Dr. Ernest Drake
St. Leonard's Forest,
Horsham

April 1904

To whom it may concern—

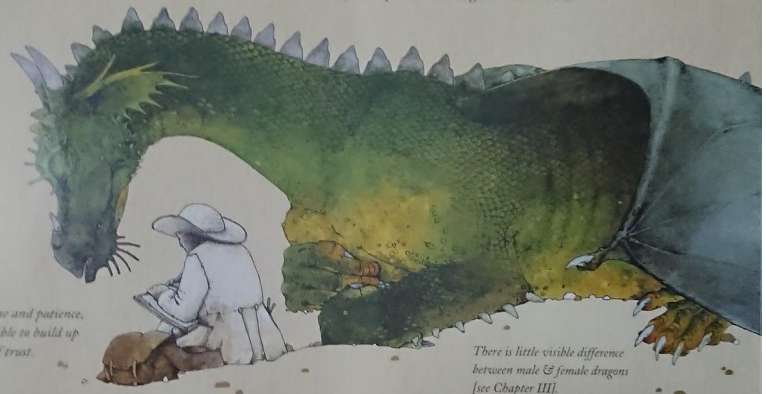
Dragonology is the proper study of the dragonologist or student of dragon lore. Since the occasion when Merlin found two mighty dragons fighting each other beneath the castle of King Vortigern, dragonology has been the study of magicians and students of the arcane sciences the world over. Knowledge of dragons has been passed down over the years—of their history, their different types, the true sightings of dragons, where they might be found, how they may be tamed or slain, and how and why the student may learn to use them and their various parts to his advantage. Also, perhaps the most important thing, why such knowledge should NEVER be used against them, and above all that dragons, like so much of the flora and fauna of this fleeting world of ours are rare indeed, and it would be a shame to see them disappear forever.

So, I have set this knowledge down, Student Dragonologist, not that you might seek out and destroy the few dragons that remain, but that you might learn about them and, indeed, help them to stay concealed. For the wise learn much, see much, know much, but disturb little. I have lived long among dragons but my life is almost over, and my final accomplishment as a Dragon Master is to pass on this knowledge to someone worthy of its keeping.

Ernest Drake

FOREWORD.
AN INTRODUCTION TO DRAGONOLOGY.

Of all the natural sciences, dragonology is perhaps the most rewarding, being at the same time one of the oldest and the least researched. Dragons have been studied since mankind's earliest days and yet, paradoxically, they are one of the least known of the Earth's creatures. So, while many scientists believe that the vast majority of the world's flora and fauna are now understood, in the little-known field of dragonology the way lies open for exciting new discoveries.



With time and patience, it is possible to build up a bond of trust.

There is little visible difference between male & female dragons [see Chapter III].

CONTENTS

REFUTING THE SCEPTICS.

As dragonologists, we must be prepared to refute those who claim that dragons are unreal. Consider how many creatures there may be that are still unknown to accepted science. When our scientists first heard of the duck-billed platypus in 1797 they laughed. How could an egg-laying mammal with a duck's beak and webbed feet exist? Even when shown physical evidence they cried 'fraud'! Yet by 1884 even the most sceptical had changed their opinion. Recently, Henry Stanley learned of another apparently mythical animal, the okapi, while searching for Dr. Livingston. With a giraffe's horns and a zebra's legs it has so intrigued scientists they are determined to find one. Yet there is not one who is willing to mount an expedition to bring dragons the scientific attention they deserve!

The remarkable okapi—a mythical beast or new scientific wonder of the African Congo?

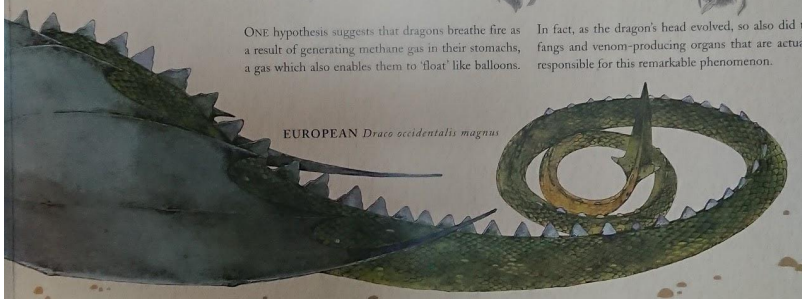
A duck-billed platypus—some believed that the original specimen was a stitched-together fake.

DRAGONS IN SCIENCE.

All scientific dragonologists must draw the conclusion, having read the work of Charles Darwin in his *Origin of Species* of 1859, that dragons, like all creatures, have evolved so as to best exploit the habitats in which they live. Noble in form and majestic in flight, one wonders if mankind, through effort or science, may one day be able to imitate some of the dragon's natural abilities.

SOME argue that dragons cannot have four legs and two wings because no known vertebrate has more than four appendages. As can be seen in the above diagram, the evolution of a four-legged dragon's wings provides clear proof of Darwin's hypothesis of animal evolution through fortuitous genetic mutation.

