A TALE OF JULY ICE.

CHAPTER I.

An American girl, Kate Penfield, had been reared and educated in the home of her uncle, William R. Penfield, at Albany, in the State of New York. A month before the opening of this story, Mr. Penfield, wishing to go to Chili, had embarked at San Francisco for the ocean part of the journey aboard the merchant vessel Severn, commanded by Capt. John F. Turner. Kate was taken along in the hope that her delicate health might be strengthened by travel. The Severn was a staunch ship, and well outfitted for the voyage-save in one highly important particular. The eight sailors of the crew were desperadoes of the most murderous sort, and, when they were nine days out, poreal image beneath ! they murdered the captain, the second mate, and Mr. Penfield, and took possession of the ship, which they meant to devote to the slave trade, then still existent in South America. Only two persons escaped the crew's butchery; these were Frank Evans, the first mate, and Kate Penfield, who had fallen in love with each other.

"At least spare this young lady," Evans said to Hance Walston, the leader of the mutineers, "you have nothing to fear from

"We will spare her, and you, too-on one condition," was Walston's reply. "It is that you navigate the Severn for us until we touch some foreign port."

Evans had no reason to rely upon the compact being kept, but to agree seemed to be the only chance of saving the girl he

The massacre took place 200 miles from the Chilian coast. Evans was compelled to west coast of Africa. The Severn had sailed a few days only when a fire broke out on board, and it could not be quenched. The ten imperilled persons hastily launched the long boat, put a few provisions and weapons into her, and had only time enough to sheer off before the burning vessel foundered. by physicians), occurred to Kate Penfield. The survivors were in a critical position, and soon their peril was increased greatly by a violent storm which drove the boat on an island.

The month was July, but the place was far south of the equator where the northern summer is reversed into a southern winter. Nobody can realize this antipodal division of the earth, if he has grown up a reader of literature in which July is described invariably as vernal, and has experienced only hot weather in that month, until he journies down into the southern hemisphere. Walston and his companions suffered so much from cold and fatigue that they were almost dead when the boat broke on the reef. Five of them were swept out of it by a wave, and a moment later two others were flung on the sand, while Kate fell on the opposite side of the wreck.

The two men remained senseless for some time, and Kate did, too; and even after she regained a sort of consciousness she re- their two honest companions had been cas | me. The bears got closer and closer to him. mained quiet and dazed-in a kind of trance, away was not wholly uninhabited. A party I skated right across his course, just in front to which abnormal state she had since child- of young men, numbering five, had been of him, and I shall never forget the vacant, hood been subject on rare occasions. It blown to its shore in a disabled and flounder- unknowing, deathly look in his face. He in race or culture it is extremely rare, while was a condition in which she was conscious | ing yacht, and for months had dwelt in a | acted like a somnambulist, and so he must yet immovable. About three o'clock in the half cave, half hut, subsisting on wild game, have been, or else some very unusual kind most common. It is those who are midway morning, she heard footsteps near the boat, and anxiously waiting for a rescue. Their of maniac. Sure I am that he didn't know and, with a mighty effort, she broke the place of temporary refuge was across the what he was doing. He strode and slid spell that bound her, and took refuge be- lake from the point where the survivors of along the ice like an automaton, with no

conversation uuneen by them.

named Rock.

here; we must go further in. When day- served the purposes of exercise and explor- divert them from him," Jack continued, "so Senegambian. light comes we can look about us!" "Have you got the firearms?"

guns and several packets of cartridges. "That is not much," said Rock, "in a together, and said:

wild country like this. Where is Frank Evans?"

and Cook. He'll have to settle with us, I'll settle him.'

