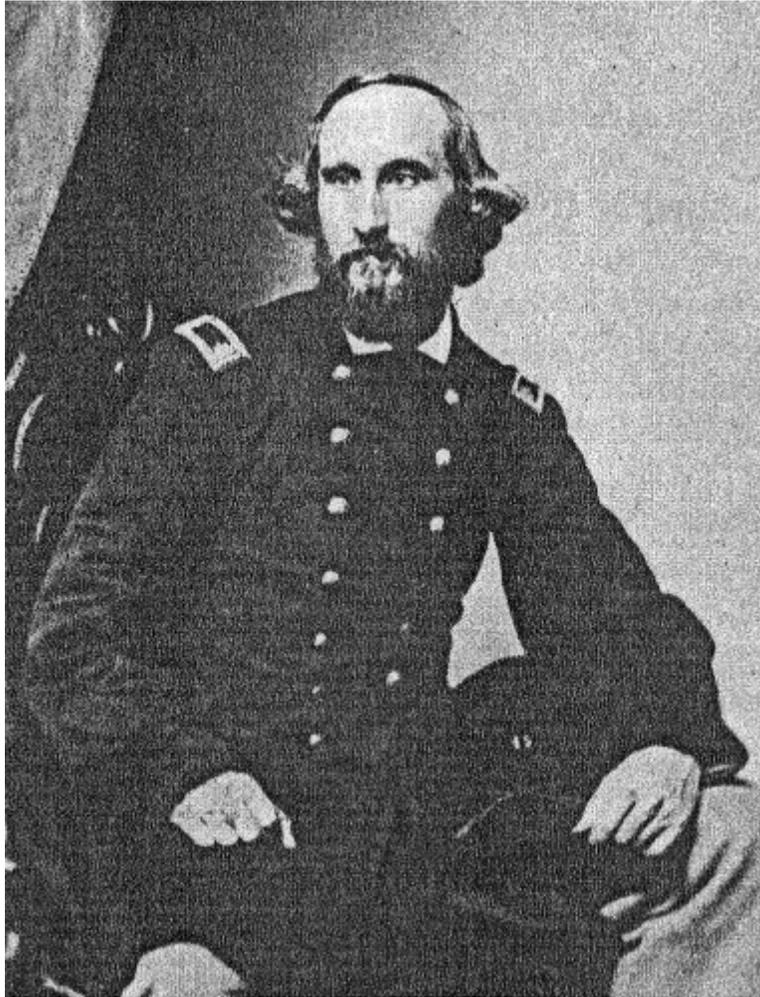


[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) joined the Union army as an acting assistant surgeon. Would he murder any of our soldiers in the course of medical experiments? He would be assigned to duty with General Ambrose Burnside, and would, until 1866, be in charge of hospitals in New Orleans, Louisiana and in Mobile, Alabama. On the following screen the surgeon appears in his uniform, quite as cross-eyed as usual:

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**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**



Early March: [Kady Southwell Brownell](#) and [Robert Brownell](#) of [Rhode Island](#) participated in the seizure of Roanoke Island, Virginia with troops led by General Ambrose E. Burnside. This Union formation then turned toward New Bern. [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) accompanied this expedition into [North Carolina](#), and after its capture of New Bern would be assigned to duty at the Craven Street Hospital there, and later at the hospital in Beaufort.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

October: [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) was commissioned surgeon of the 45th Massachusetts Regiment, and would serve in that capacity in New Bern, [North Carolina](#) until the regiment was discharged during July 1863.

[Captain Edward H. Faucon](#) took charge of a screw-powered steamer, the *Montgomery*, in a blockade of the harbor of Wilmington, [North Carolina](#).