ONE hypothesis suggests that dragons breathe fire as a result of generating methane gas in their stomachs, a gas which also enables them to 'float' like balloons. In fact, as the dragon's head evolved, so also did the fangs and venom-producing organs that are actually responsible for this remarkable phenomenon.



EUROPEAN *Draco occidentalis magnus*

DRAGONS IN LEGEND.

Among all the kindes of Serpentes, there is none comparable to the Dragon, or that affordeth and yeeldeth so much plentifull matter in historie for the ample discovery of the nature thereof.—The student will do very well to heed these words of natural philosopher and dragonologist Edward Topsell, in his 1607 book, *The History of Four-footed Beasts*. For while there is little in dragon legend that is perfectly true, there is also little that is entirely false, and the student should seek information from any other available source, with an entirely open mind.

An example of foresight—a flame-proof cloak may prove invaluable.

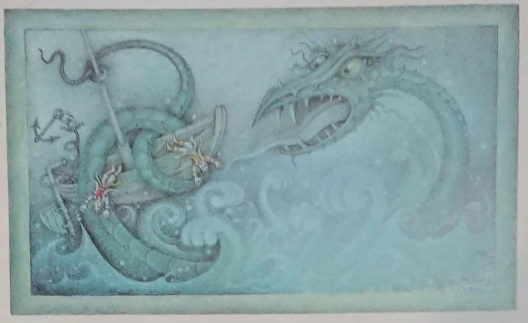
'THE FIVE 'F's' of DRAGONOLOGY.

FIELDWORK—it is best by far to study dragons in their own environments. FORESIGHT—proper learning and preparation are absolutely essential. FORWARDNESS—the student must be both daring and truly courageous. FRANKNESS—one must simply report honestly what one sees at all times. FATALITIES—unless these are avoided, the student will make little progress.

CHAPTER I.

DRAGONS OF THE WORLD.
LOCATIONS & DIRECTIONS.

Dragons are indigenous to almost all parts of the world, so the student will never be faced with having to move thousands of miles to study them. This map shows the main locations of the primary species.



A NOTE ON SEA SERPENTS.

The sea serpent, be it a variation of *leviathan*, giant squid, or whale, has often been called the 'dragon' of the seas. However, it seems likely that the evolution of these creatures is entirely different from that of true dragons. The sea charts of the cartographer Olaus Magnus are considered the best for locating the sea lanes where these serpents most often lurk, lying in wait for their storm-tossed prey.

HOW TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

* Serpents do not breathe fire	* Dragons may breathe fire
* Cannot fly	* Fly
* Found in the sea	* Found inland or flying over sea
* Attracted to wooden ships	* Attracted to treasure
* Does not hoard treasure	* Hoards treasure

CLASSIFICATION OF DRAGONS BY HABITAT.

Given that dragons can fly, colonising the Earth has been easy for them. As a result, any dragon species may well be found in any region with the right habitat. European dragons, for example, have been known to inhabit remote areas of North America. This chart, showing the primary species, should aid identification in any area.

FOREST.

Knucker
Draco troglodytes
[4 legs, vestigial wings]

Marsupial dragon
Draco marsupialis
[4 legs, wings, fiery pouch]

MOUNTAIN.

European dragon
Draco occ. magnus
[4 legs, full wings, dark colour]

Asian *lung*
Draco orientalis
[4 legs, no wings, mane]

Tibetan dragon
Draco montana
[4 legs, no wings]

PRAIRIE & STEPPE.

Am. amphithere
Draco americanus tex
[no legs, mothlike wings]

Lindworm
Draco serpentalis
[2 legs, no wings]

ARCTIC REGIONS.

Frost dragon
Draco occ. maritimus
[4 legs, full wings, light colour]

DESERT & SAVANNA.

Wyvern
Draco africanus
[2 legs, full wings]

JUNGLE.

Mex. amphithere
Draco americanus mex
[no legs, feathery wings]

CHAPTER II.

DIFFERENT SPECIES OF DRAGON.
EASTERN DRAGONS.

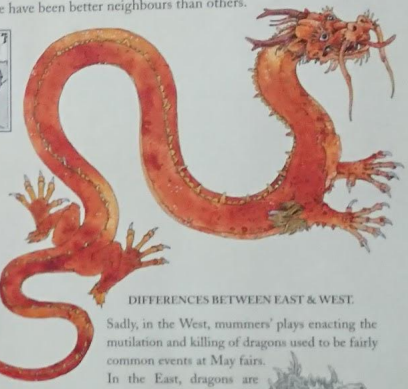
It is interesting to note that, while legends of Western dragons portray them as vicious, bloodthirsty monsters, Eastern dragons are for the most part seen as benevolent helpmeets to mankind. The reasons for this most likely stem from the historical interactions that mankind has had with different species of dragon. Clearly some have been better neighbours than others.

Some species of lung lay their eggs in running water.