"What has become of Kate?" "Kate? There is nothing to fear from | mind you all come back." her. I saw her go overboard before the boat ran ashore, and she is at the bottom of half a mile away in pursuit of the flock of and sut down by it to keep as warm as together, and of these the Salford case,

the sea now."

too much about us. "She wouldn't have known it long."

her mind to escape as soon as the men went so far. At this time of the year a sudden fog lifted. They had lost their bearings as his letter said, that the "whole family away. And a few minutes afterwards change of weather was always to completely. Beyond the edge of the trees should go together," but she did not want to Walston and his companions carried off the be feared. A shift in the wind might that fringed the lake was a beach a quarter know when the fatal dose was given. So he arms and ammunition and what remained at any moment mean a gale or a fog. of a mile wide, and on this the waves were gave her and the youngest child prussic acid of the provisions in the long-boat's locker- About two o'clock Briant saw with dismay rolling white with foam after being churned in a cooling drink as they lay down for the that is to say, a few pounds of salt meat, a little acco, and two or three bottles of bank of mist. Cross and Donagan had not who was a little in advance, came to a without pain. One by one he disposed of

sufferings and terrors of the munity and hid the western shore. shipwreck had rendered her weak and ill. She had no more than overheard the conversation quoted when a deathly faintness | back?" overcome her. She staggered a few paces in the direction that the two men had taken, the horn," said one of the party named therefore land near by from which a boat mind. Yet we cannot say it was insanity. yielding to a vague hope of being helped, Gordon. even by those murderous ruffians.

ed by Frank Evans, who had contrived to it would be replied to by a report from the the storm the two young men discussed them. novel method he is sure to have a host of slip away from his captors, and in whose guns—the only means Donagan and Cross | The night seemed interminable. It seemed imitators. Hanging, drowning, poisoning, strong arms she found what seemed, for the had of making their position known. Briant as though the dawn would never come. If stabbing, or other forms of cutting, shootmoment, a safe refuge. But the sense of and Gordon listened. No report reached they could only take some note of the time ing, and jumping from high places are most

stances. "Can'twe escape from them ? she asked.

Sav SO. Instead of a reassuring reply from her were all safe on the bank. over, or any coheren t answer at all, she saw that his eyes stared in vacancy, and his hands went to his head, as though he were bewil-

"Yes," she answered. "What is the fellow. matter, Frank?"

"We're in the southern hemisphere you are." don't you remember ?- and so it is winter

mad !" and he said: "We must hide from them. Even if we starve or freeze in doing so, it Come."

- the

wound her, and together | turned !

they made theirway over a sand-blown hummock, then across a level space of ground, mightand thus reached a lake, the fresh waters of | "Firearms!" exclaimed Briant, "there visible. which had begun to freeze in the fast lower- are some at the quarters. Let us fetch ing temperature. The edge of the lake was | them ! Don't lose a moment !" iced solidly to a distance of a hundred feet | In about half an hour Briant and the pointing to the sea, which was rolling in anthemselves in the dark water.

upon which he had just commented, worked arkness would soon settle down on the utensils, weapons, there were none either the singular migration of his soul from his sland. substance to his shadow. It may be some-

there is no use in conjecture. consciousness went down into the water, and that he believed himself to be submerged; but at the same time he retained a control of the physical faculties of the figure by Kate's side. This soulless Frank Evans strode away, like an automation, utterly make themselves heard at what must have the desertion.

But he disappeared in the gloom, for it he would be home. was still night, without looking back at the abandoned girl, or slackening his rapid sliding pace over the ice. We know now that his soul separated from his body by the layer of ice, kept right along underneath, and hundred yards away from him. lay the course thence towards Cape Horn, doubtless guided his physical movements; with a view to crossing the Atlantic to the but all his consciousness, all his mentality, was down there in the water.

Impossible! Those may conclude to who disbelieve all that they cannot understand. Yet a phenomenal thing, as to the reasonable ness of which there will be no dispute (simply because states of trance are well attested For a minute after the disappearance of Evans she stood dumfounded and motionless. Then a faintness began to overcome her, and the symptoms of a cataleptic attack, such as she had experienced several times already in her life, became unmistakable. She lost consciousness, and fell to the ground lifeless, though not dead. Not the faintest breath rushing in pursuit of him. He did not, did she draw. Not a pulse flickered. Every function of animate life was suspended ut-

She lay thus seemingly dead when, an would have been lost. hourlater, Walston and his companion found her. They believed her lifeless, and, with characteristic brutality, they dragged her body to the edge of the ice, and slid it off into the water.

CHAPTER II.

the Severn had reached that body of water. | soul in his body." Hance Walston and a companion came It was on the ensuing day that the five | Jack had observed and reported well, for fellow named August Briant, started out as of Frank Evans, alive but unconscious, yet pletely and solidly over the lake during the | separated soul down under the ice. to be off, Briant had called his comrades drove the beasts off.

