

Old Farmer's Prediction:
Plenty of Sunshine Ahead!
Wind: 7mph SSE; Ther:
73°F; Hum: 82%

OLD BONES DAILY

OTTAWA, ONTARIO - THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 1876
THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YE FRET
RELOAD FOR MORE

Love in Shawville

Council is Flummoxed

Timothy Stewart reports an enjoyable evening was had by all but for when a pig escaped from its pen, knocking Marie Nadeau. Friends and family wish a speedy recovery.

-o0o-

A DEPOSITION concerning the GIANT sworn before the Notary Public Charles Green - Shawville - Micheline Brown being sworn, says he resides near Weirstead and a short distance from the place where the Stone Giant was discovered; that on the morning of the day of the discovery deponent was assisting William C. Graham in loading and drawing stone for a well which was being dug; that after several loads of stone had been delivered, the

MAN BITES DOG

Combine seen as
Culpable

Government officials were in Chichester, warning of the dangers of chickenpox.

-o0o-

The Chapeau Giant continues to be the all-absorbing topic hearabouts. It has awakened a strong interest all over the country, and men of intelligence, of the professions, and of note in the sciences, come hundreds of miles to see it. Among the visitors yesterday, come for that purpose only, were representatives from Michigan, Massachusetts, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and Chichester. We should like to

'FIRE THE NURSE!' SAYS SMITH

Man seen as Culpable

Alfred Fleury reports an enjoyable evening was had by all but for when a bale fell suddenly, crushing Aloysius Brown. Friends and family wish a speedy recovery.

Micheline Fleury reports an enjoyable evening was had by all but for when a log gave way, smashing Mabel Thibodeau. Friends and family wish a speedy recovery.

"It's a
procedurally

GIANT bones discovered near Sheenboro

The strange transformation of this body is not the only instance recorded. The small number of dead removed has not afforded an opportunity to learn how common an occurrence this may be but learned gentlemen tell me that when Gabriel blows his bugle or the disinterring of bodies becomes necessary in the Black Hills country many bodies will be found turned to stone. The other instance related is that of Francois Fleury murdered in Chichester by Arabella Fleury ten years ago. The body was buried on the mountain side and the building of residences compelled the unearthing of his bones. What was the surprise of his friends when they discovered that the famous frontiersman was a solid stone petrified. This revelation may appear strange to Eastern readers but

PARADATA, OR, WHAT IS THIS?

by SHAWN GRAHAM @ KATE ELLENBERGER

Newspapers in the 19th century enjoyed a culture of reprinting educational items, stories, and news from other papers. These stories were sometimes selected to fit the available space, and sometimes from a desire to entertain or educate. Reprint culture is being studied by individuals such as Ryan Cordell and Melodee Beals. At the same time, archaeologists such as Donald H. Gaff are beginning to see old newspapers as a potential source for the lost or missing histories of an area - mentions of bones coming to light, of local antiquaries' excavations, and so on.



Old Bones Daily

by Shawn Graham and Kate Ellenberger

- Visit online at <http://shawngraham.github.io/hj2017>
- Make your browser full-screen for best effect
- Fully responsive so can be read equally well on mobile
- Reload the page for the latest headlines and stories and photos

Paradata

The paradata for the project is printed as the fifth column on the newspaper's front page.

This 'newspaper' that you are looking at pays homage to that older newspaper culture of reprinting, while at the same time commenting, on modern 'news media' by procedurally generating texts from the 'bones' of generative grammar. Each time this page is reloaded, the news is generated anew from a Tracery grammar. This grammar is derived from the study of 19th century newspapers in Western Quebec (The Equity) and northern New York State. It selects passages from these papers where the word 'bone' is present or

implied, and recombines them in sometimes surprising or revealing ways. There are stories of injury, and columns with helpful advice. Sometimes a humorous anecdote is recounted; sometimes popular accounts of the latest academic research.

And sometimes, out and out fraud.

Some of the passages are presented verbatim, using the language and reflecting the mores of the age (with no generative grammar intervention) thus demonstrating another perspective on 'bones' and whose are accorded human dignity. The passages were collected in the first place by ingesting OCR'd papers into AntConc, and generating a concordance and keywords-in-context file.

[Tracery](#) was designed and built by Kate Compton @galaxykate. This newspaper layout was designed and shared by user *silkine* on [codepen.io](#). Images are drawn from the British Library's Flickr stream, where they have been tagged with the word 'bone' - thus, another algorithmic expression of the bones underlying the web.

Source Files

Please see the source repository at <http://github.com/shawngraham/hj2017>

To replicate this newspaper for your own amusement, consult the file, **newsgrammar.js** and insert new values in the keys. To alter the layout and placement of these elements on the newspaper, create new **var** and associated **div** in the **js\app.js** file. Place the **div** in the appropriate location in the main **index.html** file. Extra css or html for a particular chunk of text should be wrapped inside the values in the newsgrammar.js file. For a tutorial on how Tracery functions, see [Shawn Graham's tutorial at The Programming Historian](#). Tracery can power webpages, games, and twitterbots. What would be the effect of 'Old Bones Daily' if it were translated into the new news medium of Twitter?

Sources for Newspaper articles:

The Shawville Equity (consult [this digital finding aid project](#) by Carleton undergraduate student Jeff Blackadar)

Syracuse NY Daily Journal via 'Old Fulton NY Post Cards' collection of digitized newspapers at <http://www.fultonhistory.com/>

Bio

Shawn Graham is a Roman archaeologist cum digital humanist in the Department of History at Carleton University, who hails from the wilds of the Ottawa Valley and still reads the Shawville Equity every week.

Kate Ellenberger is a digital public archaeologist with a background in public outreach, museum work, mapping and databases currently working towards the PhD in anthropological archaeology at Binghamton University. She enjoys far too many cat memes on the interwebs.

Licensing

The original CSS for the newspaper layout is MIT Licensed by user Silkin on codepen.io

The Tracery generative grammar is released by Kate Compton under Apache License Version 2.0, January 2004

Images obtained via the British Library's Flickr stream are all public domain works

We assert that our use of the original source newspapers is fair use

We release the code in the source repository into the wild, such parts of it that are uniquely ours, under CC BY.