TIBETAN *Draco montana*

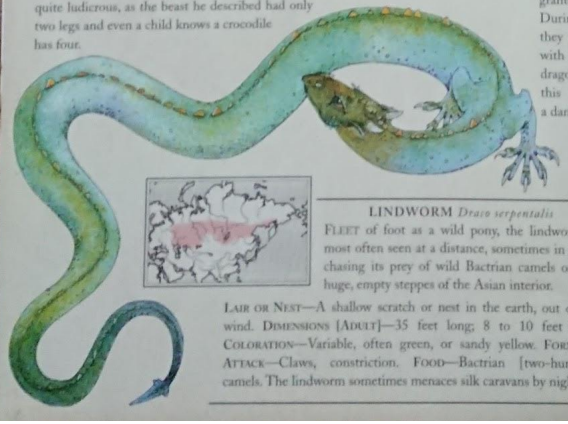
THINNER and redder than its counterpart, the Asian *lung*, the Tibetan dragon is a lover of high altitudes. Its main prey is the Himalayan yeti, a large mountain ape that has adapted to the cold conditions and rarefied atmosphere found in the higher mountains.

LAIR OR NEST—On the open mountainside in summer, in a shallow den of snow in winter. DIMENSIONS [ADULT]—40 feet long; 10 to 12 feet high. COLORATION—Almost invariably red. FORMS OF ATTACK—Biting, or else constriction. FOOD—Usually the large mountain apes known as yetis, sometimes yaks.



LINDWORMS.

For years it was thought that the explorer Marco Polo's description of a lindworm was actually a description of a Chinese crocodile. This notion is quite ludicrous, as the beast he described had only two legs and even a child knows a crocodile has four.



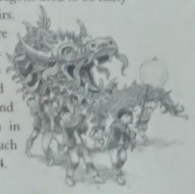
LINDWORM *Draco serpentalis*

FLEET of foot as a wild pony, the lindworm is most often seen at a distance, sometimes in pairs, chasing its prey of wild Bactrian camels on the huge, empty steppes of the Asian interior.

LAIR OR NEST—A shallow scratch or nest in the earth, out of the wind. DIMENSIONS [ADULT]—35 feet long; 8 to 10 feet high. COLORATION—Variable, often green, or sandy yellow. FORMS OF ATTACK—Claws, constriction. FOOD—Bactrian [two-humped] camels. The lindworm sometimes menaces silk caravans by night.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EAST & WEST.

Sadly, in the West, mummers' plays enacting the mutilation and killing of dragons used to be fairly common events at May fairs. In the East, dragons are granted a proper respect. During Chinese festivals they are often honoured with dragon boat races and dragon dances as shown in this scene depicting such a dance in Canton in 1884.



Specimen: Shed skin from Asian lung (205 years)

ASIAN *LUNG* *Draco orientalis*

LUNG are most often found near the rivers, streams and lakes that hide their underwater lairs. Females carry their eggs with them for safety, using the lairs to store the pearls and opals they hoard away. The number of toes varies across the various subspecies.

LAIR OR NEST—Usually an underwater cave or grotto. DIMENSIONS [ADULT]—40 feet long; 12 to 15 feet high. COLORATION—Blue, black, white, red or yellow. FORMS OF ATTACK—Horns, teeth & claws used defensively. FOOD—Mainly fish and birds, particularly roasted swan.

Japanese lung *have four toes, Indonesian three.*

Chinese or Imperial lung *have five toes.*

The lithe movement of this species has given rise to the erroneous belief that it too can fly.

CHINESE LUNG *Draco orientalis magnus*

The lung's *egg was once thought to be a huge pearl.*

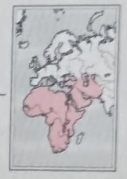
PROMINENT features of Chinese *lung*:
a. long, whiskery feelers *b.* stag-like horns *c.* mane *d.* five toes on each claw *e.* egg—usually carried in foreclaw *f.* large scales *g.* feathery tail

LONG associated with all kinds of water, Asian *lung* were seen as having power over rainfall and storm. It seems likely that the four legendary Chinese 'dragon kings' were highly impressive specimens.

CHAPTER II.

DIFFERENT SPECIES OF DRAGON. OTHER DRAGONS.

Apart from the primary Eastern and Western species of dragon, there are a wide variety of other species deserving of attention. Unfortunately, space is limited in such a wide-ranging tome, and so we must pass over the gargouille, the naga and many others, and deal instead with the most prominent dragons of Africa, the Americas and Australia.



WYVERN *Draco africanus*

Unlike most other dragons, the wyvern only has two legs. However, being the largest form of dragon it finds these perfectly sufficient for carrying off its elephant prey.

Lair or Nest—A rocky crag, or occasionally a circular nest in an area of sand dunes or grass. Dimensions [Adult]—50 feet long; 18 to 20 feet high. Coloration—Muddy brown to lime green. Forms of Attack—Teeth, claws, lashing tail, dropping from great heights. Food—Elephants, hippos, rhinos or other large herbivores.

WYVERNS.

Two early geographers, Herodotus and Pliny, both mention the wyvern's taste for elephants. It is possible that the giant elephant-hunting bird of Arabian legend, the Roc, was an early case of mistaken identity.