"I hope you will not be tempted into rashness. If there is little fear of the ice away across the lake." "Over there, watched by Cope Brandt breaking up, there is always a risk of your breaking an arm or a leg. So be careful. Do and Cross." whether he likes it or not; and if he resists | not go out of sight. If any of you get tar away remember that Gordon and I will wait for you here. And when I give the signal, falling fast, and that it would be suicidal smallest number of cases, and mere bodily

ducks that were flying across the lake, and possible during the night. "That's a good job. She knew rather in their rapid rush became merely two points | However, the reader need not wait to most mournful of all. on the horizon of the lake. Even if they know what the two missing members of the Salford was a druggist's assistant, threat had time to return, for the day would last a party were doing. They found themselves | ened with the loss of position and poverty. Kate, who had heard all this, made up few hours longer, it was unwise to go away on the further side of the lake when the He succeeded in gaining his wife's consent, that the horizon had disappeared in a thick among the breakers. Suddenly Cross, night, and in a few minutes they expired reappeared, and the mist, growing thicker halt, and pointed to a dark mass on the other five children in the same way-The girl was an invalid at best. The at each moment, came up over the ice and the edge of the shore. Was it a marine ani- "all in peace and without pain, thank God,"

"And now how will they know their way a boat, which had been thrown ashore after returned and wrote four letters, and then

"What is to be done?" asked Gordon.

"That will do," said Briant. "Be off, soon break.

out from the shore. The pair did not see other loaded two muskets and fired them. grily. "There, where the outgoing tide has that they were on this ice until they came | There was no reply, nor the sound of gun or | taken them.' to its very limit, and felt it cracking under horn. It was now half past three o'clock. their feet. They looked down, and The fog grew thicker as the sun sank behind and swept his glass over the waves. Not a saw the clear, sharp reflections of a hill. The surface of the lake was invis- corpse did he see! He rejoined his com-

Then a strange phenomenon took place! For an hour a gun was fired every ten Perhaps a survivor of the catastrophe would A psychological marvel! A physical won- minutes. That Donagan, Cross, and Jack be found inside her. The boat was empty. der! Frank Evans' condition had, some way, | could misunderstand the meaning of this | She was the long-boat of some merchantman, been brought into abnormality. We cannot | firing was impossible. The discharges could | decked forward, and about 30 feet on the explain it. We only know that it was so, be heard over the whole surface of the lake, keel. She was no longer seaworthy; her and we tell it as it happened. At the instant | for in fog sound travels farther than in fine | starboard side had been stove in below the that he gazed down upon his inverted self in weather, and the denser the fog the better water line when she was cast on the beach. the water, his soul quitted his corporeal it travels. A few more shots were fired. A stump of the mast broken off at the step, body, and transformed itself into the incor- Evidently if Jack were near he would have a few tatters of sail caught on to the cleats heard them, and replied. But not a sound at the gunwale, and a few ropes' ends were It may be that the reversal of the seasons, came in answer. Night was closing in and all that remained of her rigging. Provisions,

One good thing happened. The fog bow. On the stern two names showed the thing in the atmosphere of this island-but | showed a tendency to disappear. The breeze, | ship to which she belonged, and the port of rising as the sun set, began to blow the mist | register : "Severn-San Francisco." The certain thing to narrate is that Evans' back. With the glass at his eyes, Briant was looking attentively.

"I think I see something," he said, "something that moves. Heaven be prais-

ed, it is Jack! I see him! They shouted their loudest as if they could heedless of her, and leaving her amazed by been at least a mile away. But the distance was lessening visibly. Jack with the skates

> "I don't think he is alone!" said one, in the ice. with a gesture of surprise.

The boys looked, and two other moving things could be seen behind Jack a few

"What is that?" "Men?"

"No! Beasts!"

