A DELUGE OF ROCK

TOP OF MOUNTAIN IN CANADA FALLS ON TOWN AND COAL MINE.

Fifty-Six Lives are Lost by Strange Disaster in Crows Nest Coal Field - Entrance to Coal Mine Buried Under 100 of Limestone or Earthquake.

the worst disaster that has ever been ion. What was either a land or rock slide of such gigantic magnitude as to be utterly inconceivable to the mind of killed 56 people, destroyed the plant of the Canadian-American coal and coke company, did a vast amount of damage most picturesque section of the Crow's Nest pass.

The catastrophe came at 4:15 yestertown were awakened by a deafening tumult and a shaking of buildings which it seemed would rattle them into complete demolition. Of all the town's inhabitante, numbering nearly 1.000, not one professes to have reached the outside of his domicile in time to see any part of what took place, but when day dawned it was seen that the whole side of Turtle mountain had falled away and that the country extending from the eastern edge of the town for two miles down the pass and entirely across the pass, a distance of two miles or more from the mountain, lay buried beneath rock and debris of various kinds for a depth varying from 25 to 100 feet.

The coal mines of the Canadian-American coal and coke company, or more properly the seam being worked, extends along the side of Turtle mountain in a parallel direction. It is a wreck is given as misreading of orders. vertical vein and is worked from a tunnel up. It was immediately over the workings that the mountain fell away, burying them to a depth of more ers believe it to have been a limestone upheaval, while others think it was the thawing weather of spring.

Dig Their Way Out.

men at work in the mine, 17, and that on the ground, where they lay after the mine had been ruined by the walls being taken from the wreck. squeezing together under the terrific strain, but happily both proved untrue ried and had large families in the old later in the day, when the men rescued themselves and brought out a report of the condition of the mine. Had the ent Gould, in Kansas City, the blame mine been ruined it would have meant a lose to the company of about \$3,000,-000, but, as it is, the mine will be reopened, and it is thought the actual lar train, was on time and had the loss to the company will not exceed \$250,000, if it amounts to so much, The imprisoned miners escaped by digging their way to the surface from the upper workings. Some were injured, but none seriously.

The Canadian Pacific railway is a

heavy loser by the disaster. Two miles of line was buried from 50 to 100 feet located and built. The entire loss resulting from the disaster, it is estimated, will amount to \$1,000,000, if not considerably more.

Payne Starts Reform.

Washington, May 1 .- The postmaster general today issued an order in which rolls either of the Washingtn city or other postoffices, who are employed under a specific appropriation for other sion regarding the other demands, but purposes than department service in Washington, and that temination of this practice, wherever it exists, is directed. As a result of the order, four employes of the Washington postoffice were dropped from the rolls today.

Western Union Stands Pat.

Botte, May 1 .- There is no change in the strike situation of the Western suburbs are now occupied by the reb-Union. F. V. Moffitt, of the Western els, who became possessed of the ammade to reopen the office in this city government forces. The fighting of until be is assured that the office can yesterday has entirely changed the sitkeep open permanently. The business of the city is still somewhat crippled. though the Postal is giving fairly good of the city are filled with the wounded. another wire to Helena this week.

NEED A STIR-UP.

Postoffice Officials are Lax in Methods -Too Anxious to Please.

Washington, April 29 .- It is the concensus of opinion among fair men who have watched the postoffice department of late years, and who are familiar with its officials, that there is much more smoke than fire in that department just now, and that the investiga-Feet of Huge Rocks-Either Upheaval tion that has been under way for several weeks will make far less sensational disclosures than have been pre-Frank, N. W. T., April 30. - This dicted. Not but what the business place was visited yesterday morning by metnods of the department will be shown to be lax in many respects, and known in any community in Western that remedies will be recommended, for Canada, possibly in the entire Domin- this no one doubts, but it is reasonably certain that very few officials will lose their positions as a result of the charges that have been filed and are being ron down. Typer is, of course, any whose eye has not beheld it, or a already out, and Assistant Attorney slide induced by a seismic upheaval, General of the Department Christiancy is suspended at his own request pending investigations.

