

HEROIC DEED OF PROSPECTOR.

Forced Party of Indians to Carry Wounded Wisconsin Man Many Miles.

While Thomas Gentle, a mining machinery expert of Green Lake, Wis., was prospecting with James Nesbitt, near Givins inlet, in British Columbia, 60 miles from the nearest camp, a log rolled down a hill on them. Nesbitt wriggled from beneath it, but Gentle was pinned by the small of his back between the log and a big rock, and was fatally injured.

His partner worked for two days and nights before he succeeded in prying up the tree and pulling Gentle's crushed body free. Nesbitt then went for help, but Indians were the only human beings he could find.

He gave them \$20, all he had, to carry the dying man to Camp Vanada, 60 miles away. After covering 15 miles the Indians refused to go further. Nesbitt then gave the Indians a gold watch, which induced them to carry Gentle five miles further. Then the Siwash stopped again, saying: "No use carrying dead man."

Nesbitt whipped out a revolver and told the Indians there would be more dead men around if they did not move on.

At the point of a revolver 15 more miles were covered by the Indians, when they abruptly dropped their burden and fled into the woods. Nesbitt carried his injured partner to Vanada in three days' travel. Gentle died two days after reaching there, and eight days after the accident.

TOWS BOAT SIX MILES.

Hard Fight for Life Made by a Swordsman On Block Island.

The steam yacht Chetola, New York yacht club, owner, A. J. Wise, put in at Sea Cliff, L. I., the other day with a swordfish on board measuring 13 feet 10 inches long and weighing 625 pounds. The fish was caught 35 miles southwest of Block Island. He gave the party an exciting chase, towing the yacht's gig and a small boat six miles before he could be killed.

Mr. Wise and a party of friends went out on the Chetola from Greenport on a swordfishing trip. An offer of a ten-dollar bounty was made to the sailor first sighting a big fish. About the middle of the afternoon one of the sailors caught a glimpse of the monster, and the yacht was quickly got into position from which the skipper, J. W. Matthews, who is an experienced swordfisherman, could harpoon him from the bow of the yacht.

As soon as Mr. Matthews had made his mark the party got into the gig and the small boat and a thrilling pursuit ensued, which lasted an hour and a half before the fish received its death blow.

It took five stout sailors to work the tackle which hoisted the fish to the deck of the yacht.

THE SMITH FAMILY.

Meld Their Annual Picnic at Plainfield. N. J. — Nearly 3,000 Present.

The Smith family of New Jersey held its annual picnic the other day in Plainfield. Nearly 3,000 Smiths assembled on the grounds sacred to generations of Smiths. It has been in the Smith family since the time of King George's rule.

One of the first arrivals was Isaiah Smith, president of the association, and patriarch and caretaker of the morals of the tribe. Isaiah claims to be a direct descendant of the celebrated John of colonial times.

The older folks gathered in groups to renew acquaintances and indulge in reminiscences. The Smith boys and girls divided into couples, and played games. The Smith babies just rolled around on the green grass and cooed to themselves. It was a happy lot of Smiths.

After the dinner hour there were exercises appropriate to the occasion. The Smiths gathered under the trees, while an old Dutch banner, which is always swung to the breeze on the occasion of the Smith picnic, was an evidence of how the first Smiths came to this country. Isaiah Smith presided over the exercises.

GIRL SAVES THREE MEN.

Miss Mary Bourne, a Vassar Student, Pluckily Rescues Overturned Yachtman.

Miss Mary Bourne, daughter of Rev. Mr. Bourne, of New York, spending the summer at Barrington, R. I., probably saved Essex W. O'Neil, Arthur Dessault and Joseph McHenry from drowning in Warren river. The men were sailing in a 16-foot boat, which overturned. Miss Bourne had just landed at the wharf and hastened in her skiff to the rescue.

William Gatcher, an employee of her father, followed in another boat. Mr. Henry had sunburn once and was nearly exhausted. Miss Bourne placed an oar under him and aided him to secure a hold on the boat. O'Neil and Dessault, who could swim, were nearly exhausted by their efforts to aid Mr. Henry. She placed one on each side of her boat and rowed toward shore. Gatcher came up and took McHenry on board. John W. Donahue, in a sailboat, came to Miss Bourne's assistance and took up O'Neil and Dessault. Miss Bourne is 21 years old, a student at Vassar, and an expert oarswoman and equestrienne.