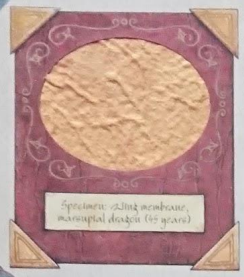
Study of the amphithere skeleton reveals vestigial legs.

Prominent features of the amphithere: *a.* hypersensitive eyesight *b.* feathery frill around head *c.* legless, serpentine body *d.* very large wings *e.* feathery tail

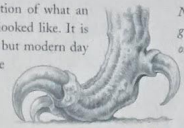
THE PHOENIX.

The *archaeopteryx* fossils discovered in 1860 and hailed as the 'missing link' between reptiles and birds, helped many people to understand Darwin's *Origin of Species*. In reality these fossils belonged to a primitive form of phoenix, a 'bird' that uses a highly effective fire-bath in order to rid itself of parasites, and in fact the 'missing link' between reptiles and amphitheres. Sadly, phoenixes are so scarce that until recently there was thought to be only one specimen in existence.

A fire-bath improves the phoenix's plumage so much that people thought it 'died' and was 'born again'.



This close up shows a reconstruction of what an amphithere's foot may once have looked like. It is not known why the feet were lost, but modern day amphitheres use their serpent-like tails to 'strangle' and carry off their hapless prey.



Note the tremendous gripping power in the original claw, now lost.

Amphithere feathers have a sparkling, golden appearance.

The Mexican amphithere almost certainly inspired the warlike Aztecs in their descriptions of their god, Quetzalcoatl.

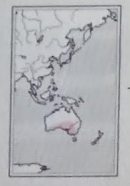
AMPHITHERE *Draco americanus*

In addition to the well-known Mexican feathered amphithere, there is a furry North American variety that primarily hunts buffalo and has sometimes been mistaken for a gigantic moth.

Lair or Nest—Among the reeds on lakesides or off-shore islands. Dimensions [Adult]—45 feet long; 5 to 10 feet high. Coloration—Green. Forms of Attack—Flaming breath, tail lash, constriction. Food—all the large indigenous mammals of the Americas, typically llamas in the south and buffaloes in the north.

MARSUPIAL DRAGONS.

It is interesting to note that marsupial dragons are found not only in Australia but also in the Patagonian region of South America, half a world away. There are a number of other marsupial creatures that have been discovered here too that exist nowhere else in the world. One might almost speculate that Australia was once attached to South America aeons ago, if the notion were not so preposterous!



As yet, little is known about the vast Australian interior.

MARSUPIAL *Draco marsupialis*

Thought to be extinct, the marsupial dragon is largely confined to the south east of Australia. It breathes blue smoke and often starts bushfires so that it can catch its prey as they are driven before the flames.

Lair or Nest—Rocky caves in Blue Mountain eucalypt forests. Dimensions [Adult]—25 feet long; 15 to 18 feet high. Coloration—Green or blue-ish. Forms of Attack—Flaming breath, lashing tail, kicking feet, boxing 'fists'. Food—any large marsupials; smaller prey are sought while rearing young.

As powerful hind legs evolved, the wings shrunk.

The marsupial dragon rears one young at a time in a fiery pouch.

CHAPTER III.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF DRAGONS.

DRAGON BIOLOGY & PHYSIOLOGY.

Most species of dragons are reptilian and share many features of this animal type such as egg laying, although they also care for their young. They are unusual in that they are the only creatures who can speak with meaning apart from humans. However, not all dragons have managed this feat, and it seems likely that it is only the older, more experienced dragons who have developed this skill.

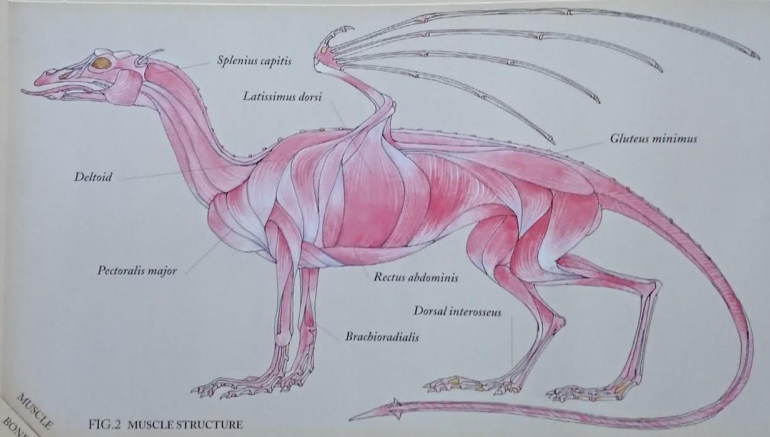


FIG.2 MUSCLE STRUCTURE

THE laws of flight say that dragons, like bees, can't fly, when in actual fact they can. Their aerial skill is assisted by the dragon's ability to bend its wings and rotate them quickly in their sockets and also by the fact that dragon bones are lightweight and hollow like those of birds.