The postoffice is the biggest and most extensive of all the government to the mine and completely devastated departments. It employs more men, about ten square miles of the finest and and is more generally distributed over the country than any other branch of the governmeont, hence, the chances for fraud, for wrongdoing, and for evile arising from lax methods are greater day morning, when residents of the than in any other department. At the same time, with so many employes on the rolls, and so many officials with varying grades of authority and responsibility, it will be an extremely difficult matter to fasten onto any one man the responsibility for shortcomings that may be found.

The service will benefit from the invertigiation, no doubt, for its moral insence is good, and serves as a warning to all employes that the postmaster general is after wrongdoers, and is ready to prosecute all he can find.

WORK GANG RUN DOWN.

Ten Greeks and One American Killed in a Kansas Smash-Up.

Buffalo, Kan., April 29. - A north bound Missouri Pacific stock train crashed into the rear end of a work train just north of this town at 7 o'clock last evening and 11 men were killed and 25 injured, 10 of the latter seriously and four fatally. All were Greeks except one. The cause of the

The worktrain consisted of flatcars and a caboose, all filled with laborars. The men on the flatcars escaped by lumping, but hardly a man in the caboose oscaped. The work train was than 100 feet. As there is no geologi- backing into town for the night and cal expert on the ground, it is impossi-ble to determine the true character of freight engine did not leave the track, but plowed the work train off the track, the force exerted. Many hold to the leaving little of it except the car wheels belief that it was an earthquake which and kindling wood. Doctors of Buffalo, caused the mountain to fall away, oth- assisted by townspeople, did heroic work among the injured until the wrecking train from Neodesha and a corps of half a dozen physicians arsimply a slide caused possibly by the rived. The dead and injured were lime rock slaking under the influnce of taken to Coffeyville, the latter to be temporarily cared for at the hospital there. The scene of the wreck for several hours looked like a battlefield during, It was at first believed that the death by the dazaling light of the burning sepris, with d men strewn about

The foreigners were nearly all marcountry.

At the office of General Superintendfor the wreck was placed on the conductor and engineer of the construction train. The treight, which was a reguright of way.

OBJECTS TO TWO THINGS.

Conger Protests Against Russian Demands Affecting Our Interests.

Pekin, April 29 .- Minister Conger has sent a note to Prince Ching, the deep, and a new line will have to be grand secretary, protesting against two features of Russia's proposed Manchurian agreement, which are considered particularly antagonistic to American interests. The note objects to China promising not to open more towns to personned Captain Tom.

foreign trade, because negotiations are "I shud think so!" dryly exclaimed proceeding in connection with the American commercial treaty for the says that reports have reached him opening of Mukden and Taku Shan, that there are persons doing duty in the and it objects to promising that the department who are carried on the foreign employes in China shall be only Russians.

The United States withholds expresis prepared to insist on her treaty rights if infractions incur.

Vasquez is Downed.

Santo Domingo, April 29 .- As a resuit of the fighting between govern- at the cancers ment forces and revolutionists here yestarday the government has abandoned San Carlos and Guida, and these Union, says that no attempt will be munition, rifles and cannon left by the uation here, and it is hoped that peace will soon be restored. The hospitals The Postal will complete The losses sustained by the government place at the stove:

"Mother of three chillun! You be

CAPTAIN JIM'S COURTSHIP

CI BEISEBFIERE BEISEBFIERE GERREGERER GERREGERE (B

By A. E. RICE, Portland.

walking up Tenth street, above Murrison, in the city of Portland.

A drizzle, or mist, was falling, but the temperature being mild and they were, practically, "natives," lived near to sixteen years in th "Web-foot-State," the men felt no in-convenience and therefore, paid no attention to the moisture.

As these men play an important part in the story, we shall introduce them.
Captain Jim Smeets, orginally from "Oh, Nan calls her, Missouri, was about sixty years of age, and unmarried.

