

# HEN CRUTCH, HERO: DIED FOR A FRIEND

Plunged Through Driving Snow Storm to Get Medicine for Sick Man

HIS EVERY STEP AN EFFORT

It Took Him Three Hours to Reach Town—Rested Only as Long as it Took the Druggist to Fill Prescription—Failed in His Task.

Winsted, Conn.—"Evening," Hugh, how ye feelin' to-night?" asked Henry Crutch as he beat the snow from his big coat with a mittened hand and strode into the home of his invalid friend, Hugh Blackburn, near Litchfield, one day during winter.

"Just middlin', Henry," replied the pallid man, who tottered forward to grasp his hand. "This weather gets into my bones—bark to that wind, will ye?—an' the medicine Doc left last week is all gone."

"Reckon I'll be goin' up Litchfield way to-night, Hugh. I'll fetch some more for ye."

"Goin' to Litchfield in this storm! I guess yer crazy, Henry. Snow's drivin' four foot deep already, an' gettin' worse. Ain't no boss could wade it, Henry."

"Reckon I'll walk, Hugh."

"Ye can't, Henry."

"Reckon I can, Hugh. Got the bottle?"

The sick man moved weakly into another room and reappeared presently with the empty medicine bottle. He handed it to Crutch with a grateful but worried look.

"Ye ain't goin' account o' me, Henry?"

"No, Hugh. Goin' up Litchfield way anyhow."

"Well, take keer o' yerself."

"So long, Hugh."

"So long, Henry."

Crutch strode out into the storm. As he reached the road, already deep in snow, the wind beat the keen flakes into his face and almost blinded him. But he struck off at a good pace on his errand of mercy.

It took him three hours to reach town. But he rested while the village druggist put up the medicine, and then set out again on his return journey.

There was no road now. The surging snow filled up his tracks as fast as he put one foot before the other. He had to hug the barb-wire fence to keep his bearings, and even that was covered for long stretches. Every step was an effort, and it was four miles back to Blackburn's.

At times he had to stop and rest, knee deep in the drifts. But soon he would flounder on, his heavy coat weighting him down like lead. Finally he had to scoop out a little place in a drift beside the fence and sit down there.

And that was where the searchers found him, dead, next morning, only a quarter of a mile from Hugh Blackburn's house, the bottle of Hugh's medicine in his pocket—a simple hero and a glorious friend!

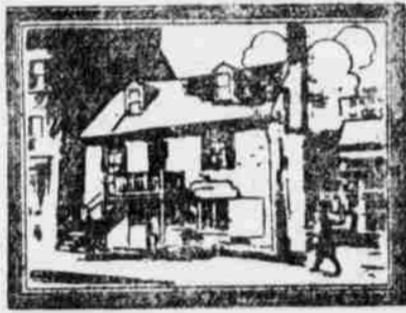
## Washington's Greatness

Never did a dictator, indeed, find himself in greater straits. In all directions he had been sending for men. By every method he sought to hold those he had. Yet, as fast as he gathered in new troops others left him, for the bane of short enlistments poisoned everything. He was not only fighting a city war; but he had to make his army as he fought, and even for that he had only these shifting sands to build on. "They come," he wrote of the militia, "you cannot tell when, and act you cannot tell where, consume your provisions, waste your stores, and leave you at last at a critical moment." He was as near desperation as he ever came in his life. We can read it all now in his letters, but he showed nothing of it to his men. Schuyler, always faithful, sent him some troops. Sullivan, too, came with those that Lee had tried to lead, and then it was found that the terms of these very troops were expiring and that by the New Year he would be left with only fifteen hundred, although at the moment he had between five and six thousand men still with him and in outlying detachments. Opposed to him were the British, 80,000 strong, with headquarters in New York, and strong divisions cantoned in the New Jersey towns. Outnumbered six to one, ill provided in every way, and with a dissolving army, it was a terrible situation to face and conquer. But Washington rose to the height of the occasion. Under the strain his full greatness came out. No



George Washington

more yielding to counsels now, no more modest submission of his own opinion to that of others. A lesser man, knowing that the British had suspended operations, would have drawn his army together and tried to house and recruit it through the winter. Washington, with his firm grasp of all the military and political conditions, knew that he ought to fight, and determined to do so.—From "The Story of the Revolution," by Senator H. C. Lodge, in Scribner's.



Washington's Headquarters While Directing Survey of Washington City, 1791.