Meanwhile, on the other side of the globe, in the largest and longest civil war that the world had ever seen, [Wang T'ao](#) had written, under the pseudonym Wang Wan, to a [Taiping](#) Christian leader, proposing tactics against the Qing military and suggesting that the westerners were not the enemy of the Taiping Kingdom. He had proposed that the real enemy of the [Chinese](#) Christians was the Buddhist Qing government in Beijing. If the Christian army could achieve victory over the Buddhist army led by Zeng Guofan, then the westerners might side with the Taiping Kingdom. When the Qing army had captured [Shanghai](#), this letter had fallen into the hands of the Qing government and Emperor Tongzhi had ordered his arrest. Wang had taken refuge in the British Consulate of [Hong Kong](#). At this point four months later, in disguise, he was escorted from the British Consulate and secreted aboard a ship. The Buddhist forces centered on Beijing would be triumphant over the Christian Chinese forces centered on Nanking, and in consequence for the next 22 years he would be in exile from his homeland.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

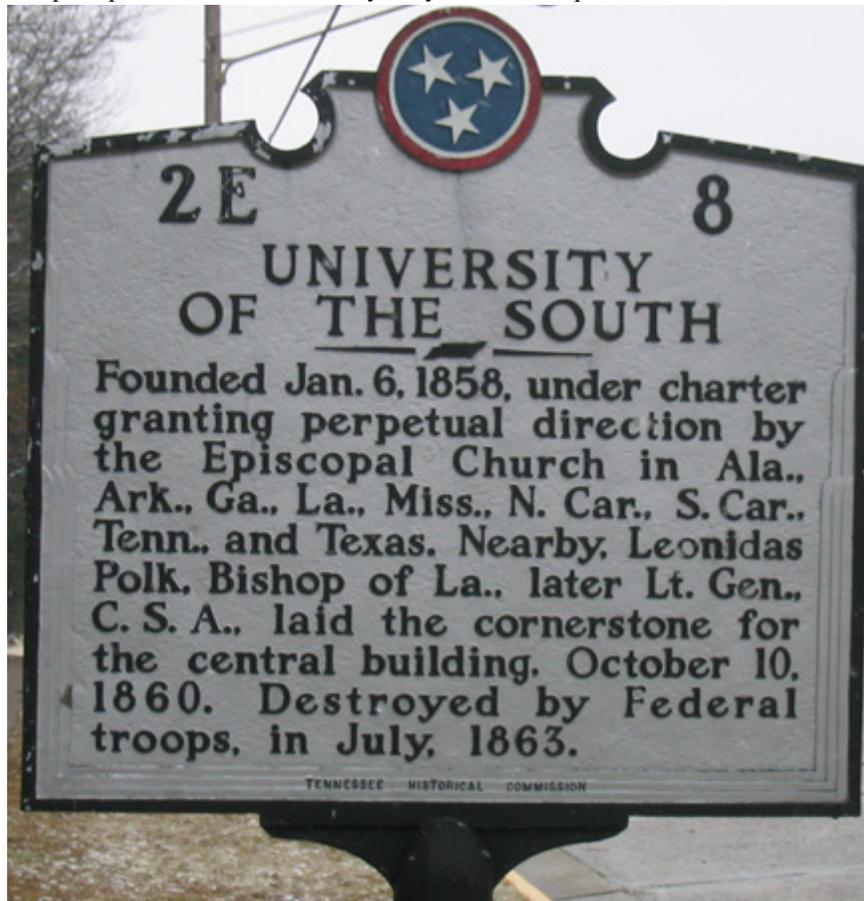
**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1863**

July: [Waldo Emerson](#) decided that war was one of his Good-Things-Leading-To-Human-Elevation:

*I shall always respect War hereafter. The cost of life, the dreary havoc of comfort and time, are overpaid by the Vistas it opens of ... reconstructing and uplifting Society.*

The central building that had been created for the new University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee –the institute for Episcopal students– was destroyed by Federal troops.



[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) entered the corps of surgeons of volunteers and was placed in charge, successively, of the university hospital in New Orleans, and of the marine hospital in Mobile. (Hopefully, he would not murder any of the soldiers there in the course of medical experiments.)



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

When he would learn that his son Toussaint L'Ouverture Delany had been among the survivors of the frontal assault of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers upon Fort Wagner, Dr. Martin Robison Delany would commit himself wholeheartedly to the cause of the war against the Southern states.



Frederick Douglass was assured personally by Secretary of War Stanton in Washington DC that in exchange for recruiting black Southerners as Union soldiers he would be receiving an officer's commission. (Would Stanton keep his promise? –Stanton would be a white man.)