Through steadiness and attention to duty, he had risen from deck-hand of a river steamer to be captain and had ecumulated considerable of a for-

He was a tall man with stooping shoulders and apparently a little lame in both knees, for his walk had a shuf-fling, rickety motion. Thin face, very cheeks, thin, grey, pointed chin whiskers, small brown eyes, o'ershad-owed by bushy eyebrows. Captain Jim was "dressed," for he had ac-cepted an invitation to pass the evening at his companion's home. a black soft hat, black frock coat and dark trousers, tucked inside pair of long legged, leather boots The coat had seen a few years service nevertheless it had a Prince Albert cut and though a triffe shady, he believed it added dignity to his appear-

Captain Jim was a silent man, not easily duped; but like many other silent men, particularly the elderly unmarried ones, silently yearned for an she's got tew support them air three object on whom to confidentially unbosom his pent-up feelings. an one, meeting with a charming temptress, unconsciously forgets his dignity, and blinded by infatuation to the most glaring inconsistencies, bewell, the story relates what happened to Captain Jim Smeets.

His companion was also a Willamsteamboat captain. familiarly known as Captain He was a Buckeye State man. Webb. Tom. about forty-eight years old. Not a bit

dignified, yet a little serious at times. He wore a soft hat, short pilot coat. trousers, tucked inside long ged leather boots, which were then quite the thing.

His hands were thrust deep in the pockets of his coat. His teeth grip-ped a short stemmed black pipe, at which he was pulling away with such vigor that his hollow cheeks seemed drawn together, Captain Tom was not rich. On the

contrary, he appeared to be wretchedly hard up. Ever in debt to those who were impressed with his bustling activity, and also to those who from fear of injury to their business, loaned him money. Captain Tom never let a slight pass without punishment and the refusal of a small loan he considered the keenest insult. It was a reflection on his honor.

He was naturally an impulsive man. very restless, with keen blue eyes low broad forehead, bushy black hair and full beard, a pronounced Roman nose, and ready at any time for any

Captain Tom had been for one full infrequent mood for him,-whether to "bone" his companion for the loan of a ten then, or walt for chance to present a more favorable opportunity during the night, when the current of his thoughts was interrupted by Cap-

tain Jim observing: "Peers as your house be expecting company, Tom!" "Shore!" replied Captain Tom, look-

ing ahead and seeing the windows lighted up in a story and a half cot-tage, some three blocks distant. tage, some three blocks distant, "The party is thar, Nan's friends sprisin her. Look sharp, narrer channel here, single board wide. Keep yer course straight fer thet one light

Arriving near the house, the two men stood quietly listening to the banjo and fiddle music that was distinctly heard above the clatter of feet

in the dining room. At length Captain Jim was moved to remark, "They be a tearin' of them fid-

dies all tew pieces. "It's the barber and his pal a run ning 'em off fer the widdy. Can't pay

"I shud think so: dry, continued: "A his companion, he continued: "A trim craft, be thet air widder. Why Jim, her's es stanch ez ever carried cotton; badly treated though by a run-away husband."

Poor thing. Yep, too bad. Come in."

Upon entering the kitchen, which found deserted for Captain Jim, from mere habit, warmed his hands over the stove, while Captain Tom made straight for the din-ing room door, which he quietly open-ed, just the least bit, and peered in

Having satisfied himself, he closed the door and joined Captain Jim at the stove, remarking:

"She's right smart tow. Earns her bread and supports three chillun, and the wast of it is they be all gals. Take a squint." motioning with his thumb to the door,

Captain Jim opened the door, just enough to get a good look at the dancers, then quietly closed the door and exclaimed, as he regained his

On a December night, in the early a foolin' of me Tom, she's not older eventies, two men were leisurely nor twenty-tew, I'll swar'."

"G-long" thirty-tow, of she's a day Eldest gal twelve years old. But then it's the way she carries herself. Listen to them feet, ch! She's ag good as half a dozen or nary wimen.

Captain Jim grinned at the remark and sedately exclaimed, "I shud think so. What did her husband die of?" He's not dead, more's the pity

How be she a widder, then "Oh, Nan calls her, The Widdy, cause her husband's been gone nigh

four yars; went minin' down that way The idea of a man leaving such a splendid looking young woman as the

seemed to Captain Jim Smeets incred-The thought of four years from her repented itself with such unconscious vigor that his lips involuntarily be

trayed his thoughts in tones enough for his companion to hear and exclaim. 'Yes, four yars, an he never writ one't nuther.'

"Reckon a divorce wad improve her future prospects," remarked Captain "I coine it wud, but Jim, she's out'n a | Jim.

