

took with him his fair captive. The main band proceeded on its way to a designated meeting point, while the chief made this detour to consummate the last object of his trip.

A few minutes later the horseman was at the foot of the precipice and asked the old chief if he was entitled to receive his reward. The chief drew from his belt a woman's scalp and exhibited it to the horseman.

was always welcome to the weary traveler or stockman, who happened to pass his way, but this did not happen often, as few people traveled that way.

out on for his master this time?" Hammersley had beheld the victim of those two men too long not to suspect every move they made to be a wicked one.

that it would take quick work to rescue the captive before he reached his home among the rimrocks. If once there he could stand out against a larger band of Indians than Egan's present detachment, and Indian sagacity suggested proper tactics instantly.

the skulking forms of the Indians among the rocks beneath him, and at the same time observe the entrance to the cave. He signalled the beseeched to cease firing and motioned the Indians to depart.

CHAPTER VII. A Woman's Scalp.

It is at another point in the lava beds from that described in the last chapter. While many walls join together here from different directions,

erment trading post with a small packtrain of pelts. And the skins of the coyote and wild cat and martin and bear and cougar of this section brought a good price.



Hammersley.

CHAPTER IX. Rescued and Lost.

The trapper followed along at the foot of the rimrocks occasionally halting to rebait a trap which he would draw from his hiding place from beneath the sands or wire grass.

CHAPTER X. A Surprise and a Fight.

Egan rose from the stunning blow given him by the trapper and quickly comprehended the situation. When he ascertained that his late antagonist had escaped with the captive,



The Home of Hammersley.

CHAPTER XI. Two Villains and a New Plot.

All in all at the stone house. The employes have returned from the annual round-up and the place, which had borne a deserted appearance for the past few weeks, is now all bustle, and men are seen here and there feeding the horses, mending bridles, saddles and harness, shoeing horses and doing everything that is required about a great stock ranch.

(To be Continued.)