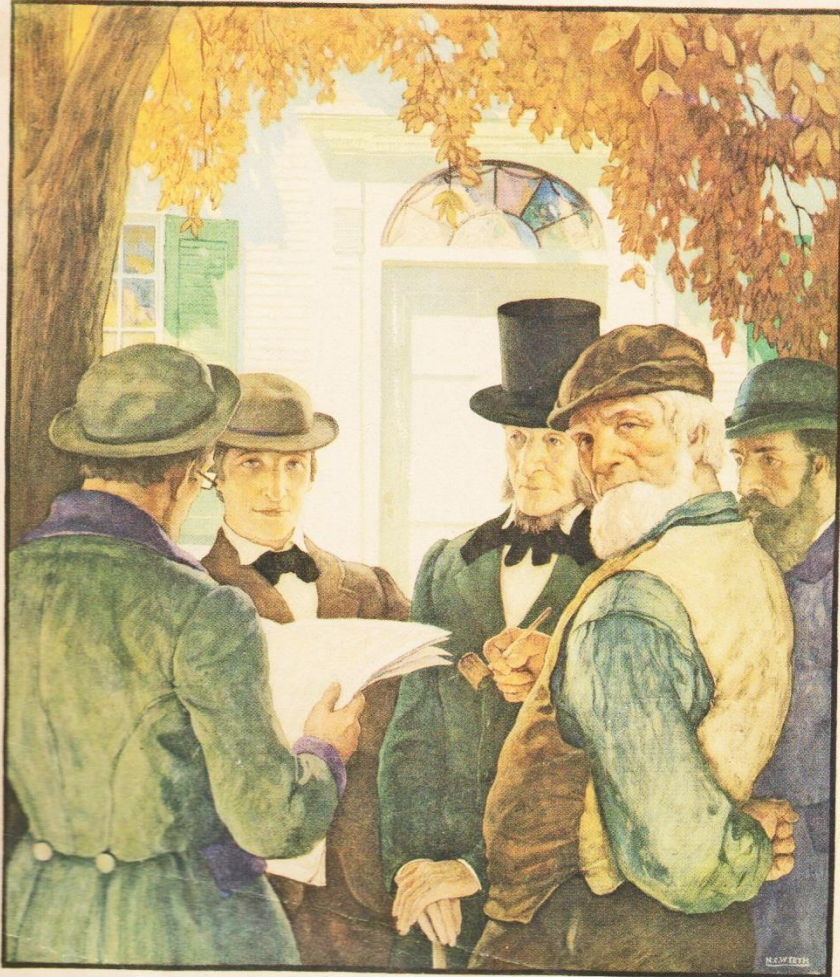


MEN of CONCORD



By **HENRY D. THOREAU**

F.H. ALLEN: *Editor* - N.C. WYETH: *Illustrator*

THOREAU'S CREATIVE EXAMPLE INSPIRED ART

By
PAUL HENRY CARR

www.MirrorOfNature.org

Men of Concord

and some others AS PORTRAYED
IN THE JOURNAL OF *Henry
David Thoreau* EDITED BY
FRANCIS H. ALLEN WITH IL-
LUSTRATIONS BY N. C. WYETH



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1936

Henry:- Herein you will find, I think, a few
echoes of our remembered New England. If
you do hear them, even faintly, it will please
me
affectionately
Convers.

American Illustrator, Newell
Convers Wyeth, grew up in
Needham, MA. He studied painting
with Howard Pyle and then lived in
Chadds Ford, PA.

For many years he was a student
and admirer of Thoreau, whose spirit
became a part of him.

Wyeth's cousin, my grandfather
Henry Holzer, lived in Hyde Park,
MA, and was President of U. Holzer
Bookbinders, Inc.

