

on the assumption that this eclipse really was historical, restores the chronology of the Trojan war and subsequent events as follows:-

Trojan War	B. C.	1197-1187
Fall of Troy	"	1187
Wanderings of Ulysses	"	1187-1177
Landing on Scheria	"	1177 beginning of April
Landing on Ithaca	"	1177 April 12
Slaughter of Suitors	"	1177 April 16 6 to 8:30 p,m,

The fact that the eclipse appears, from the calculation, to have been total on Ithaca, is an important piece of evidence. The path of totality over the earth is an extremely narrow one at all times, and it is highly improbable that there has been a total eclipse in that particular spot since the time of Ulysses.

Dr. Schoch's table supplements from a different angle the attempts, hitherto entirely archaeological, to fix the date of the Trojan war. Some few years ago, several large clay tablets were dug up at Boghaz-Keui in Asia Minor. They were inscribed in cuneiform characters, such as were used by the Babylonians and the Assyrians, but were in a hitherto unknown language, almost certainly Hittite. Herr Forrer, a Swiss philologist, who claims to have deciphered some of them, states that one describes an invasion of Asia Minor during the reign of a Hittite king, who is known to have occupied the throne about fifty years before the traditional date of the Siege of Troy. Until Dr. Schoch made his calculations, this was thought to have taken place about 1172 B. C. The invaders were described as Achaeans, commanded by Atreus, who was the father of Agamemnon and Menelaus. From the Boghaz-Keui tablets, if Forrer deciphered them correctly, it would appear that the Greeks were planning to seize various districts in Asia Minor, and that Helen was a mere pretext for the war with Troy.

#### NEW PREHISTORIC FOOTPRINTS BROUGHT FROM GRAND CANYON

New finds of footprints of reptiles left in soft sand at least 25,000,000 years ago have just been made in sandstone 1,800 feet down from the rim of the Grand Canyon and have been brought to Washington. This is the greatest depth in the canyon at which such prints have been found.

The prehistoric tracks were found by Charles W. Gilmore, curator of vertebrate paleontology of the National Museum, and will be added to the government's fine collection of footprints of the Permian Age. Mr. Gilmore, who has just returned to Washington, spent three weeks in Arizona, and obtained from the canyon a ton and a half of material containing fossil tracks of reptiles and prints of plants.

These ancient prints can be used as evidence to assist geologists in determining more exactly the age of the beds of rock in which they were found, said Mr. Gilmore.

"The fact that the prints were found 1,800 feet from the top of the canyon means that after these queer, long extinct reptiles impressed their feet in what was then moist sand, almost 2,000 feet of rock material was slowly piled up in successive strata above the prints," he explained. "And this does not take into account many

additional hundreds of feet of material that have been eroded off from the present top of the canyon wall. So the length of time required for the deep canyon to form was obviously stupendous."

The level at which the fossil plants and reptiles have been located belongs to the later part of the carboniferous period, or the time when the great coal beds of the world were being formed, and was a few million years before the famous reign of the dinosaurs.

One specimen brought back by Mr. Gilmore shows a row of tracks very much like mouse tracks impressed in a small slab of red stone, and in among the tiny footprints is a wavy line which represents the track of the animal's tail. Other exhibits show prints larger than a man's hand, indicating that some of the reptilian creatures of this age may have become as large as crocodiles. No bones of these creatures have been found in the Grand Canyon, though some bones of reptiles making similar tracks have been found elsewhere.

The plant specimens have not yet been studied by a museum specialist, but some of them are fern-like plants, the prints of which are several feet tall.

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#### ITALIAN SURGEONS PERFORM UNIQUE GLAND GRAFT

People whose hopes of eternal youth were dashed by the failure of the rejuvenating effects of gland transplantation to persist may yet take heart. Two physicians of Florence have performed an operation which bolsters up the failing hope that gland grafting had put a new weapon in the hands of the medical profession for subduing hitherto unconquerable disease.

Drs. Cesare Frugoni and Vittorio Scimone have just announced through the Presse Medicale the results of treating a case of tetany, a chronic disease resembling lock-jaw, with a graft of human parathyroid, one of the small glands placed around the better known thyroid in the neck. The technique followed was that of Dr. Serge Voronoff, one of the original experimenters in transferring glands from apes to humans.

The results were almost instantaneous, according to the authors. The patient, released from the terrific pain suffered during six or seven long attacks every day, picked up amazingly. Tests made some time later still showed a slight parathyroid deficiency but the ingrafted piece was still firmly attached under the skin five months after the operation.

The question of greatest concern to physicians with respect to the case is how long the gland will persist, for the laws that govern a graft's chance of survival comprise one of the subjects on which the medical profession is still in the dark.

Editorial comment apropos this aspect in the Lancet says: "Much of the interest of the case depends on how long the graft will survive, but it has served to prove the