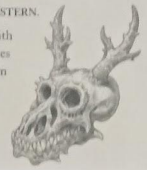
WINGS.

In this picture one can see how the surprisingly bat-like wings of the European dragon are affixed to the small 'fingers' that can be used to aid the dragon in climbing sheer cliffs [and by extension, tall buildings].

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EASTERN & WESTERN.

By comparing this Chinese dragon skull with the European dragon skull below, differences in the essential shape of eastern and western species can be seen.

Dragon bones are not often found because of their very fast rate of decomposition.



SIGHT.

Dragons have the best sight of any animal and were sometimes slain so their eyes could be used in telescopic lenses. It may be that Galileo used a dragon lens in his very first telescope, before realising that fairly good lenses could be made by grinding glass.

A dragon can spot a valuable gem from 6000 feet.

A dragon's eye has six optic nerves.

MUSCLE STRUCTURE.

The muscle structure of the dragon is similar to that of a large lizard, with certain features that are more common to birds. The large muscles at the base of the wings are needed so that the dragon is able to gain enough force to fly. However there is no consensus on how dragons actually *are* able to fly, as they do not share the chief aerodynamic features of birds, namely their lightness. A certain amount of wing rotation may enable these creatures to attain a degree of lift, but if one were to view a dragon *a priori*—as though it were a theoretical, rather than an actual model—one would inevitably conclude that it was as likely to be able to take to the skies as the heavier-than-air 'flying machines' currently being experimented with by the obscure 'Wright Cycle Company' in America and the contraptions of the eccentric Frenchman Louis Bleriot.

SCALES.

The hard scales of the dragon are capable of resisting most projectiles, and can be worked into bullet-proof armour using steel rivets.

CLAWS.

Made of keratin, like our own hair and nails, dragons must be careful to avoid breathing fire on their claws or they stink horribly.

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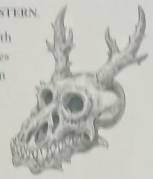

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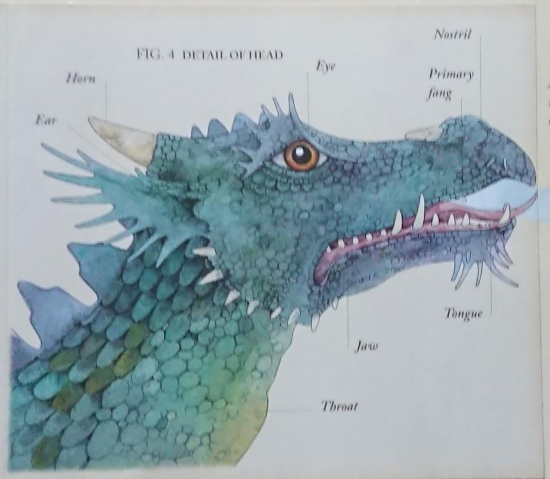
A dragon can spot a valuable gem from 6000 feet.

A dragon's eye has six optic nerves, used to see light in different parts of the spectrum.

FIG. 4. DETAIL OF HEAD



A dragon's fire can reach a temperature of 1000 degrees!

FEEDING & DIGESTION.

Digestion is fairly straightforward in dragons. In general, a dragon will eat its prey whole where this is practicable. If not, it may rip it into tasty chunks that are small enough to eat. A dragon feeds once every few weeks. Sometimes when a tough specimen is eaten, or one with a hard, armoured exterior, the dragon will regurgitate its prey at leisure in order to 'shell' it and flame-grill it to a more succulent tenderness.

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CHAPTER III.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF DRAGONS.

THE LIFE CYCLE OF DRAGONS.

Dragons have a life cycle that resembles that of lizards, although they actively learn some aspects of their resulting adult behaviours when young, unlike most lizards whose behaviours are innate. Their gestation process may best be studied by rearing dragon chicks, but these creatures must be released into the wild at maturity, not into the New York sewerage system as occurred in one case in 1862.

DRAGON EGGS:

European Egg

Knucker Egg

Frost Egg

Wyvern Egg

Amphithere Egg

THE first stage: development of embryo of *Draco occidentalis*.

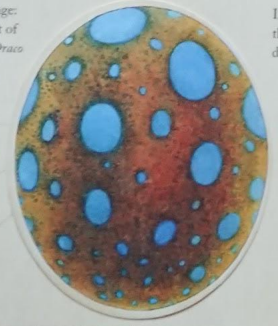


FIG.1 THREE MONTHS.

IN the second stage the features become discernible.

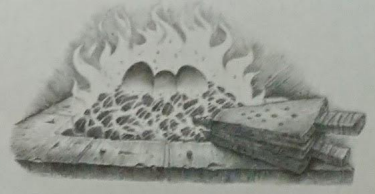
FIG.2 TWELVE MONTHS.

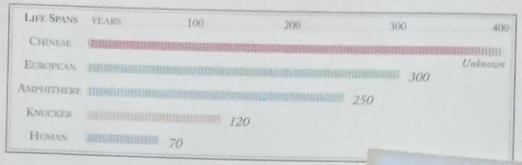
A DRAGON'S NEST.

