

A SLIDE ON A ROOF

Terrifying Experience on an Ice Coated Mansard.

FIGHTING DEATH IN MIDAIR

Perilous Flight of Two Workers, and an Exhibition of Coolness, Presence of Mind and Heroic Patience—How the Difficult Rescue Was Effected.

During the fall and winter of 1870 A. T. Stewart, who had bought the Grand Union hotel at Saratoga, largely rebuilt that great hostelry of 2,000 rooms. The building has a mansard roof, and at the peak it is ninety-eight feet from the sidewalk.

One cold winter morning, when the work was virtually completed, two men, Harvey, the head roofer, and a helper named Dennison went up on the roof to finish the flashing round the base of the tower. There had been a slight mist that morning, and it had frozen upon the roof, but the two men had on India rubber overshoes to prevent them from slipping on the slates.

Suddenly, however, Harvey's feet began to slip. He went very slowly at first, for the upper roof of a mansard is not steep. He tried to stop himself, but there was nothing to which he could cling. He turned his head in Dennison's direction to see if he could not give some assistance, but Dennison, too, was sliding slowly down the roof.

Harvey's presence of mind did not leave him. "Lie down flat," he called. So both men carefully laid themselves at full length on the icy roof in order that the increased friction might retard, and perhaps stop, their descent. For an instant they checked the movement. Then the men began again slowly to slip nearer the angle of the roof and the steep pitch below.

It seemed like hours, although it was only a few moments, when Harvey felt his heels catch on a slight projection. A blind gutter had been built into the lower edge of the upper part of the roof to carry off the large amount of water that would fall upon such an expanse of roof. The upper gutter projected above the slate roof only about half an inch, but it was against this that Harvey's heels had caught.

There he hung on the very brink of the abyss—safe for an instant. He dared not move a muscle, however, or even turn his head to see if Dennison were still on the roof. He did not cry out for help, for he feared that the mere effort of filling his lungs and shouting might dislodge him. No one could see the men on the flat of the roof from the street below. The only hope lay in the carpenters who were at work inside the building. But how should they know what was happening up there on the roof?

Suddenly Harvey heard a voice, low, but distinct, come from the tower above him. "Hold on," it said, "and I'll help you." Then after a long time Harvey heard the sound of several voices. Whoever had found him had got help.

The first voice spoke again: "Hold on! We will lower this rope to you!" Presently something rubbed on the slate above Harvey's head. It was the rope, which they were slowly working down toward him.

"Can you get hold of it?" asked the voice.

"I don't dare move much," Harvey replied. "Can't you get it down near my hand?"

They had to give it a dip to get it by his shoulder. Then it traversed the length of his arm and finally touched his hand.

Harvey raised his arm very carefully and took hold of the rope. It was an inch each that had been used in raising the slate from the ground to the roof.

"Can you turn over very carefully and climb up?" asked the voice.

Cautiously Harvey worked his hand along on the rope—his right hand—until he had drawn it up. Then he carefully raised his left hand and, reaching across, grasped the rope with that hand too.

Then when the worst of the matter was over, he began to shake like a leaf. He lay there, flat on his back, clinging desperately to the rope and dressing impressively the next step. How was he to turn over on that slippery roof when he needed both hands to cling to the rope?

At last he spoke hoarsely: "Can you pull me up?"

"I don't dare to turn over," he added.

"There was a sharp tug on the rope. Harvey let them draw his arms up to their extreme length, still afraid to trust his weight to the rescuers. Then he felt his heels lose their grip on the gutter, and he began slowly to move upward.

It was not till he had nearly reached the tower that he dared turn his head in Dennison's direction to see if he were still safe. There he was, spread out on the roof, just as Harvey had been. He did not move a muscle. Patiently, heroically, he waited his turn. Then the men seized Harvey's shoulders and drew him into the tower.

In a few minutes Dennison was also rescued, looking a little blue round the mouth, but unharmed. Neither man suffered any ill effects from his terrible ordeal.—Youth's Companion.

The roads to ruin are always kept in good repair.

The Last Hole, indeed. The story is told of an ancient Scotch goffer whose companion died and was about to be buried. The Scotchman struggled out to the cemetery to be present at the interment, and arriving there did not know where the grave was. He summoned a boy with a whistle.

"Whist, lad," he said, "it's a new course. Whaur's the hole?"—New York Post.

EGGENTRIC DE QUINCEY.

He Often Greeted Visitors While Half Dressed and Bare Footed.

De Quincey's habits were so simple as to be almost ascetic, and he subsisted on the simplest possible diet. His digestive trouble and neuralgic suffering, which first led to his taking opium, caused him early to lose his teeth, and from the extreme delicacy of his system he could eat nothing less capable of mastication than bread, so that article with a little soup or coffee was apt to comprise his whole dinner.

In reference to his manner of dress his daughter has said: "His dress, unfortunately, he neither cared for himself, nor would he let others care for it. I say unfortunately, because his carelessness gave rise among puny-filious people, unaccustomed to eccentric habits, to an impression of poverty for which there was no foundation. It might be that a thought occurred to him in the midst of some of his irregular processes of dressing or undressing, I should say some thought did generally strike him at that time, and he would stop with his coat just taken off, or not put on, with one on, and becoming lost in what grew out of this thought, he would work for hours, hardly even noticing the coffee which was his chief support at such times.

