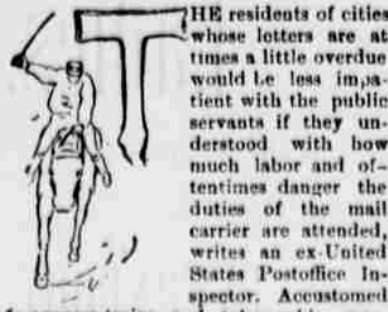


POSTAL PERILS.

THE DANGERS BRAVED BY FAITHFUL MAIL CARRIERS.

They Climb Mountains, Ford Torrents, Thread Swamps and Cross Deserts to Deliver Letters—Almost Inaccessible Offices.



THE residents of cities whose letters are at times a little overdue would be less impatient with the public servants if they understood with how much labor and oftentimes danger the duties of the mail carrier are attended.

In winter many of them travel by snowshoes and with dog sleds like those of the Eskimoes. The new Territory of Alaska, now within the postal confines of the United States, has twenty-two postoffices in regular operation, but they are no more remote than are many in regions in the Eastern and earliest settled States.

The aim of the Government, regardless of expense to it or of labor upon the part of its servants, is to place within the reach of all citizens the refining and humanizing influences of newspapers, of home and social letters, without which men, when exiled, tend to ignorance and brutality.

As an Inspector I visited Lee's Ferry, in Coconino County, Arizona. The office is on the Colorado River. Being in Utah we went by the mail route southward from Salina, where early on a March day we took stage for Kanab via



OVER THE BRINK OF A RAVINE.

Panguitch. The ride occupied three full days, and at the end the 205th mile we stopped at a farm house late at night, thoroughly chilled and worn out.

For over two hundred miles we traversed a section of the American Desert upon which there is little water, scant vegetation and few people. The latter are specially praiseworthy for being hospitable from so meagre a store.



IN WISCONSIN.

snowshoe and dog sled carriers. Such methods of locomotion though primitive, are not as slow as might be supposed. Many of these Indian carriers will make fifty miles a day and their paths are not nearly as arduous as the bridge paths of the Eastern mountains, where in spring it is almost impossible for a man to find a footing.

Beyond the difficulties attending the reaching of remote postoffices there is at times unusual danger in the work of the mail-carrier. In winter many of the routes in the Rockies are very dangerous and almost superhuman efforts are required to avoid fines for delinquency.

or until after midnight. It was at the latter place that Sir Walter Raleigh made his first home in America.

There are other equally inaccessible offices reached by ferry across the Neuse at New Berne, and riding some twenty miles across a sand beach to Pamlico or Bayboro.

Along the eastern coast of North Carolina, cut off from the mainland, is a narrow, long strip of sand beach on which there are a dozen postoffices. They are served by a small sailboat running semi-weekly from Manteo, on Roanoke Island, to Davis, stopping at Hatteras, Ocracoke and other places.



IN NORTH CAROLINA.

enforced on this as on other routes, and good cause must be shown for delays beyond schedule time. The mountain regions of West Virginia offer special attractions for deceptions upon the mails and have many offices that are very hard to reach in spring when the roads are deep in mud.

Having seen the most noted points of America's natural scenery, I regard the view from Mount Powell as unsurpassed. It was a vision of what greeted the explorers of Virginia and the Carolinas.



A SNOWSHOE MAIL CARRIER.

a few miles of such a country. In a country of partial settlement requires unusual fortitude. We met but one traveler upon these remote arctic paths.

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SOLDIERS' COLUMN

ODE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG.

BY J. BODMAN DEWE.

When Freedom from her mountain height Unfurled her standard to the air, She wore the azure robe of glory.

Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly, The sign of hope and triumph high! When speaks the signal trumpet tone,

Flag of the free heart's hope and home, Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave; When Death careers on the gale,

BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE.

How it Looked to a Surgeon at the Rear of the Army.

As I have seen, nothing in your columns of the battle of Perryville, Ky., Oct. 8, 1862, I am moved to send you a few reminiscences

The following bills were introduced: Hackedburg, Northumberland—Providing for appointment by the Governor of a commission, equal in number to the number of liquor licenses instead of the Courts.

Mr. Thornton, of Fayette, presented a bill permitting street railway companies to condemn private property after making due compensation therefor for the same.

Mr. Hackedburg, of Northumberland, had a petition read asking him to introduce a bill to prohibit the manufacture of hoop-skirts for crinoline purposes.

The following bills were introduced: Smith, Lancaster—To take from pipe lines the right of eminent domain.

Just before sunset the rebel artillerymen on the hill to our left felt moved to plant three or four solid shots in rapid succession into the primitive roof of our cabin, no doubt as much to develop its contents as anything else.

the stimulus of fright, but the scattering of these frightened black boys was the most comical thing I ever saw and their faces were uniformly several shades lighter when they entered it but a short time previously.

Not one of them was injured in the least, but when the clappers and decaying weight-poles began flying in every direction. They did some wonderful leaping and their agility was something that the colored population of Kentucky should be proud of to this day.

LABOR TROUBLES are anticipated in Japan. The natives work 12 to 17 hours for a few cents, and intend to agitate for laws shortening the hours of labor and regulating the pay.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

Twenty-first Day.—In the senate 35 bills passed the first reading in 10 minutes. McCrea of Erie introduced a bill providing that whenever any secret marriage is contracted and the parties have no common residence, or do not live together as man and wife, the survivor, in the event of the death of either party, shall take no interest in the estate of the deceased, excepting such as may be devised or bequeathed to the survivor in case the deceased die intestate.

Twenty-second Day.—In the Senate today a large number of remonstrances were presented from mineral associations and other religious organizations against modifications of the Sunday laws.

Twenty-third Day.—In the Senate today Mr. Hackedburg, of Northumberland, had a petition read asking him to introduce a bill to prohibit the manufacture of hoop-skirts for crinoline purposes.

Twenty-fourth Day.—Among the bills introduced were the following: Critefield, Somerset—To prevent public highways from becoming blockaded by snow.

Severe Snowstorms.—The most violent storm of the winter swept the river valley at this point Sunday night. There is from 12 to 18 inches of snow on the level, and it has been driving badly.

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Three Killed in a Street Car Accident.—An accident on the city and suburban electric railway at Portland, Ore., J. O. Dennis, aged 70, Bertram Dennis, his son, aged 8, and J. T. Johnson were killed and James Meneffe was probably fatally injured.

Queer Tooth-Pulling.—In the reports of the physician in charge of the Ning Po Missionary Hospital there are some interesting observations on tooth-pulling in China.

Debtor.—"Come, now, this is a little too much. You press me about that little bill just as though I were a poor man."

KEYSTONE STATE CULLINGS

THE NEW COUNTRIES.

HARRISBURG.—There are two bills pending in the legislature for the creation of new counties. The first, introduced in the house by George V. Lawrence, is intended to carve a new county out of portions of Washington, Fayette, Greene, Westmoreland and Allegheny, with the county seat at Monongahela City.

Among the bills introduced were the following: By Mr. Thomas, Cambria—To avoid the blocking of the highways with snow by providing that wire fences shall be substituted for rail or board fences.

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