Homeless Londoners.

About 40,000 people without homes are nightly sheltered in the common lodging houses of London.

Germany's Poultry Imports.

Pork has been forbidden in Vienna on the ground that it is a game of chance.

GRASS EXPERIMENTS.

Recommendations for Benefiting Pacific Coast Country.

Prof. Lamson-Scribner Has Just Finished a Tour of Investigation for Holding in Check the Shifting Sands.

Prof. Lamson-Scribner, the agronomist of the agricultural department, has completed a six weeks' tour of investigation of the Pacific coast and returned to Washington. The investigation looked to the extension of grass experimental work to the other side of the Rocky mountains, which has heretofore been the western limit in this service, and also the implanting of sand-binding plants where the sand-sunes sweep over the land and, partially engulfing telegraph poles and fruit trees, cause great damage.

The result of the investigation is a recommendation for extending the former work and for making practical demonstrations of the feasibility of the sand-binding operations. One grass experiment station under the direct operation of the department is to be established, probably near Wallawalla, Wash. At Yankton, Wash., the Northern Pacific road maintains a station for grass experiments, which the road has offered to turn over to the government. Prof. Scribner will recommend its acceptance, and besides the station under direct government management the experimental work of volunteers in the field of grasses and forage plants will be generally encouraged.

It is the expectation that the results of the extension of the service will be a restoration at least in part of the Pacific coast ranges to their former condition. The drifting sands along the rivers and coasts were especially watched, and the people interested will be shown by practical demonstration how to prevent the sands blowing over the country. At one point there was a fence 15 feet high to keep the sands off the railroad tracks and telegraph poles, and the work is much needed in Oregon and Washington. Prof. Scribner, in his report, will recommend the planting of seaside lime grass, a wild species of sedge and beach grass, now used at some points to effect this purpose.

YOUNG BEAUTY ON THRONE.

Queen Wilhelmina Is Quite the Most Interesting Ruler in Europe.

Wilhelmina, queen of Holland at 18, beautiful, healthy, beloved, will be considered the most interesting ruler in all Europe, at least by young men of a romantic turn of mind. Wilhelmina is "little" no longer. She is a full-blown woman, tactical, wise, serene. The people of Holland love her devotedly, and it is probable that much of this popularity is due to the fact that she is a girl, and a pretty girl, too, and to the further fact that it has been known generally that she is kind, gentle and amiable in every way. Her mother trained her and brought her up to be a typical Dutch girl of the high class. She is never so happy as when wearing the national dress.

Her education was carefully looked after. At four she could speak French, and at ten she could speak well in almost all the Indo-Germanic and Latin tongues except German. Her father did not like the Germans, and the girl queen is ignorant of their language.

Wilhelmina has been taught many of the feminine arts and accomplishments, and knows as much about politics and governing as a girl of her age could reasonably expect to know. Her life has been simple, and there has been in it a great lack of boys and young men of her own station. When she marries, she says, she will marry one of her own choosing. Wilhelmina is said to be capricious and to have a strong will of her own, which even her mother cannot bend. She will certainly be an influence in the government of Holland.

STARVE FOR SIXTEEN DAYS.

Father and Son Undergo Horrible Torture from Hunger on the Stickeen River.

News has just reached Vancouver, B. C., of the terrible experience of a father and son who were 16 days without food on the Stickeen river. A man named Jorgensen, aged 50 years, and his son, 19 years old, of Seattle, started up the Stickeen on a prospecting trip, taking with them two years' provisions. Their boat was capsized and they lost all their food and their entire outfit. They started across the country toward the coast and for 16 days they tramped. They ate grass, toads, beetles, were chased by wolves and when at last they reached the coast and were picked up, they were mere skeletons.

One wore a vest to cover his nakedness, and the other but a leg and a half of tattered trousers.

Diamond Earrings Popular Again.

Brush up the "sparklers." The edict has gone forth in New York, and jewelers are preparing to meet the expected demand. The fashion has been revived by the news that among the gifts of the duke of Manchester his bride-elect were a number of ear pendants set with gems.

Our Colored Population.

The Afro-American contingent represents about 12 per cent. of the total population of this country.

Poker Forbidden in Vienna.