"Wild beasts, probably," said Briant. He was not mistaken, and without a moment's hesitation he rushed on the lake towards Jack. In a minute he had reached the skater, and fired at the two pursuers,

who turned tail and fled. They were two bears. But Jack was saved, and great was the general rejoicing at his return. He had been several miles away when he heard the guns, and at once he set off full speed towards the point from which the report proceeded. Suddenly as the fog began to clear he saw the two bears however, lose his presence of mind, and his | progress was swift enough to keep the animals at a distance, but if he had fallen he

"But the bears were not the strangest part of my experience," he continued. "When I first saw the beasts, they were in pursuit of a man, and would have very soon overtaken him, for they were not a hundred yards behind him. The amazing thing was that he did not look back at them, nor show by any sign that he was aware of them at all. He walked fast, but wasn't running. The island upon which the mutineers and | shouted to him, but he didn't seem to hear

close by, and Kate overheard their islanders, headed by their leader, a young the reader knows that he had seen the figure "Where are we?" asked Walston's fellow, skaters on the ice, which had frozen com- somehow controlled in its movements by its

"I don't know," said Walston. "It bitterly cold night. Their skates had been i'I knew that the bears would be upon doesn't matter much. We mustn't stop cut out of wood, even to the blades, but they the poor fellow immediately if I didn't ation very well. Two of these castaways, I skated around them in a way to draw Donagan and Cross, had taken their guns their attention to me. They followed me last degree curious. In many cases well-to-"Yes, and ammunition all right," said with them so as to be ready for any shooting rather too vigorously, too, as you know, for dosuicides simply allege that they are tired Walston, who took out of the locker five that might turn up. Before giving the signal I hadn't another half mile in me when you of life—the monotony of it is too much for

"And of this mysterious stranger, too." The three castaways saw that night was | Strange to say, love and poverty furnish the folly to go out on the mission before morn- suffering the greatest. But the saddest Put very soon Donogan and Cross were ing. So they built a bonfire on the shore, cases are those in which a whole family dies

mal, some huge cetacean such as a whale, he wrote. He then drew up his will, went "That is what I feared," said Briant. wrecked on the sound? Was it not rather out and obtained the signature of witnesses, drifting through the breakers? It was a swallowed the poison, and was soon a corpse "Blow the horn! Give them a blast on | boat thrown on its starboard side. Was | Such a case is beyond analysis by a healthfu could come? Was there a ship that had It is scarcely possible to conceive of any Three times the horn sounded, and the foundered in the storm? All the hypotheses | method of suicide not already employed It was at that moment that she was join. brazen note rang out over the ice. Perhaps were admissible, and during the few lulls in by some one; but whenever one strikes a

"I don't know. Here is snow and ice in Jack, and listen for the report of the guns. Soon afterwards the first streak of dawn all suicides are with the knite and razor, He wasted all his strength in futile groans; Take the horn and that will tell them where appeared in the east. The storm continued, and it is plain truth that in this respect the A moment afterwards Jack was invisible | was to be feared before they could get back | Europe. here. O, don't give way, Frank-don't go in the fog, which had become denser than to quarters. But before they started they ever. The others listened attentively to must search for survivors of the wreck which The appeal seemed to dispel the irrational | the notes of the horn, which soon died away | had occurred. As soon as the early morning haze from Evans's mind for the time being, in the distance. Half an hour elapsed. light had penetrated the thick mists in the There was no news of the absent, neither of offing, they went out on the beach, strug-Donagan and Cross, unable to find their gling not without difficulty against the blasts er. will be better to have taken the meagre bearings on the lake, nor of Jack who had of the storm. Often they had to hold each chance of eluding these cut-throats. gone to help them. What would become of other up to save themselves from being blown all of them if night fell before they re- over. The boat had been left near a low he said to Mr. Fivaweek, 'Now let's go to Where Mr. Jones is I don't care ridge of sand, and they could see by the line ! the restaurant and get a square meal.""

"If we had firearms," said one, "we of weed that the tide had risen and passed it. No trace of its former occupants was

> "Where are they?" asked Cross. "Where are they ?" answered Donagan,

Donogan crept along to the ridge of rocks panion, who had remained near the boat. in the lockers or in the little cabin in the

Donagan and Cross knew, by daylight, that they were clear across the lake from their quarters, and they at once started to skate "home," as they called their island refuge. They had not gone far when they saw a trange and horrifying sight.

Imbedded in the clear ice under their feet

was the body of a girl. She was Kate Penfield, lying where the "Frank-Frank!" she cried; "don't on his feet came gliding on with the speed murderous mutineers had thrown her but of an arrow towards them. In a few minutes | the water had frozen over and around, her, and so it was that she was solidly encased

(TO BE CONTINUED).