John Andrew, a Massachusetts lawyer and politician, offered the following words of encouragement to Robert

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Gould Shaw, the white leader of the black recruits:

I know not, Mr. Commander, where in all human history to any given thousand men in arms there has been committed a work at once so proud, so precious, so full of hope and glory, as the work committed to you.

### Carleton Mabee's BLACK FREEDOM

The Tappanite-related American Peace Society itself acquiesced in the war. In doing so, it indulged in the sophistry of considering the war not to be a war in the usual international sense, but merely the attempt of a government to punish its own subjects for breaking the law. Indirectly the peace society ... supported the federal conscription law as necessary without indicating concern to secure exemption for conscientious objectors.... Among the Concord transcendentalists, Thoreau, who had once advocated going to prison to shame the state into giving up both war and slavery, in a sharp reversal now believed that suffering in this war was regenerating the nation. Similarly, the once anti-institutional, individualistic [Waldo Emerson](#) now argued that government must have dictatorial powers during wartime and that participation in war taught self-reliance — surely not the same kind of nonconformist self-reliance that he had once valued. To the disillusionment of [Moncure Daniel Conway](#), one of Emerson's individualistic, antiwar, antislavery disciples, Emerson even accepted an appointment as an official visitor at West Point.



**Pencil sketch of Fort Ridgely in the summer of 1863 after the race war**



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1866**

The Reverend [Thomas Wentworth Higginson](#) was the editor of HARVARD MEMORIAL BIOGRAPHIES, and was one of the thirteen contributors to that volume. The volume was a memorial to [Harvard College](#) alumni who had been lost in the Civil War.

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) was mustered out of the US Army with the brevet rank of lieutenant colonel, and began to act as the secretary of the corporation for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

1867

Léopold Trouvelot, a Massachusetts researcher associated with Professor [Louis Agassiz](#) of [Harvard College](#), was experimenting with various silk-producing moths including the “European” [gypsy moth](#) *Porthetrea dispar* or *Lymantria dispar*.<sup>4</sup> The investigator reported that he had put five acres of woodland in Medford, Massachusetts within an 8-foot fence, and covered this area over with nets adequate to keep out all birds in order to experiment with these [silk](#)-producing moths.<sup>5</sup> He was intending to breed a disease-resistant silkworm (and do good and do well). He would accidentally release a very small number of European gypsy moths into the vacant lot next door, which is to say, into the ecosystem. Oops.<sup>6</sup>



TIMELINE OF ACCIDENTS

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) began to serve as an instructor in zoology and physiology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. An avid collector, he would venture on collection expeditions to Brazil, Hawaii, the Philippines, and Iceland (he does not seem to have brought back with him anything quite as devastating as the gypsy moth). He would contribute over 1,000 articles, mostly on zoological and medical subjects, to APPLETON'S AMERICAN CYCLOPÆDIA.

THE SCIENCE OF 1867

4. “*Dispar*” referred to the fact that the males and females are of different colors.

5. This risk was entirely unnecessary as it was run due to the fact that at that time the “European” [gypsy moth](#) (which actually had originated in Japan) was incorrectly being classified by [entomologists](#) and taxonomists as in the same genus with the silkworm *Bombyx mori*. No, it was all a stupid Harvard mistake, folks, and we’re sure embarrassed about that.

6. We may well note that there is no monument in Medford, Massachusetts to mark the “Forefathers Tree” in which the progenitors of the gypsy moths of America “stepped ashore” in 1867 or 1868 in this New World. Is this or is this not discrimination between one kind of intrusive, highly honored, and another kind, decidedly unwanted? –And why do we continue so gratuitously to insult Gypsies, after we have learned that it is so very wrong to insult Jews?



