

DEATH IN A SNOW STORM.

Interesting Account of a Winter Spent in the Wilds of Idaho.

Eastern people, said the old miner, as he deftly caught a live coal from the wood fire, around which we had gathered after our day's hunt in the Maine woods, and thrust it in the bowl of his pipe, have but little idea of the heavy snow falls of the Rockies and the Sierras, or what damage is often caused from the accumulated weight.

I remember well, he added, hearing my father tell how in York State back in the thirties, that the fall was once so great that the men were compelled to organize relief parties to dig away the big drifts from many of the houses, and that when driving along the streets one could almost walk, from the level, into the second story window. But as I passed the first twenty years of my life in that town and witnessed nothing more remarkable than drifts over the tops of fences and the temporary blocking of the scarcely-traveled roads, I conclude those stories must have gained somewhat from the lapse of years.

He smoked rapidly and quietly for a moment, perhaps to gather his thoughts a little and resumed, "Why the fall was so excessive and continued once in Idaho Territory upon the roof of our mill, that the large chimney of 12x14 below which the end had been built, was bent almost to the ground. We feared our extra chimney would surely break it, but the weather changed, the south wind blew up the canyon and snow below the eaves of the chimney settled so that we could dig the huge mass and by night had a miniature snow slide and the strain. I believe, however, the chimney never regained its position. But in the mining Sierras where I wintered in the sixties, our first snow fell in the morning lay on the level. The storm lasted forty-eight hours and we suffered weather for several days. When the snow had partially melted, the frame of a ten-wheeled wagon removed, was found to be splinters, even the wheels being torn and all recognition. From November until May, several of very frequent occurrences, actual measurements nearly thirty feet travel any distance course impossible, and every man, became more or less with them the eleven feet broad. The third day it is assured, returned them under does for with. The boots smooth each trip and bees-chosen long is the soon been slightest death. Deep mounds a mile a minor auto is not deep snows the miner would are is always far as post that come. When there and shovelling now is perills and in cabin is made for fires for a breath and none can be kept hung in. The chimney by means over its top, only as-

About ten minutes later the boy glided up to the window, opened it and called out, "Pap says all of you come over quick, bring lots of snow shovels and a couple of blankets. Let some of the women get one of the bed rooms warm and make some hot soup and coffee." It don't take much time for us old fellows whose lives are full of tragedies and startling episodes, to get ready for almost any kind of contingency; and before the boy had stopped talking, more than two dozen strong and willing men and several of the other sex, not always the weaker sex in a mining camp, were gliding over the intervening half mile. It was a beautiful morning after the storm and in the light, crisp air of that great altitude every object stood out as clear and distinct as if all nature rejoiced, and no thought of death was possible. The green branches of the many pines were heavily weighted with the lately fallen snow, and the level expanse of Meadow Lake with its white covering glistened in the bright sunlight like an immense mirror.

Not a word was spoken nor a sound heard in the still air, except the swish of our snow shoes, as we glided rapidly toward Carlton's cabin. This was built, as I have said, a little distance from the more thickly settled part of the town (although now very many of the smaller cabins were buried out of sight and upon our arrival, nothing could be seen to distinguish its position, except a huge mound of snow and the ends of two snow shoes; presumably where the chimney was. Two dozen willing hands were soon hard at work, clearing away the huge drifts, and as soon as the chimney was uncovered we found, as we feared and expected, that the space around it had been permitted to lie and harden. It was but too plain that what had fallen during this previous storm had rapidly filled the small space below the chimney cap, and the cabin been hermetically sealed. As soon as the opening was made, a couple of us climbed down. Poor Carlton stood, leaning against the bricks of the chimney; fully clothed, even to his blue army overcoat, and the air was thick with a close, foul odor. There were no matches in the cabin or upon his person. He had evidently slept long and soundly and realized from his sensations when he awoke and became partially conscious that he was being smothered. That he had become bewildered and had wandered aimlessly around the cabin was evident by the articles strewn upon the floor, and when he finally found the chimney, had been too weak to make the ascent and had gradually fallen into his last sleep.