### REINDEER FLESH OF FUTURE.

Labrador Will Supply It and Also Barley, Oats and Lumber.

Sydney, N. S.—That Labrador may in the near future become an important source of food supply, exporting large quantities of meat, cereals, etc., as well as her present fish shipments, is the opinion of Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, noted missionary, author and lecturer.

Dr. Grenfell and his bride, formerly Miss Clannahan of Chicago, are on their way from the United States to Labrador. The doctor is enthusiastic over the outlook for extending his herds of reindeer, imported from Lapland to all parts of Labrador.

"There are excellent prospects of this developing into a most profitable industry," he said. "Their flesh makes splendid food, and I look forward to the time when large quantities will be exported to supply the meat markets of the world.

"Barley, oats and other hardy cereals will also flourish, and lumbering offers another big field for development."

### RETURN OF THE SILVER KEYS.

France Restores to Mexico Trophies of the Maximilian Days.

Mexico City.—Sebastian B. G. Mier, Mexican Minister to France, has informed President Diaz that the French Government, desiring to give to Mexico a pledge of its sympathy in view of the coming celebration of the centenary of Mexican independence, has resolved to return to the Mexican Government the silver keys which were presented to Gen. Forey, commander of the French troops, on his entry into the Mexican capital in command of Maximilian's guards. French Minister to Mexico Paul Lefalvre has confirmed the statement. These symbolic keys were taken to France with the other trophies, arms, cannons and standards by Colonel, afterward General de Galliffet.



Fossil Head of Bird Found.

Washington, D. C.—A fossil head of a bird, surrounded by fossilized coconuts, oranges, mangoes and alligator pears, has been unearthed in the Culebra cut, Panama canal zone. It will be presented to the Smithsonian Institution.

## GRANGE.

### HUNGRY RABBITS ARE PEELING TREES.

The earth being covered with snow in many sections of Pennsylvania, and not all the rabbits having fallen victims last fall to the gunners, numerous complaints are being received by the Division of Zoology of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, in regard to trees being damaged and destroyed by rabbits preying upon the bark. One grower in Westmoreland county, wrote to State Zoologist H. A. Surface, stating that of 1,200 trees, planted one, two and three years ago, and which made a nice growth, quite a number have had their bark peeled off by rabbits. He asked for some simple remedy to prevent this destruction, and made this further inquiry:

"Would black, roof paint—something of a coal tar nature—be injurious to the trees? I have tried it on a few trees, and the rabbits have not worked on such trees, and this would be an easy way to stop them, but I am afraid. I might injure the trees by such an application."

The advice of Professor Surface was to the following effect:

"Replying to your recent letter asking how to prevent rabbits from peeling your young trees, I beg to say that the chief thing to do is to cut some branches from trees that need pruning (from either these or older ones), and drop the branches on the snow where the rabbits can get at them. The next thing is to paint the trunks of your young trees with pure white lead and a good quality of raw linseed oil.

"Painting or spraying with lime-sulphur wash, or with the sediment that is left from boiling lime-sulphur wash for San Jose scale, will also prevent injury for some time. Some persons recommend killing a rabbit and rubbing its insides over the trunks of the trees. Blood painted or sprayed on the trunks of trees is often used to repel them. Personally, I prefer either the paint or the lime-sulphur wash mentioned above. I have tried both, in our experiments on my own trees, with good results.

"Coal tar might be all right, but I know where a nice orchard of young apple trees was killed by painting with coal tar and linseed oil, and I hesitate to recommend this on that account. I have never tried it on my own trees, and I am satisfied with the efficacy of the linseed oil and white lead treatment."

**Austria's Debt Collectors.**  
A debt-collecting agency which is run as a part of the regular public postal system is the newest "improvement" of the enterprise, the plan has worked admirably, so that many thousands are collected annually by the postmen throughout the Austrian Empire.

**Widows Not So Popular.**  
The registrar-general's return shows that in every 1,000 women led to the altar the proportion of widows has been decreasing during the past thirty years. The actual decrease has been from 21.1 in 1870 to 12.5 at the date of the last return.—London Times.

**Early Greek Holidays.**  
The Greek holidays were very numerous. There were fifty of them beginning with the letter A, and besides these special festivals there were times set apart for the Isthmian, Nemean, Pythian and Olympian games, all of which were popular holidays.

**Arabs in Egypt.**  
Among the principal opponents of England in Egypt are those educated Arabs, who, having learned the French language, but not the English are now unable to obtain Government positions.

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