A dragon's nest need not be soft, for dragon eggs are highly resilient, but it must be warm. However, the eggs retain heat very well. Generally, a nesting mother breathes a jet of flame over her eggs every three or four hours. Lindworm and wyvern pairs share nesting duty, whereas only female European dragons care for their nests.

THE DRAGONOLOGIST'S HATCHERY.

If you can obtain the eggs, you might like to hatch your own dragon chicks. To keep the eggs warm you need to make a 'nest' of live coals, which must be kept burning over the gestation period of three years. A small sledgehammer may help them hatch and, if you are present, the chicks may believe you are their parent dragon, usefully increasing your chances of surviving that all-important first encounter.





HOW TO ESTIMATE AGE.

Dragons are difficult to age. They shed skin bi- or triennially and grow a certain amount every year so it is possible to make an estimate from their size. Sometimes the dragon's memory of historical events can help. Dragonologists estimate a lifespan of around 300 years for a typical European dragon. However, no one has any idea how long Chinese *lung* live for.

IN the third stage an 'egg horn' develops to aid the chick in chipping open the hard shell.

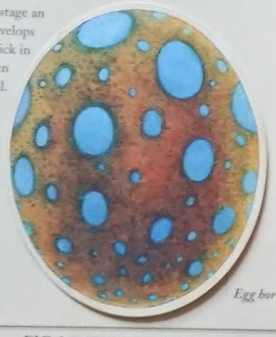


FIG.3 TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS.

FIG.4 THIRTY-SIX MONTHS.

Dragons enjoy tasty treats!

REARING INFANTS.

Keep an adequate food supply. A 40- to 50-acre farm with a head of 300 cows should be enough for one chick. Small treats such as turkeys, dogs, cats, mules or geese may be used as rewards for all-important house training, as a chick learns that setting fire to your home is not acceptable behaviour.

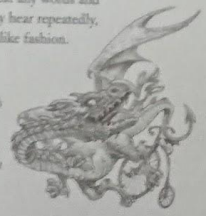
SIGNS OF GROWING MATURITY.

There are a number of behaviours that show a chick is nearing maturity, and will soon seek to leave the nest.

Hoarding The chick collects precious objects from around the house, reluctant to return them.

Fire play The chick seeks out iron and flint objects and plays by making huge showers of sparks.

Language Chicks repeat any words and phrases they hear repeatedly, in a parrot-like fashion.



Hoarding behaviour, often misdirected towards inappropriate objects, such as this penny-farthing bicycle, is seen in chicks from an early age.

POINTS TO REMEMBER.

Keep iron and flint objects away from chicks, or live in a fire-proof house.

Do not release young dragons into the sewerage systems of a large city.

Mind your language around chicks—they may repeat what you say over and over in front of visitors.

It is not recommended to leave children and hungry dragons alone.

Hide all shiny or valuable objects.

HOARDING BEHAVIOUR.

The hoarding behaviour of dragons most likely evolved because dragons have a soft, unarmoured 'Achilles spot' on their bellies. When they lie on treasure, some of the jewels stick, providing them with protection in their one vulnerable area. The dragons who evolved this hoarding behaviour were the ones who survived. Those who did not are no longer with us.

LANGUAGE.

This area of dragon behaviour is a mystery. They are the only creatures apart from humans who both speak and, when occasion demands, write. Particularly interesting is the Western dragon's well-known taste for riddles and language games.

DRAGON SCRIPT.

ᚨ	A	ᚾ	N
ᛒ	B	ᛟ	O
ᚲ	C-K	ᛈ	P
ᛞ	D	ᚱ	R
ᛖ	E	ᛋ	S
ᚠ	F	ᛏ	T
ᚷ	G	ᚢ	U-V
ᚺ	H	ᚹ	W
ᛁ	I-J	ᛉ	X
ᛚ	L	ᛇ	Y
ᛗ	M	ᛣ	Z

Ruby

Emerald

Amethyst

Diamond

LIKE tigers, weak or old dragons who cannot hunt their usual prey may become man- or rather maiden-eaters. This is because maidens are more likely to wear jewellery containing favourite dragon gems such as the diamonds, rubies, emeralds or amethysts shown on the right.

CHAPTER IV.

WORKING WITH DRAGONS.
FINDING & TRACKING DRAGONS.

There is no more satisfying activity for the dragonologist than that of studying dragons in the wild; it is the best way of enhancing our knowledge of these creatures. While armchair science has its own rewards, the achievement of tracking and locating a dragon and, hopefully, reaching a position of acceptance and trust will allow the student to put into perspective all that has been so diligently learned.

Encourage a dragon to the cave mouth with an offering of a suitable gift. Remember that dragons cannot easily be fooled!

WHERE TO LOOK FOR DRAGONS.

Referencing the map and table [after Chapter I] one may be in a position to determine what sort of terrain each type of dragon is most likely found in. Above is the perfect sort of mountain location with a large cave where a Tibetan dragon may be located.