We judged he had been dead for forty-eight hours or more, and as the storm was raging so fiercely at that time, it is by no means certain that he could have been rescued, had his condition been known.

The body was wrapped in blankets and tenderly carried to the hotel, and prepared at once for burial. The grave was dug near an old pine tree through twenty-four feet of snow, and steps had to be cut to lead down to the ground. There was no minister in the camp, but one of the women brought out a prayer book and the burial service was read and probably each one of us sent up some sort of a prayer, that he might make a happy landing on the other shore.

Over a hundred men and women on snow shoes accompanied the body from the hotel to the grave, the wind singing a soft requiem as we laid the body away in that great white sepulcher and commented upon the singular fatality that had carried him safely through years of bloody strife, to at last meet his death in that strange manner 8,500 feet above his home of early days on the rock-bound shores of the Atlantic.

Briefs from Everywhere.

No intoxicants were allowed Russian prisoners in Japan.

A carved war god supposed to be over a thousand years old has been found in a cave in Colorado.

One ounce of radium contains power enough, if it could be utilized, to lift ten thousand tons one mile high.

The Arabs claim that Eve's grave is in a cemetery at Jeddah which was closed for interments over a thousand years ago.

The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad is employing Navajo Indians as section hands, finding them better workmen than South Europe laborers.

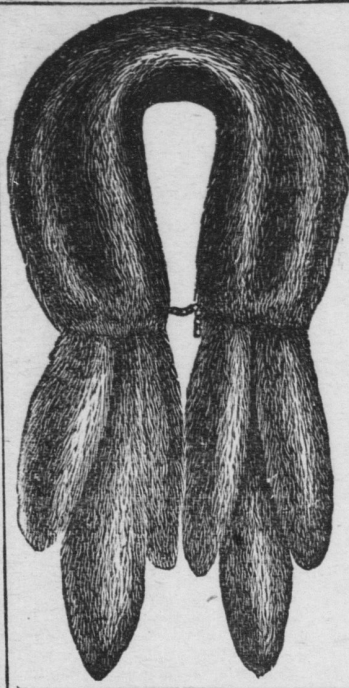
The herring is one of the most migratory of fish. They are only caught as a rule during the spawning season. Where they go to after that is not known.

New postage stamps which Japan is putting for Korea show a chrysalis emblem of Japan, a plum blossom of Korea, and two of the postal service.

A French scholar named Adhemar de Lacroix has published a work about giants, with Adam, who he asserted was 9 inches tall, Eve being 6 inches shorter.

A way scrap heap of the year reached the value of \$1,000,000. This was the value of the scrap of paper, waste paper, rags and the like.

A group of Persian women on the uniform of the



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New Walk For Women.

From London comes a startling report of a new figure and a new pose which have been called into existence by the winter fashions. Women who have for the last year been lightly tripping in the short "trottoir" skirt have found that they must adapt their style of walking to the new order of things. A slow, languorous movement of the limbs is therefore cultivated, as being more conducive to grace when wearing the long "redingote" coat and the newly introduced princess styles.

The new walk is just a little suggestive of the "Gibson girl," but in a modified form. The figure is held upright at the shoulders, with the slightest forward bend at the waist, the head is erect, the chin in and the legs swing from the hips. The correct poise is not attained all at once—according to the London Express—and at the physical culture schools, where society is now graduating in the art of how to walk in a "redingote," some very drastic orders are given. The practice of sleeping on the back or one side is fatal to the new poise. If the woman of fashion would look tall and stately she must sleep face downward, with a pillow tightly wedged under her chin in order to avoid suffocation.

Climate in the Philippines.

Major General Leonard Wood in a report to the War Department says that in his opinion there is no subject upon which more nonsense has been written than that of the bad effects of the Philippine climate on the health of officers and soldiers.

Returns from California show that the value of the orange crop shipped out of that State last season was \$23,925,000. Of this sum the growers received \$14,500,000 and the railroad and refrigerator lines \$9,425,000.

The average number of hairs which grow on the head of a red-haired man is a little over 20,000 hairs. Dark hair is three times as fine and the average crop is about 105,000, while a fair-haired man or woman averages from 150 to 175 thousand hairs.



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