*Henry: Herein you will find, I think, a
few echoes of our remembered New
England. If you do hear them, even
faintly, it will please me.*

*Affectionately,
Convers*

THE CREATIVE PROCESS:

- 1. **INFORMED: Immersion**, engagement, intense concentration on problem, 10,000 hours of practice.
- 2. **UNFORMED: Incubation**, logical impasse, in which conscious thought is useless.
- 3. **TRANSFORMED: Illumination**, “aha,” “*eureka*,” when relaxed.

Meister Eckhart, 1260-1328, German Mystic Theologian

Murray Gell-Mann, The Quark & the Jaguar: Adventures in Simple & Complex

Rollo May, The Courage to Create

HENRY DAVID THOREAU'S CREATIVE PROCESS

1. INFORMED

Henry's Harvard education, his voluminous reading, and his conversations with friends informed him.

2. UNFORMED

The death of his brother John, who died in Henry's arms from lockjaw, unformed him. Henry had taught school and rowed with John on the Concord and Merrimack rivers to its outlet in Newburyport. Henry's time in his cabin on Walden Pond helped the recovery from his grief. While there, he completed his book "*A Week on the Concord and the Merrimack Rivers.*"

3. TRANSFORMED

This initiated Henry's creative transformation and the writing of his most enduring book "*Walden: A Life in the Woods.*"



Plate II.

THOREAU FISHING

“**Time** is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its thin current slides away, but **eternity** remains.”

Walden



Plate III.

The Carpenters Repairing Hubbard's Bridge

August 17, 1851. "...their bench on the new planking ...in the sun and air, with no railing to obstruct the view, I was almost ready to resolve that I would be a carpenter and work on bridges, to secure a pleasant place to work."



Plate IV

Thoreau and Miss Mary Emerson

Mary Moody Emerson
(1774-1863) aunt of Ralph
Waldo Emerson, over whose
development she exercised a
strong influence.

November 13, 1851.

“ ... She, more surely than
any other woman, gives her
companion occasion to utter
his best thought.