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

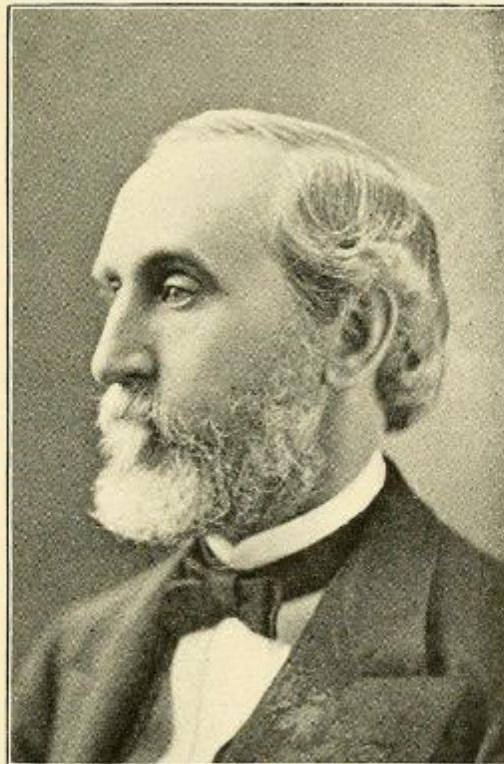
**1869**

[Isaac Flagg](#) left off tutoring in Greek at [Harvard College](#), to study in the universities of Berlin and Gottingen.

[David Greene Haskins, Jr.](#), who had in 1866 been awarded the Bachelor's Degree from [Harvard](#), received that college's A.M. and LL.B. degrees.

### **NEW "HARVARD MEN"**

At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) became the professor of zoology and physiology.



*Samuel Kneeland*

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**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1871**

Professor [Louis Agassiz](#) went on an expedition to [California](#), by traveling along both coasts of the South American continent. He would study and publish on the viviparous surf fishes of California.

## **THE SCIENCE OF 1871**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) became the secretary of the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Publication of his *THE WONDERS OF THE YOSEMITE VALLEY AND OF CALIFORNIA*.

city more than two feet thick. The "Father of the Forest," prostrate on the ground, was the largest in the grove, estimated to have been 435 feet high, and 110 in circumference at the base; this is much larger than any now standing. One of the largest was felled in 1853—5 men working 25 days with pump augers and wedges; it was 300 feet high, and 96 feet in circumference on the ground; it was 80 feet in circumference 6 feet from the base, and large enough to accommodate four sets of quadrilles on the stump; and on its prostrate trunk, a house and double bowling-alley



**LET'S ALL MOVE TO CA**



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1874**

King David Kalakaua of the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) was the 1st ruling monarch to attend a state dinner at the White House in Washington DC. The king's official tasters stepped forward at the beginning of each of the many courses of this meal, to sample the portions on the monarch's plate.

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) visited the Hawaiian Islands and Iceland in search of information concerning earthquakes and volcanic phenomena.



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1876**

[Henry Youle Hind](#) surveyed the coast of Labrador and became keenly interested in its fisheries and ocean currents (two years later at the universal exposition in Paris, his map of Labrador currents would be considered worthy of a gold medal and a diploma).

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#)'s AN AMERICAN IN ICELAND: AN ACCOUNT OF ITS SCENERY, PEOPLE, AND HISTORY (Boston).



ERUPTION OF STROKR, AUG. 5, 1874.

**AN AMERICAN IN ICELAND**



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1878**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) left the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to return to literary work and lecturing, in [Boston](#) and later the Philippine Islands.

After having spent some time with a brother in east India, in this year Sòng Jiashù or Soon Yao-ju or Soon Chiao-chun or Charlie Jones Soon was apprenticed in an uncle's tea and silk shop in [Boston](#). However, in order to obtain an education, [Charlie Soong](#) would run away from his apprenticeship and join the organization that eventually would become the US Coast Guard.