That be a common complaint Tom. but I'll allow she interests me power fully. You think she'd like tew git

er divorce? "Yep, don't I know it, of course I do. I knows what's what, but then, it'll take the poor thing many a var for

The silence that followed broken first by Captain Tom striking the tenth match on his pant lessince they entered the room to light his nive, secondly by Cantain Jim elamin-emarking: "Tell you confidentially, I've half a mind tew offer Th Widder money tew git thet air di-YORKS

"If yer do thet Jim, yer kin reckon the widdy'll show her gratitude." Captain Tom then proceeded to the

cupboard, opened the door and took from the lowest shelf a dark decanter. saying as he did so: "An yer kin toot yer horn on tew it tow.

Captain Jim broke the ensuing si ence with the thoughtful remark Pears like a safe craft. Tom?"

"Safe!" ejaculated Tom, as he look ed at Jim in a surprised way: "safe why Jim, her timbers air sound ex a lehty dollar. Captain Jim did not like that remark

concerning a lady, who was then insidnously eripping at his heart strip He eved Ceptain Tom, suspiciously, and they asked. "how he you a know-in" of thet. Tom?"

Tom deliberately removed the storer from the decanter, poured some liquor into a tumbier then placed the decanter on top of the cupboard and turning to Captain Jim winked, then replied:

Why, do ver a'nose a lame could hoe it down like thet?" nodding toward the dining room, then drained the glass.

The frown on Captain Jim's face relaxed partly, because he deemed the nuse be scented something pleasant in the air. As the two men looked at each other, steadily in the face, Cap-tain Jim inquired, "Dew?"

"Yep. I know you don't tetch nothin strong, so I didn't tempt yer. Have some, motioning with his hand in a careless way, for Jim to help himself.

Captain Jim, thereupon, went to the "the air be so upboard, remarking, in-ter-mit'n-tly damp about these parts thet a leetle warmin' in'ards does one a smart sight of gord sometimes.

'Yep!" responded Tom, as he look-straight at Jim's brow, "the air ed straight at Jim's brow. hereabouts does sorter wrinkle one up some. Dry an' wet, dry an' wet, an one more wet'll do it." Jim filled his glass, and with, "well,

the widder be the word fer me." drank Tom relieved him of the glass, for I'm acted as if he were choking, but e soon regained his breath and exclaimed, "goodness, it stire a feller's in'ards up right nowerful. The clear stuff I reckon?" Then he took a small red onion from his vest pocket and ate

Tom replaced the decenter in its place and replied proudly, "you bet ther life, no gov'ment tax on thet. Jim what's thet you air eatin?" "Onlon."

"What fer?" inquired Tom.
"Disinfector," replied Jim. "Onlobe a powerful anti-liquor disinfector. I allus carry one.'

"I do," replied Jim.
Further conversation was interrest by the appearance of Nan and The Wlddy. Nan was Captain Tom's tall

widdy. Nan was Captain Tom's tall and angular wife. "Captain," said Nan addressing Jim, "you missed a treat in not seeing An-nie dance the fling."

"We heard it, didn't we Jim?" re-plied Tom, "an' now you an' me will have a fling together, seizing Nan's bler, after a brief examination, "ain't arm.

"Why, Tom, how you do squeeze my arm."

Tom merely winked at her, turned and exclaimed, "I say, Jim."

Having caught Jim's eve, he prowinks, by closing both eyes for a couple of seconds then opening them one at a time to their fullest size. He He then turned on his beel and with Nan left the room.

That significant action was not lost apon Captain Jim, and Annie, The-Widdy, saw it also. Each felt embar-

raased. They were alone. Annie eyed him closely, and under her steady gaze Captain Jim began to eel nervous, and at length looked fool-

ish. In that state he spoke foolishly, for he asked, "be thet meant fer you?" Annie answered "I rather think II was intended for you." Upon which remark Captain Jim again cast his yea to the floor, and looked more stupid than ever.