CONCEALMENT is recommended until a sense of trust has been built up. Sadly, fatalities have resulted from very young, inexperienced dragonologists being too keen to introduce themselves too soon.

TELL-TALE SIGNS OF DRAGON ACTIVITY.

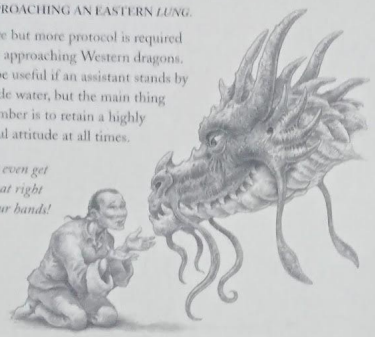
To the experienced eye, it is easy to tell at once when a dragon's range has been entered, and exactly what dragon is being encountered.

- *Footprints & tail swishing marks.*
- *Burned & scorched trees and undergrowth.*
- *Small, depleted-looking flocks of sheep.*
- *Frightened villagers, with excitable children.*
- *A tendency for the locals to eschew jewellery.*
- *Local legends about dragon activity, often dismissed as 'smuggler's tales' to keep people away.*
- *A local hotel or hostelry with a reputation for eccentric visitors [likely to be rival dragonologists or newspaper 'hacks' hot on the trail of a 'scoop'].*

APPROACHING AN EASTERN *LUNG*.

Less care but more protocol is required than for approaching Western dragons. It may be useful if an assistant stands by to provide water, but the main thing to remember is to retain a highly respectful attitude at all times.

You may even get lung to eat right out of your hands!



Chinese

Wyvern

Knucker

European

ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT.

Over time, each dragonologist will build up his own list of essential equipment. Here is a basic list:

- *A notebook, to preserve all important records. Ideally this should have a heat-proof cover.*
- *A heat-proof pen and ink. 2B sketching pencil.*
- *A reasonably powerful magnifying glass.*
- *Special, heat-protective clothing.*
- *A relief map of the area, that shows both flora-types and geological formations.*
- *A camera, although all attempts to photograph dragons so far have been failures.*

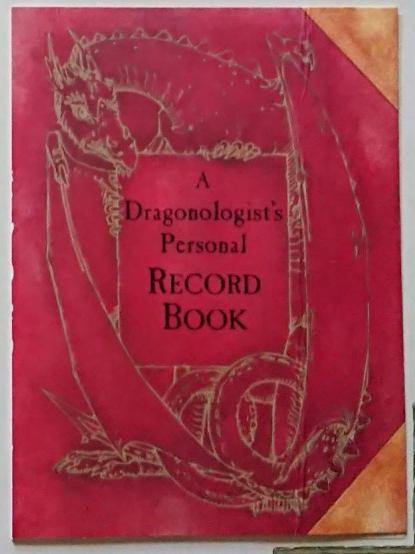
FIELD PROCEDURE.

Upon discovering signs of dragon activity such as footprints [see left], the scientific dragonologist will record precise details of the event: the location, time, date and weather conditions. This should be repeated over a number of days. Feeding and behaviour should definitely be noted, although not at such a range as to make it an unpleasantly personal experience. Attempts at interaction should be included, whether they involve speech or spells. One should take care to take nothing from a dragon as this will not only cause grave danger to the dragonologist but may also provoke a fiery retribution to any other people who live in the surrounding area.

DANGERS IN THE FIELD.

While the dangers of suffering from bites, burns, slashes from claws, death-by-constriction, tail lashings, venom attacks and so forth should never be underestimated, the lesser danger of hypnosis is often ignored. The mechanism for this is little understood, but it seems to occur in a similar way to that seen when a snake hypnotises a frog. Dragons can hypnotise large groups of individuals at one time, and the effects may last for some months, with the hypnotised person often found apparently carrying on their everyday life. The signs are easy to read: an obsession with dragons, wizards, fairies or tales of other worlds. A mad delight in fantastic illustrations and ideas. A dislike of human rules or authorities. Luckily, there is a tried and trusted method that may be used as a sure remedy:

- *A person who has been hypnotised by a dragon should be made to do a large number of complicated mathematical sums.*
- *All books on dragons, wizards or suchlike should be confiscated, and books on stimulating topics—politics, economic theory, the history of benzene in the manufacturing industries etc.—should be substituted.*
- *Exhortations to the person to "snap out of it" or to "stop living in cloud-cuckoo land" are rarely successful.*



APPENDIX I.

A DRAGONOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The material that is presented in these appendices, particularly that in respect of parts of dead dragons, is given for information only. More research is needed into this area, but the purpose of the present volume is to help conserve the dragons that remain, not destroy them. This author hopes that a parallel will not be drawn with the numbers of rhinos and tigers killed each year and used in 'medicines' of doubtful value, or for trophies.

DRAGON DUNG.