**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1881**

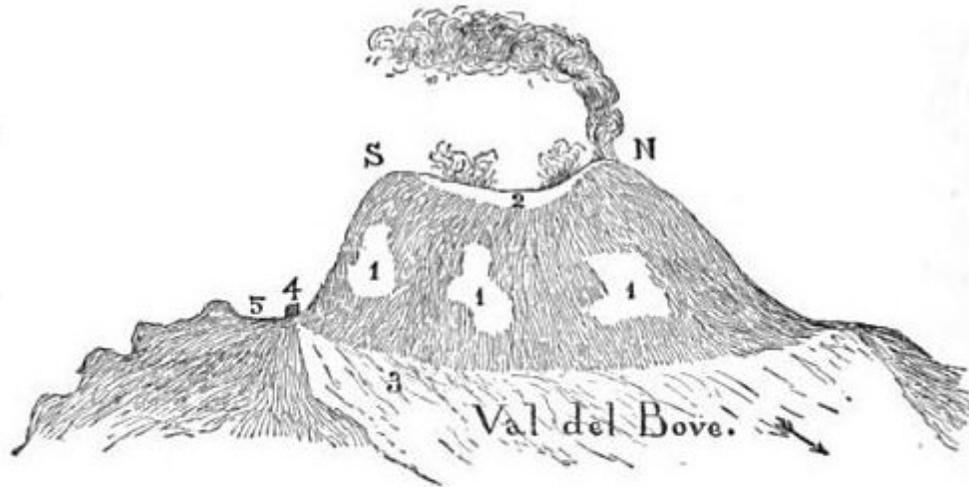
[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) began a 2-year trip round the world that would result in a manuscript he would entitle THE LAND OF HEMP AND SUGAR, OR A WINTER'S RESIDENCE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS for which he would not be able to find an eager publisher. He would lecture on these travels before the Lowell Institute in Boston, before the Cooper Union and the Geographical Society in New-York, and before the Peabody Institute in Baltimore.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.

1882

March: The summit of Mount Etna in [Sicily](#), as sketched by the tourist [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#):



SUMMIT OF ETNA, MARCH, 1882.

*Smoking all along the upper ridge, but most on the north side.*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Apparently patches of snow.               | 3. Val del Bove; arrow pointing to Giarre. |
| 2. White; probably incrustation around edge. | 4. Observatory.                            |
| 5. Piano del Lago.                           |  |



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1883**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#)'s THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS: THEIR PHYSICAL CHARACTERS, CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE, PRODUCTS, ETC. EARTHQUAKE PHENOMENA AND SAVAGE TRIBES (New York: Printed for Author). He would donate copies of this vanity press item to various libraries.

**THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS**

Krakatau, an island in the Sunda Straits between Java and Sumatra, erupted in the greatest volcanic explosion in 400 years. Some 4 hours later the explosion was heard 3,000 miles away. 35,000 died, many as the result of the tsunami that was produced.<sup>7</sup>

**VOLCANISM**

**VOLCANIC EXPLOSIVITY INDEX (Logarithmic)**

Timing	Volcanic Event	Logarithmic Explosivity Index
73,000 years ago, during Pleistocene	Toba, Sumatra (the largest caldera in the world)	<b>VEI8</b>
Pleistocene	Yellowstone, Wyoming	Apparently not that much of an explosion
April 1815	Tambora, Indonesia	<b>VEI7</b>
1835	Cosigüía, Nicaragua	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1883	Krakatau	<b>VEI??</b>
1888	Bandaisan, Japan	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1902	Mt. Pelée, Martinique	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1911	Taal, Philippines	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1912	Novarupta (near Mt. Katmai), Alaska	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1919	Kelud, Java	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1932	Quizapú, Chile	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1947-1948	Hekla, Iceland	Apparently not that much of an explosion
1956	Bezmianny, Kamchatka	Apparently not that much of an explosion
DATE	Pinatubo, Philippines	<b>VEI6</b>
DATE	Mount Saint Helens, USA	<b>VEI5</b>

7. For a comparison event within our own timeframe: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/indonesia/aceh-andaman-tsunami-imagery.htm>



**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

- VEI5** = Event of a size to be expected about once per decade
- VEI6** = Event of a size to be expected about once per century
- VEI7** = Event of a size to be expected every other millennium or so
- VEI8** = Event of a size to be expected every 10,000 years or so





**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1884**

August 10, Sunday: An earthquake measuring the equivalent 5.5 on today's Richter Scale struck New-York somewhere between Queens and Amityville, Paumanok Long Island (it was felt as far away as Ohio, Maine, and [Maryland](#)). In the previous year and in this year, [Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) had been lecturing on his own theory of the nature of earthquakes, and at some point before or after this earthquake he caused to be printed a little volume entitled THE SUBSIDENCE THEORY OF EARTHQUAKES. [AN ABSTRACT OF LECTURES BEFORE THE COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, NOV. 24, 1883, AND BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, JUN. 2, 1884]. At some point he sailed to begin a 2-year residence in Copenhagen, during which he would study Viking antiquities and customs.