Jim's appearance was so ludicrous. that Annie could not longer control her desire to laugh. Her curious, questioning, half scornful look had oftened to a smile and that gave dace to a burst of laughter, so spontaneous, so delightfully feminine and infectious that Captain Jim at once feit himself a man again, and surprised himself, as well as Annie, by abrupt-

ly declaring.
"Annie, I'd go through brimstone an"

fire fer you. it was indeed, a revelation to her and what immediately followed we shall not attempt to describe. But, s Captain Tom, bethought him of the culon, and surmising the consequence of Jim's proximity to Annie, hastened to warn him. Upon opening the door and crossing the threshold, Tom discovered Annie seated at the table, and Jim in the act of bending over her and holding her right hand, presumably to kiss it, but, by a dexterous movement. surprising in so old a man, implanted one on her lips instead.

Annie instantly sprang to her feet, turned her back to Jim, puckered her mouth, and put on a most woeful face, which prompted Captain Tom to exclaim with disgust:

know'd thet onton would do it, the blasted old fool," and so saying, he turned and left the room.

Captain Jim thought otherwise. He believed Annie turned her back on him out of modesty. He stood contemplating the sweentess of that stolen kiss, and unconsciously exclaime aloud, "Milk o' the Gods be a nowhar. exclaimed

Annie haughtily turned, stamped her foot, a curious habit some women have of expressing displeasure, and indignantly remarking, "you are rude, left the room.

It had been so long since Captain

Jim got close to a beautiful woman that the very thought was ecstacy, and like amouldering fire, needed but a touch of breath to burst into riotous It allured him on to a degree tin me. of admiration, where reason was lost in the vortex of infatuation. He ound himself saying:

"I be a goin' tew do some courtin' here, I should thing so, Annie, my dear." He looked up and discovered she had gone.

"Jest a leetle shy," then he soliloquized, "by Ged, what a splendid craft. Jest the critter I've been looking out fer these ten yars, I'm sixty-one, barrin' a month or sich, but who'd a think it. She be a grass widder with three chiliun, all gals tew, big incumbrance, but then thet air be a circumstance in my favor. It's jist what'll give me a powcrful influence over her, and by the great horned whale she shall be Mrs. Captain Smeets, if I have to squander

a few hundred a gettin' her."
"Hello, Jim." said Captain Tom, who entered again and softly closed the loor behind him.

"How be you, Tom?" replied Jim.
"Rather mild for December, eh Jim."
sald Tom with one of his peculiar winks

Ya-as, pears a leetle mild, but I eckon it'll blow up sorter soakin' 'fore morning'."

Tom worked up another wink and tirected it full at Jim, and followed it up by softly asking, "how air The "I reckon her's affoat." up by softly asking,

"Jim, Nan says white." reckon Nan's about right thar.

Tom, her's a splendid craft, I'll allow." Shore," said Tom. "I say Jim. "Shore," said Tom. "I say Jim." beaking confidentially, "if you like. I'll have Nan pilot Annie 'long some. That voluntary offer, made by Cap-tain Tom, set Jim thinking. After casting a questioning look at Tom he answered slowly "N-no, I kinder ckon you needn't inter-ude, but

thank you, all the same, Tom." "All right, Jim, the best o' feelin's, or know," replied unabashed Tom-"Jest keep her well fixed in 'rocka.' "Don't you be a worrin' any, Cap-

tain Jim reckons he be up tew snuff, well I guess I'll look at the gals a hopremarked Jim. "And line our set in a reel, eh Jim?"
Jim shook his head demurely,
and replied, "aint a feelin' in
practice tew night, Tom."

"I confess I ain't nuther, shore I ain't," replied Tom. "Got a streak of the blues. That grocer—I say Jim, kin

yer lend me a ten fer a few days?"
"No, I can't jist now, Tom," answered Jim slowly. "Never carry any change about me, as yer knows," and he passed in among the dancers, leav-

ing Tom alone with his disappoint-"The old miser," Tom angrily mut-tered. "He's got loads of money, and never lent a helpin' hand yit. All tered. never lent a helpin' hand yit. All right, Jim, I opine the widdy'll soften lockers, old man, an' if she don't scat

er up some. I'll put her on tew yer ter your duceats, so as to make yer har stan' up straighter than a picket fence, I'm no prophet.'

(To be Continued.)

worth mending."

"Then, of course," said the doctor, turning away, "I don't want anything done to them."

"But I charge you two shillings just the same."

"What for?" "Well, sir, you charged me five shillings the other day for telling me there wasn't anything the matter with me."

-Tit-Bits