**In spite of her biases, she
can entertain a large thought
with hospitality...”**

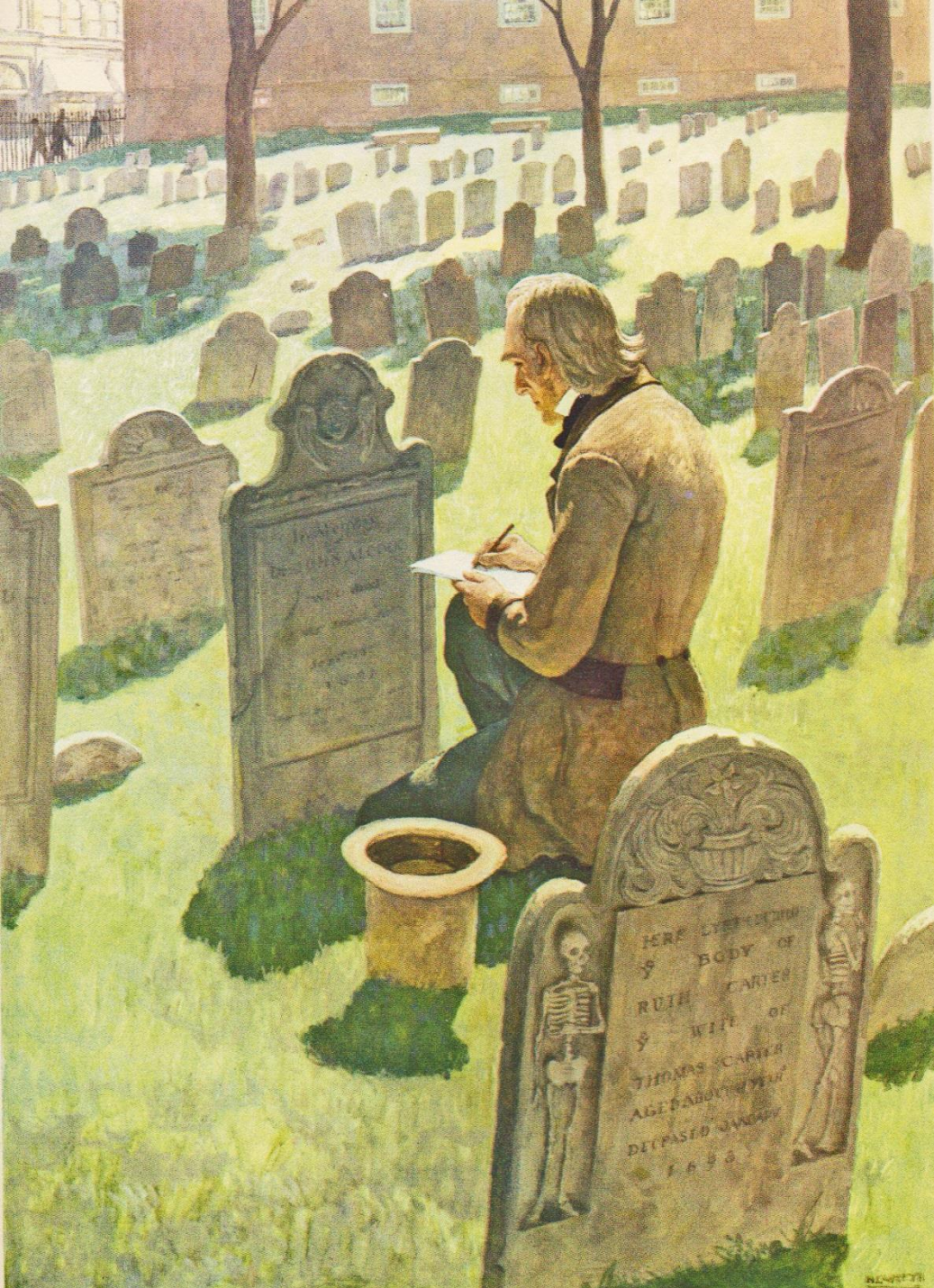


Plate V

Mr. Alcott visiting tomb of Dr. John Alcock in the Granary Burying Ground in Boston

August 11, 1852. "Alcott, the spiritual philosopher, is, and has been for some months, devoted to the study of his own genealogy,-he whom only the genealogy of humanity, the descent of man from God, should concern..."

He has visited the only bearer of the Alcock name in Boston,--- though there is no evidence of the slightest connection except through Adam."



Plate VI.

Thoreau and the Three Reformers

June 17, 1853. Ultra-reformers, lecturers on Slavery, Temperance, the Church:

A.D. Foss, once a Baptist minister in Hopkinton, NH;

Loring Moody, a traveling pattern working chaplain;

& H. C. Wright, who shocks all the old women with his infidel writings. Wright, author of

A Kiss for a Blow, behaved as if there were no alternative between them, or as if I had given him a blow. I would have preferred a blow, but he was bent on giving me a kiss, when there was no quarrel between us.

Plate VII.

The Muskrat-Hunters, Goodwin & Haynes

May 1, 1854

They shoot at any rat that may expose himself... One that they had wounded looked exactly like the end of an old rider stripped of bark.

How pitiful a man looks about this sport.

These men represent a class which probably exists, even in the most civilized community, and allies it to the most savage.





Plate VIII.

Fishing Through the Ice

February 8, 1856

The fishermen agree in saying that the pickerel have generally been eating, and are full, when they bite. Some think it is best to cut holes the day before, because the noise frightens them.

E. Garfield says that his Uncle Daniel was once scaling a pickerel, when he pricked his finger against the horn of a pout which the pickerel had swallowed. He himself killed a pickerel with a paddle, in the act of swallowing a large perch.



Plate IX.

Barefooted Brooks Clark Building Wall

October 20, 1857. “It pleased me to see this cheery old man (~80) enjoying the evening of his days.... It is worth a thousand of the church’s sacraments...

It was better than a prayerful mood. It proves to me old age as tolerable, as happy, as infancy.”



My grandfather, Henry Holzer’s wheelbarrow.



Plate X

Johnny and his Woodchuck-Skin Cap

February 29, 1860.