**THEORY OF EARTHQUAKES**

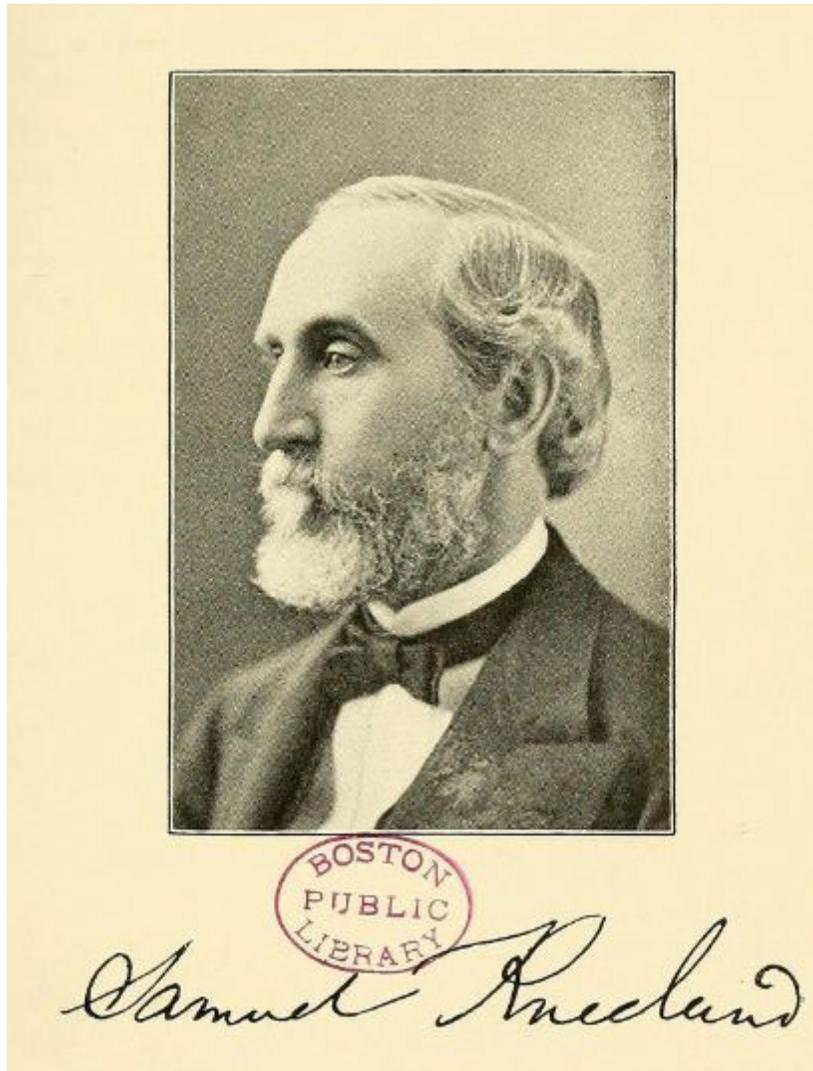


**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**DR. SAMUEL KNEELAND, JR.**

**1886**

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) began to edit THE ANNUAL OF SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY.



**THE SCIENCE OF 1886**

John Bell Hatcher's "ant hill method of collecting minute fossils" was to examine materials brought to the surface and deposited in piles by colonies of ants. He was thus able to recover hundreds of tiny fossil teeth and jaws. He even carried shovelfuls of ants and sediment to other fossil localities that he desired to have investigated by these industrious arthropods.

A. Ficatier reported an Ordovician trilobite that had been perforated with two holes, at a Magdalenian-age site



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in France, perhaps as a personal ornament. The fossil would lend to the site its name, La Grotte du Trilobite.

**PALEONTOLOGY**

Charles Gould's MYTHICAL MONSTERS surveyed the various weird creatures reported in several cultures and proposed that some of these myths may have been inspired by discoveries of fossil remains of extinct forms of life. (Was he aware that he was merely echoing [Henry Thoreau](#)?)