Poker has been forbidden in Vienna on the ground that it is a game of chance.

REINDEER HERDS INCREASING.

Commissioner Sheldon Reports on the Conditions in Alaska.

Rev. Sheldon Jackson, United States commissioner of education, has returned from Alaska. The second week in August he visited the coast of Siberia, where he secured over 130 domestic reindeer and had them shipped to Alaska to replace part of the herd taken from Cape Prince of Wales to relieve the imprisoned whalers at Point Barrow. Dr. Jackson is encouraged by the large natural increase in the Alaska herd. The Laplanders were established at Unaliklik. From there they will be sent to different parts of Alaska when there is call for their services as mail carriers. Many of the Laplanders have taken out first citizen's papers.

British Merchant Marine.

Great Britain's marine steam tonnage is to-day 6,720,703—about as much as that of all other nations added together.

Russia Has Sixty Languages.

Sixty languages are spoken in the empire governed by the czar of Russia.

Germany's Poultry Imports.

Germany imports poultry to the value of \$26,000,000 a year.

A FIELD FOR OUR COAL.

Good Opportunity in Venezuela of Disposing of the Product of Our Mines.

Louis Goldschmidt, consul at La Guaya, says there is an excellent market in Venezuela and doubtless in many other South American countries for coal produced in the United States. At present nearly all the coal consumed there is mined near Cardiff, Wales, and shipped in sailing vessels. The large consumption of this article, and the total absence of the American product, notwithstanding the proximity of the American coal fields, led Mr. Goldschmidt to investigate the matter. The result of his observations is an interesting report to the state department.

The only coal mined in Venezuela is produced close to Barcelona. It is of inferior quality, and is not bought when other coal can be had. Coal pays no duty. All of the article retailed comes from one source, and the principal railways use Cardiff fuel, which sells at a high figure, because of lack of competition. The retail price is from \$11.20 a ton to \$12.00 a ton of 2,240 pounds.

One of the reasons why the British coal is preferred is that the Welsh miners send it in small bricks seven to eight inches and 12 inches long. This makes the coal easy to handle on the small engines employed in Venezuela. Coal is carried on a little platform, as the locomotives have no tenders. If the coal were in the ordinary form it would roll off. Then, too, this kind of coal having been used for some time, the grates in the boilers will have been built to suit it.

SHORTAGE IN SALMON PACK.

This Year's Results Will Show That There Are Over 1,000,000 Cases Fewer.

Advices confirm the large shortage of this year's pack of canned salmon. The summary of the reports on the 1898 pack is as follows: British Columbia, 400,000 cases; Alaska, 840,000 cases; Puget Sound, 260,000 cases; Sacramento river spring pack, 20,000 cases; Columbia river spring pack, 360,000 cases; total, 1,880,000 cases, against 2,500,000 cases in 1897.

The fall pack in 1897 of the Pacific coast was about 300,000 cases. It is estimated that the same will not be over 200,000 cases this year, making the total shortage of this year's pack over 1,000,000 cases. Most of the cannerys, expecting a very large pack, sold futures at low prices, and many of the districts are heavily oversold. The shortage of 600,000 cases in British Columbia leaves large markets uncovered. The largest Alaskan cannerys did not sell futures, and, having packed within ten per cent. of the pack of 1897, are in comfortable position. The Puget Sound cannerys have sold futures to the extent of 135,000 cases for export and 400,000 for domestic market.

The export orders will be filled, having been made by cannerys who made a comparatively good pack, but not over 30 per cent. of deliveries will be made on the domestic sales. The Sacramento spring and fall packs are sold. The Columbia river cannerys are at least 100,000 cases oversold.

RECIPROCITY WITH CANADA.

Boston Chamber of Commerce Urges Action by the American Commissioners.

At a special meeting of the Boston chamber of commerce for the purpose of considering ways and means to bring about closer trade relations with Canada resolutions were adopted to the effect that the chamber reaffirms its position as set forth in resolutions adopted January 18, 1898, in favor of reciprocal trade relations established between the United States, the dominion of Canada and the colony of Newfoundland, and asserting that, in the opinion of its members, the commercial, manufacturing and industrial prosperity of this country will be greatly promoted by the nearest practical approach that can be obtained to the establishment of complete reciprocal trade relations between the United States, Canada and Newfoundland.

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