“Passed a very little boy in the street, who had a home-made cap of woodchuck-skin, which his father had killed and cured, and his mother had fashioned into a nice warm cap.... So much family history, **the human parents’ care of their young in hard times.**

The boy’s black eyes sparkled beneath it, when I remarked on its warmth, even as the woodchuck’s might have done.

Such should be the history of every piece of clothing that we wear.”



HENRY DAVID THOREAU (1817-1862)

Journal Account of a Summer Evening
in Concord, July 21, 1851 at 8:30 P.M:

“The streets of the village are much more interesting to me at this hour of a summer evening than by day. Neighbors, and also farmers, come a-shopping after their day’s haying, are chatting in the streets, and I hear the sounds of many musical instruments, and the singing from various houses. For a short hour or two, the inhabitants are sensibly employed. The evening is devoted to poetry, such as the villagers can appreciate.”

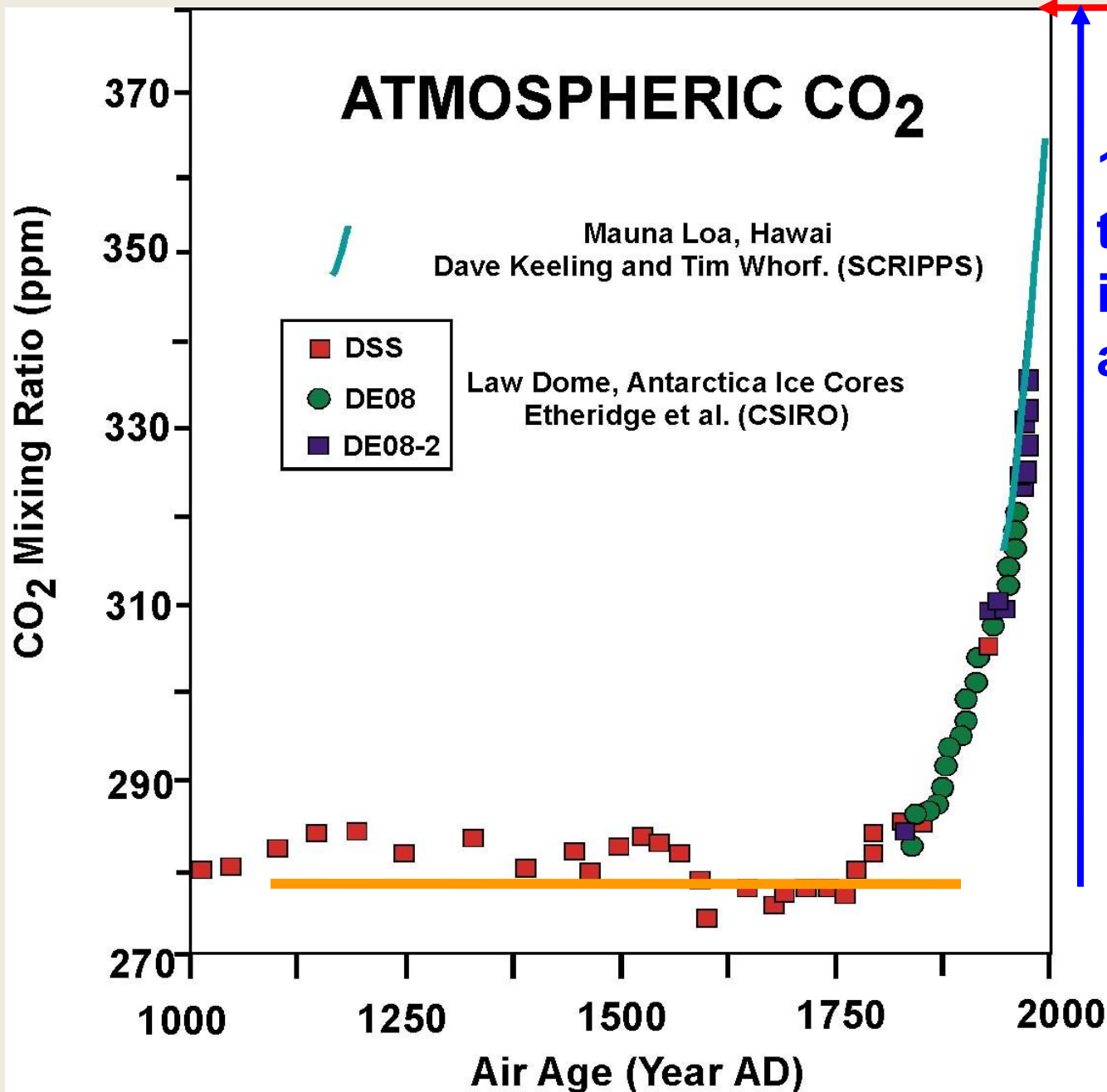


Plate I.

“A man of certain probity and worth, immortal and natural.”

Oxen (and horses) were the **sustainable** source of locomotive energy since the beginning of civilization 10,000 years ago.

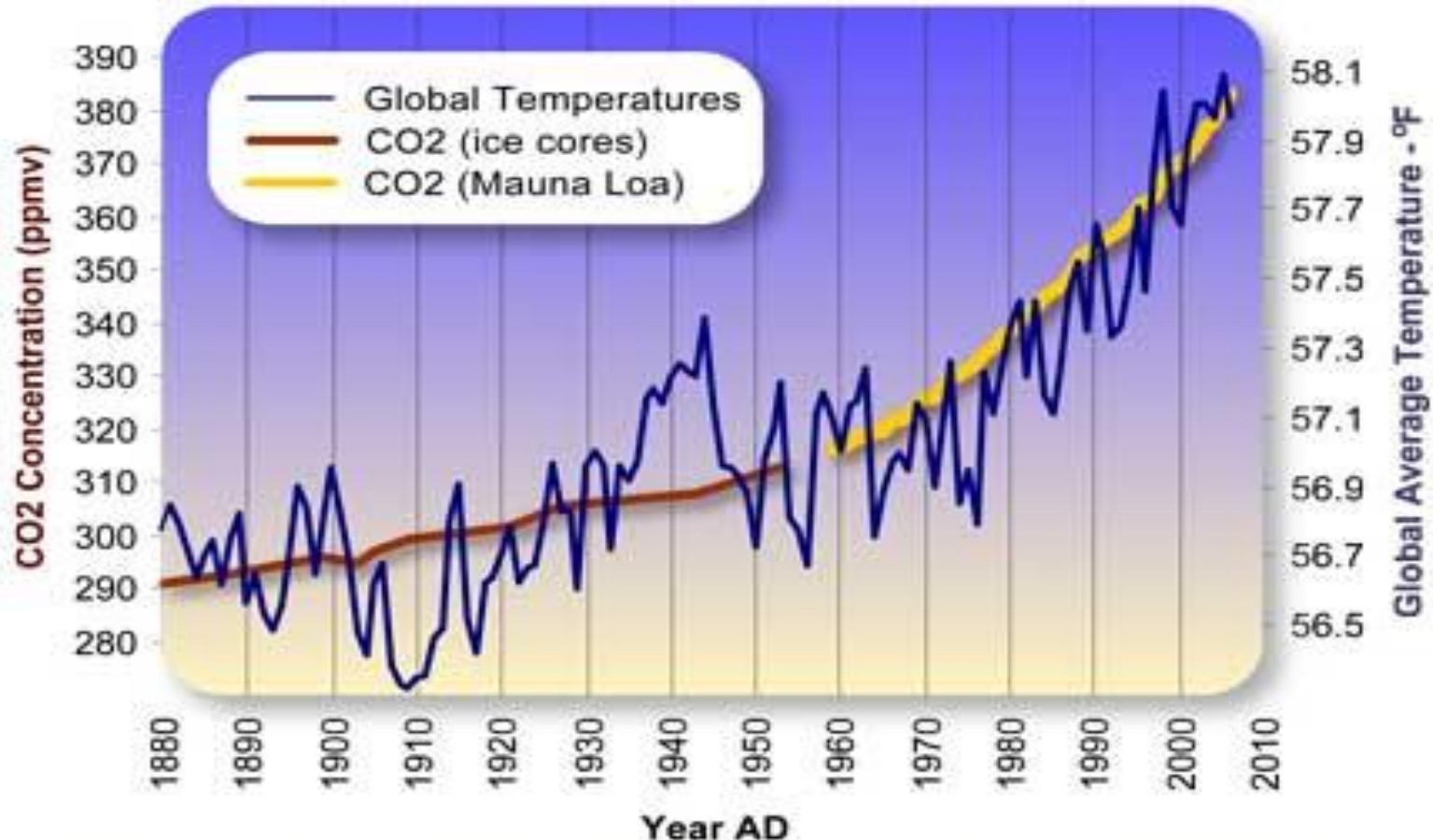
Fossil fuel burning emits CO₂. These fuels will be depleted in 100 - 200 years.