WHY SHOULD A MANKILL HIMSELF.

Nearly All Methods of Self-Murder Have Been Exhausted.

study of suicide said the other day:

Why should a man kill himself? The injured. popular answer is, "Because he is crazy!" Scientific men easily disprove that, but are called at once. The wounds were canterizstill somewhat at sea in devising a better edand everything was done to prevent bloodanswer. Was the philosopher Seneca crazy when he entered the warm bath and opened | pain and danger is not passed, although the his veins? Were all the hundreds of Romans | wounds have commenced to heal. who made happy despatch of themselves. insane? Surely not.

The Greeks rarely committed suicide, but out of danger. at one time it was quite the fashion in Rome. It is the rarest of rarities for a slave to commit | the rats had colonized in the stables, and suicide, though a slave owner often does. from there dug a tunnel to the house, where Extensive inquiry fails to develop a single | they entered the huge chimney, and from case of an American negro's committing sui- there dug through to the sleeping room, cide, though there have been a few cases | where they attacked the boys. The rodents among mulattos and octoroons. Shall it be are described by those who have seen them said, then, that the superior race is the as being of unusual size, over twice as large suicidal? Surely not, for the Greeks were at as the ordinary rat and are said to be so least the equals of the Romans. The solu- | fierce and strong that no cat and none but tion must be sought elsewhere.

Perhaps religious belief has something to do with it, but it would be hard to prove it. One fact, however, gives us a clue: Among the lowest races of mankind and in the lowest intellectual grades of any society suicide is practically unknown, and among the highest in the middle or lower middle classes it is on the course, whether as races or individuals, those who are in the struggle, who lose heart and rush unbidden into eternity. This is only another way of saying there most wounds and sudden deaths; those who have won the victory and those lying idle in camp and designing no struggle are cultured and well-to-do Philadelphian is, on

The causes assigned for suicide are to the them. An English gentleman left a note "And the queer stranger?" one asked. | to the effect that he was tired of "coming "The last I saw of him he was gliding in and going out, laying down and getting up, buttoning and unbuttoning." A Lon-"We must go to the rescue of Donagan don cabman wrote that he had exhausted all the pleasure of driving in this world and which occurred some years ago, was the

security could not last under the circum- their ears. The fog had now increased, and by consulting their watches. But it was common. Many women have swallowed was within a quarter of a mile of where impossible to light a match. Cross tried to hot coals, powdered glass, and other dethey stood. The lake would soon be entirely do so, but had to give it up. Then Donagan structive articles. Cleopatra applied an asp "They mean to murder me. I heard them hidden by it. Briant called to those within hit upon another plan for finding out the to her bosom, and it is worth noting that sight, and a few minutes afterwards they time. It took twelve turns of the key to she has had no imitators. Women have a wind his watch up every twenty-four hours. horror of serpants, and they are not easily As he had wound it up at eight o'clock in obtained at the time desired. France leads overrated the beneficent effects to be antici-"Try all we can to find Cross and Dona- the evening, he had only to count the num- all other nations in suicides, as in the last pated from the administration of pure gan before they are lost in the fog. Let one ber of turns to ascertain the hours that had year for which we have the record 216 per oxygen. of us be off in the direction they have gone, elapsed. This is what he did, and having sons killed themselves in each 1,000,000 of "This is July, Kate—isn't it?" he mut. and try to signal them back with the horn." only four turns to make, he concluded that the population, and the increase is rapid. "I'll go," said Jack Baxter, a resolute eight hours had gone by, and that it was now | Of 7,572 suicides in one year one-fifth were four o'clock in the morning. The day would in Paris, and smothering by charcoal fumes | The weather never suited Mr. Jones. is the favorite method. In London nearly and as the clouds were low over the sea, rain British are the worst "cutthroats" in

Ground for Umbrage.

boarding-house keeper to her Star Board-

" Why ?" "As he got up from the breakfast table And Mrs. Jones is very happy where

ATTACKED BY NORWAY RATS.

Three Children Almost Devou ed They Lie Asleep.