"In the midst of this absorbing work would arrive visitors, of whom there were many, probably from such a distance that they could not be turned back without sight of the object of their long pilgrimage, upon which my father, with the unaffected courtesy which was one of the great charms of his character, would appear at once rather than keep them waiting while he put on his stockings, or whatever other thing he was wanting, or which was just likely in the wrong place, giving rise to a wowed impression of poverty with some, while those who could withdraw their unaccustomed eyes from the nakedness of the land, as expounded by his feet, might have seen in his surroundings signs of scrupulous neatness, sufficient comfort and refinement enough to reassure them on this point.

"His presence at home was the signal for a crowd of beggars, among whom, borrowed babies and drunken old women were sure of the largest share of the sympathy he refused to none." From Caroline Ticknor's "Hawthorne and His Publisher."

PRONOUNCING ENGLISH.

Going Astray on the Correct Use of "u" and "w" Sounds.

A curious feature of the English language as it is spoken in this part of the United States is the prevalence of a dual system of pronunciation. The dictionaries tell us unequivocally that we should pronounce "dew," "knew" and "tew" as we do "few," and that "student," "stupid" and similar words should be pronounced as if they were spelled "stufudent" and "stufpid."

Nobody, apparently, disputes the correctness of this manner of pronouncing "u" and "w"—yet here is a showing very much more honored in the breach than in the observance. Except for stage actors, the faculties and some of the students of schools and colleges, and a few persons who make a point of precise speaking, the academic sound of "u" is disregarded almost universally.

It is by no means through ignorance that people say "stuf" and "stufpid." There are worthy persons who seem to feel that a good American really ought to say "stuf" and "stufpid." They think, apparently, that the orthodox "u" and "w" are Anglicisms and are used in this country only by persons pedantic or affected.

Of course, for all practical purposes one way of pronouncing is as good as another, and usage has made both forms correct. Nevertheless, the right use of "u" and "w" adds music and variety to the English language, and the younger generation might do well to pronounce according to the dictionary and gradually overcome an "Americanism" that has no real good excuse for being—Hochester Democrat and Chronicle.

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AVERTED THE DUEL.

Valor Vanished With the Choice of Weapons and Conditions.

Representative Borah of Missouri gives an account of the challenge to a duel which occurred in Louisiana, supposedly among the last challenges of that environment in the state. The affair was between a gentleman who belonged to one of the oldest families there and a sturdy blacksmith of Georgia, who had become a man of political influence.

The gentleman took offense at some remarks of the Georgian and sent him a challenge. The powerful blacksmith was nonplused.

"I know nothing about this dueling business," said he, "and I positively will not fight."

"You must," urged his friend. "No gentleman can refuse."

"I am not a gentleman," replied the honest citizen of Georgia. "I'm only a blacksmith."

"That will be ruined if you do not fight," continued his friends. "You will have the choice of weapons, and you can choose so as to give yourself an equal chance with your adversary."

"The giant requested time in which to consider the matter and ended by accepting. He sent the following reply to the Louisiana gentleman: "I accept, and, in the exercise of my privilege, I stipulate that the duel shall take place in Lake Pontchartrain in six feet of water, sledgehammers to be used as weapons."

"As his adversary was about five feet eight inches in height and the blacksmith was seven feet, the concept of the latter so pleased the Louisiana gentleman that he declared himself satisfied, as he was one who could appreciate a joke as well as perpetrate one, and he declared the duel off."—Exchange.

As He Saw It. Wife—Oh, I saw the dearest little babe today. Hub—That's just like you—always looking for the dearest infant of the moderately pined.—Boston Transcript.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, Burns, Oregon, August 4, 1914. Notice is hereby given that William Hirsch, brother and heir of Otto F. Hirsch, deceased, of Taylor, Oregon, who on August 2, 1914, made Homestead Entry, No. 6020, for 1/4 Sec. 20, Township 28 S., Range 20 E., Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final three-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, at Burns, Oregon, on the 15th day of September, 1914.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

BURNS LIST NO. 100. UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE, Burns, Oregon, August 4, 1914. Notice is hereby given that the Northern Pacific Railway Company, whose post office address is 1914 First St., Minneapolis, Minn., has filed notice of intention to make final three-year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register and Receiver, at Burns, Oregon, on the 15th day of September, 1914.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Jennie L. Bussart, deceased, by the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Harney County. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them, duly verified as by law required, to G. W. Cleveland, administrator, at his place of business in Burns, Oregon, or at the office of J. S. Cook his attorney, in Burns, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice. Dated this 3rd day of July, 1914. G. W. CLEVELAND, administrator. J. S. COOK, attorney.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the above entitled estate by the Honorable Grant Thompson, Judge of the above entitled court. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present said claims duly verified as by law required, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. First published at Burns, Oregon, this 3rd day of July, 1914.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the above entitled estate by the Honorable Grant Thompson, Judge of the above entitled court. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present said claims duly verified as by law required, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. First published at Burns, Oregon, this 3rd day of July, 1914.

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