CO₂ levels now
110 ppm above
the pre-
industrial
average

- Carbon isotope ratios indicate the CO₂ increase since 1850 is from burning ~300 million yr old fossil fuels.

Global Average Temperature and Carbon Dioxide Concentrations, 1880 - 2006



Data Source Temperature: ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/anomalies/annual.land_and_ocean.90S.90N.df_1901-2000mean.dat

Data Source CO2 (Siple Ice Cores): <http://cdiac.esd.ornl.gov/ftp/trends/co2/siple2.013>

Data Source CO2 (Mauna Loa): <http://cdiac.esd.ornl.gov/ftp/trends/co2/maunaloa.co2>
& http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/webdata/cogg/trends/co2_mm_mlo.dat

Graphic Design: Michael Ernst, The Woods Hole Research Center

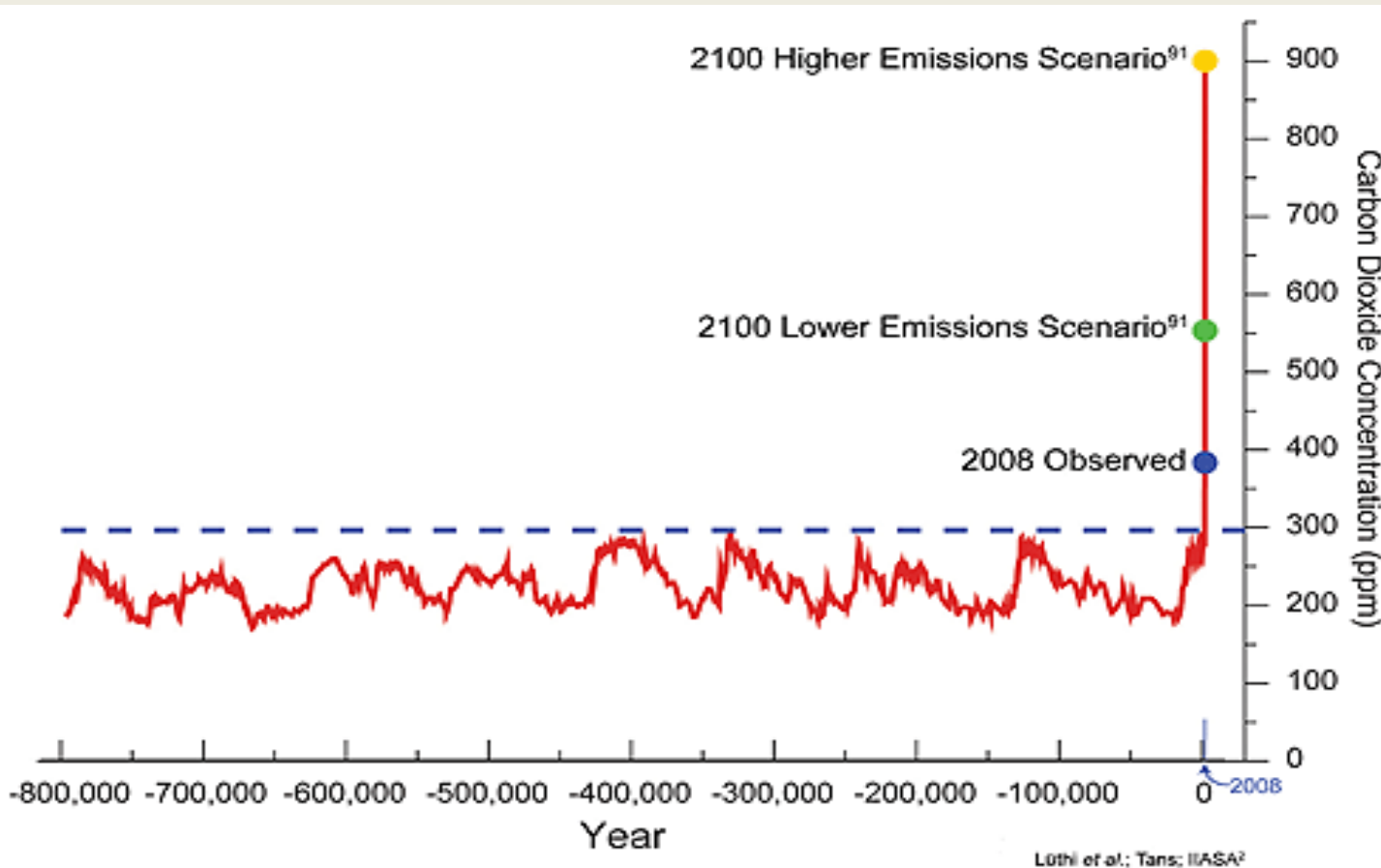


CORRELATION BETWEEN TEMP AND CO2 INCREASE

1880 – 1980: CO2 increased 47 ppm.

1980 – 2010: CO2 increased 52 ppm.

CO2 CONCENTRATIONS, HIGHEST (33%) IN 800,000 YRS, WILL REACH 1000 PPM IN 240 YEARS.