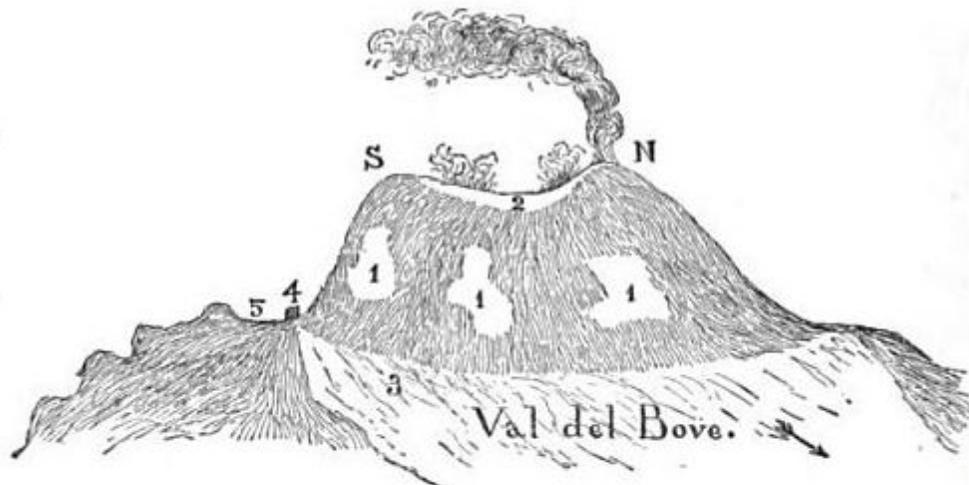
"WALKING": The wildest dreams of wild men, even, are not the less true, though they may not recommend themselves to the sense which is most common among Englishmen and Americans to-day. It is not every truth that recommends itself to the common sense. Nature has a place for the wild clematis as well as for the cabbage. Some expressions of truth are reminiscent, - others merely sensible, as the phrase is - others prophetic. Some forms of disease even may prophesy forms of health. The geologist has discovered that the figures of serpents, griffins, flying dragons, and other fanciful embellishments of heraldry, have their prototypes in the forms of fossil species which were extinct before man was created, and hence "indicate a faint and shadowy knowledge of a previous state of organic existence." The Hindoos dreamed that the earth rested on an elephant, and the elephant on a tortoise, and the tortoise on a serpent; and though it may be an unimportant coincidence, it will not be out of place here to state, that a fossil tortoise has lately been discovered in Asia large enough to support an elephant. I confess that I am partial to these wild fancies, which transcend the order of time and development. They are the sublimest recreation of the intellect. The partridge loves peas, but not those that go with her into the pot.

**ROBERT HUNT**

1888

[Dr. Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#)'s VOLCANOES AND EARTHQUAKES. A POPULAR ACCOUNT OF THEIR NATURE, CAUSES, EFFECTS AND GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION, FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION IN THE HAWAIIAN AND PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, JAPAN, ICELAND, THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN, SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES (Boston: D Lothrop Company / Franklin and Hawley Streets).

As I saw it from between Aci Reale and Nicolosi, in March, 1882, the outline of the crater was as follows : —



SUMMIT OF ETNA, MARCH, 1882.

*Smoking all along the upper ridge, but most on the north side.*

- 1. Apparently patches of snow.
- 2. White; probably incrustation around edge.
- 3. Val del Bove; arrow pointing to Giarre.
- 4. Observatory.
- 5. Piano del Lago.

If the sunset from Etna is magnificent, sunrise is even more striking, as the sun appears at the summit while night reigns at its base and on the opposite side. As the light chases away the darkness, the effects seem like natural magic on an immense scale; cones, before invisible, come into view like black monsters, and the flanks bristle with secondary volcanic ridges and craters, which impair its symmetry, while increasing its grandeur from above.



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September 27, Thursday: [Samuel Kneeland, Jr.](#) died in Hamburg, Germany. His literary remainder is in a box at the Boston Society of Natural History.

**“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY**



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"  
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



**Prepared: March 4, 2015**



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## ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT

### GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



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Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.  
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.