Help Luckily Arrives in Time. Excitement is running high in Temple, a village in Pennsylvania, and mothers have been filled with feelings of horror ever since yesterday morning, when the citizens awoke to find that a family had been visited during the night by a most unusual and remarkable experience. The family was that of John Reubright, engineer for the Temple Furnace Company.

Some weeks ago a colony of Norway rats

was discovered on the premises. They were

supposed to have their quarters in the stable, but no nests could be found. Whence they came no one knew, and their presence was not suspected until the entire colony was found. They were large and ferocious, so much so that they attacked the person who found them and would probably have bitten him had he not driven them off with a club. For a whole week after they were discovered nothing was seen of them and no traces were found until yesterday morning. Wil-

liam Reubright, aged 16, and Paul, a babe of eighteen months, sons of John Reubright, and Willie Lutz, aged 5 years, his grandson, slept together in a room through which a large chimney passed.

Shortly before daylight the other six members of the family were awakened by cries and shrieks of pain and fear. They rushed to the room in which the three children slept just in time to see a dozen or more huge rats escape through a hole which they had dug in the chimney.

A hasty examination of the boys showed that the ferocious beasts had attacked and bitten them all. The fingers of Paul, the baby, were chewed to the first joint, and his hands were severely bitten. Willie Lutz was bleeding from a dozen wounds on the face A prominent physician who has made a and ears while the feet and other portions of the body of William Reubright were badly

Dr. Huyett, the family physician, was poisoning. The children are still in great

They are being watched carefully by the Doctor, but he does not feel that they are

It appears from investigations made that the largest dogs dare attack them.

STAYING THE HAND OF DEATH

A Certain and Rapid Means of Resuscitating Per ons.

Colonel Henry Elsdale, of the Royal Engineers, claims to have discovered a certain and rapid means of resuscitating persons from the effects of suffocation. A sapper among the men under his command at Chatham was one day found enveloped in the where the battle is fiercest there are the folds of a half-empty war balloon. The coal gas with which it had been inflated had suffocated him, and to all appearances he was a dead man. But efforts were made to fairly well satisfied with the situation. The restore him, though the pulseless heart and cadaverous tace of the man gave no encourthe whole, as willing to live as the naked agement to persevere. In a moment of something like inspiration it occurred to Colonel Elsdale to send for some tubes of compressed oxygen which had been prepared for the oxyhydrogen light.

This pure oxygen, at a very high pressure, was hurriedly conveyed into the mouth of the prostrate sapper by means of inserting the nozzel of the valve between his teeth, and the supply was "gently turned on "to the smallest extent. The effect was absolutely instantaneous. In an instant he wanted to see how they drove in the other. opened his eyes and seized the nozzle between his teeth. In short, the sapper not only thoroughly revived within a few minutes, but in half an hour walked away, quite well, to the barracks, and refused to go to the Military Hospital, as was suggested by his commanding officer.

Of course, the objection will be raised that everybody has not tubes of pure oxygen at high pressure in readiness to apply to such cases. Happily oxygen in quantities as large as those administered is not needed, and it can be stored "in small, strong bottles made of the finest steel, with a valve giving an absolute hermitic seal." These vessels may be as small as a soda-water-bottle, and may be made part of the medical stock of every doctor. Oxygen at any degree of compression required can, in fact, now be obtained, and the whole apparatus for restoring vitality can be packed in a small box quite portable.

What possibilities may not such a discovery as that to which we have drawn attention involve! It is equally available, we are assured, for those persons who have been asphyriated by choke damp in coal mines, or by ordinary coal gas. People apparently drowned, and those insensible from long exposure in the rigging of a ship, might also be saved from an untimely end by what Colonel Elsdale calls "a dose of oxygen." It would probably be invaluable, too, in cases of suffocation from the fumes of charcoal, or in cases where chloroform had operated injuriously on a weak heart. Such a discovery should at once occupy the attention of the Royal College of Physicians, with a view of ascertaining whether Colonel Elsdale has

A Story With a Moral.

If it was too hot, If it was not. He said it froze the marrow of his bones, And swore a lot.

But Mrs. Jones would never make complaint, It is was cold, She shivered, but stood it like a saint In times of old; "I detest that man Bangle," said the And, though 'twas hot enough to make her faint, She'd never scold,

They're both dead now, this worthy pair (I knew them well!)

Just now to tell.