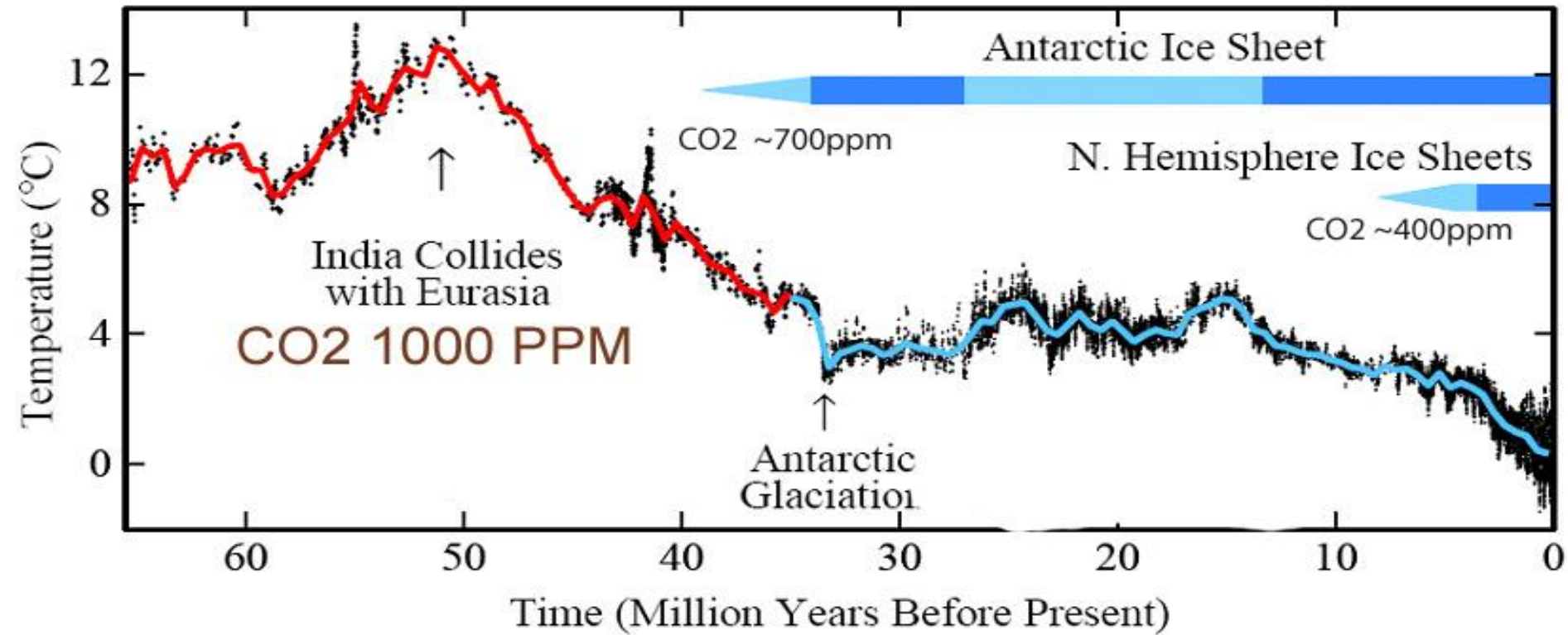


Lothi et al.; Tans; IIASA²

Analysis of air bubbles trapped in an Antarctic ice core extending back 800,000 years documents the Earth's changing carbon dioxide concentration. Over this long period, natural factors have caused the atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration to vary within a range of about 170 to 300 parts per million (ppm). Temperature-related data make clear that these variations have played a central role in determining the global climate. As a result of human activities, the present carbon dioxide concentration of about 385 ppm is about 30 percent above its highest level over at least the last 800,000 years. In the absence of strong control measures, emissions projected for this century would result in the carbon dioxide concentration increasing to a level that is roughly 2 to 3 times the highest level occurring over the glacial-interglacial era that spans the last 800,000 or more years.

At present rate of 2.5 ppm rise per year, humans are increasing CO2 at a rate **300 times faster than the recovery from the ice age 18,000 - 10,000 years ago.**

Global Deep Ocean Temperature



← Dinosaur Extinction 65M Yr. BP

Figure from Dr. James Hansen, NASA GISS

- Our present level of 400 ppm could reach ~ 1000 ppm in 240 years.
- Arctic became ice-free 8 M years ago when CO2 = 300 - 450 ppm.
- Antarctic melted ~ 40 M years ago, CO2 ~ 700 ppm
 - Earth was ice-free, sea levels 100s meters higher.

The Coming Climate Crash: Lessons for Climate Change in the 2008 Recession

By HENRY M. PAULSON Jr. Secretary of the Treasury under Pres. George W. Bush.

JUNE 21, 2014

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/22/opinion/sunday/lessons-for-climate-change-in-the-2008-recession.html>

“We’re staring down a climate bubble that poses enormous risks to both our *environment and economy*. The warning signs are clear and growing more urgent as the risks go unchecked.

A tax on carbon emissions will unleash a wave of innovation to develop technologies, lower the costs of clean energy and create jobs as we and other nations develop new energy products and infrastructure.

Climate change is the challenge of our time. We’ve seen and felt the costs of underestimating the financial bubble. Let’s not ignore the climate bubble.”



N. Convers Wyeth's Original Paintings the Concord Library

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x Original at the
~~the~~ Concord Libr
1942 Gift of Caleb Henry
Wheeler in memory of
Caleb Kendall
Wheeler (Died
WWII 1944)

HOW THOREAU'S CREATIVE EXAMPLE INSPIRED N. CONVERS WYETH'S ART

The challenge of
climate change is
equivalent to the
issue of **slavery** in
Thoreau's day.