A remedy for scaring away savage beasts, dung is invaluable in trips to wild regions. Rubbed daily into the face it is a cure for many skin conditions. As an all-purpose fertiliser it has the property of allowing plants to grow in record time. One drawback is that dung from a female dragon on heat sometimes acts as a strong attractor to males.

DRAGON SCALES.

Dissolved in sulphuric acid, and then dissolved again in 100 parts water, dragon scales have been used for centuries as an invisible ink that glows only under the magnetic conditions pertaining at a full moon.

AMPHITHERE FEATHERS.

The most ticklish of all feathers, these be made into dusters, or special q Additionally, they can be woven together protective coverings of varying sorts.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.

Dragon's blood, while corrosive, can in doses promote health and regeneration can be used to effectively heal most wo In larger doses it is dangerous, but can h potent effect on the brain, particularly c areas that control language acquisition.

DRAGON TEETH.

Contrary to the legends of Heracles or Jason, dragon teeth cannot be 'sown' to produce a race of fierce warriors. But this myth may have arisen because the teeth themselves make some of the very sharpest of possible edges to weapons, only recently matched by new steel-smelting technologies.

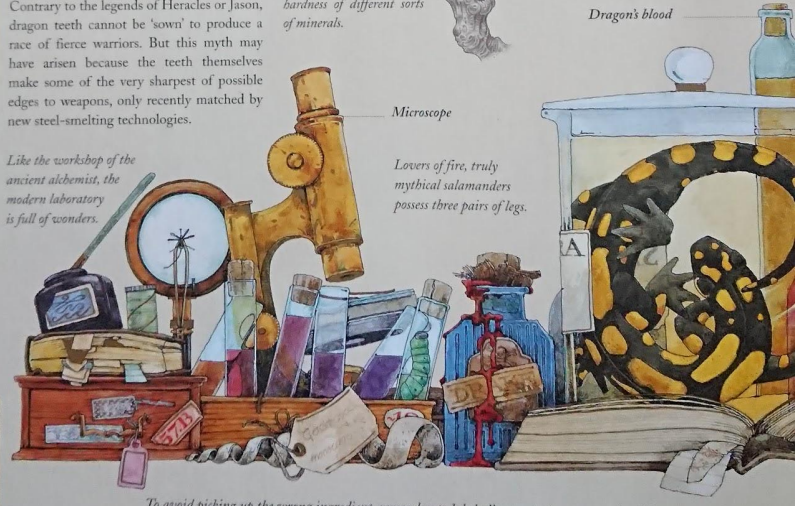
A dragon's claw, while not as hard as diamond, may be used to test the relative hardness of different sorts of minerals.

Dragon's blood

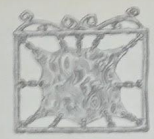
Microscope

Like the workshop of the ancient alchemist, the modern laboratory is full of wonders.

Lovers of fire, truly mythical salamanders possess three pairs of legs.



To avoid picking up the wrong ingredient, remember to label all your specimens very clearly!



PREPARING DRAGON HIDE.

Cured on an iron-frame, sloughed-off dragon hide loses none of its hardness and can be made into protective shields, hides or costumes. The different sections must be riveted together.

DRAGON HORN.

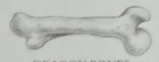
Perhaps there is no music so deep and sweet as that which is played on a properly hollowed-out dragon horn. In addition, powdered horn mixed with salamander grease acts on the eyes, nose and ears producing temporary 'supersenses'.

A NEW-FANGLED APPROACH.

One use that has not been tested is using light, strong dragon hide on a framework of bone to mimic the 'gliders' that are all the rage in America and France. One almost fantasises that, with an engine, the contraption might fly!

DRAGONDUST.

This substance may be collected from the cave walls around the nests of breeding mothers and condenses from their breath. It has a highly soporific effect if mixed with enough dragon blood. Used in quantity, this mixture may even help to pacify fully-grown dragons but under no circumstances should dragondust be ingested by humans.



DRAGON BONES.

Being incredibly strong yet light, dragon bones can be used to make shelters, in much the same way as some eskimos build shelters of whalebone. Alternatively flame-resistant coracles can be constructed to assist in the scientific exploration of volcano craters.

THE DRAGON'S EYE.

Like the alchemists of old whose highest aim was to seek out the philosopher's stone, capable of transforming base metals into gold, the mystical dragon's eye was sought by dragonologists for centuries. It is the only sure means to determine those dragonologists who, by reason of their innate wisdom and affinities with dragons, may become true dragonmasters. For some reason most likely associated with the dragon's ability to see light across various parts of the spectrum [due to its six optic nerves], a true dragonmaster is reflected with perfect clarity in this precious gem. Fortunately, my own tutor finally succeeded in locating it. It was secreted in a cavern near More Hall in England by Elizabethan dragonologist and natural philosopher, Dr. John Dee, and is often referred to by him as his crystal ball, or 'shew stone'.

Scientific dragonology makes little use of the alembics, athenors or other paraphernalia of yesteryear.

Herbs

Glass flask & stirrer

A good pestle and mortar will be found invaluable in the preparation of potions.