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ESTABLISHED 1888

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Garden of Eden Near the Arctic

Out of the North come many wonderful tales, but not many that rival the story told by Frank Perry, mining engineer, of Vancouver. He has spent fourteen years in the Arctic regions of the Northwest, between latitudes 57 and 63, and longitudes 122 and 131. He traveled light, using only four pack dogs, and made his food from concentrated extracts of moose meat. Being far from the usual run of river and lake traffic, he came into touch with only a few Indians, and even these had superstitions that kept them out of the great valley into which he accidentally wandered. This valley is a garden of Eden, a sort of sub-tropical Paradise surrounded by Arctic rigor, and is wonderfully rich.

Perhaps the most striking part of his story is the discovery of the Hot Spring Valley, in all 200 miles in length and from 25 to 40 miles wide. Struggling up the side of a hill, with his two faithful dogs, with an Arctic gale driving through his almost exhausted constitution, he found when at last reaching the crest, this wonderful valley, the bottom of which was hidden from his gaze by a dense fog, the origin of which he at first was unable to understand. When he descended he found large lakes of almost boiling water, generating clouds of vapor, which forming the fog, protects the valley from the frosts and fosters vegetation. The soil is the richest he knows of, probably 100 feet deep with natural fertilization from the hot springs and volcanic minerals. In this valley Mr. Perry found large deposits of minerals with a high percentage of gold, silver and copper. He has sent a large number of samples of these deposits to be analyzed in various American universities, and he has in his possession documents showing the chemical composition of the fogs. The vegetation was exceptionally rich, not only in different forms, but in the size of growth. He found willows, the branches of which were fit to walk upon. Grasses had proportions double the size of those which we are used to see. And as a consequence, animals flocked to the valley. "I saw rose bushes of the size of trees, with stems as thick as my forearm and so dense it was almost impossible to break through. Everything growing had an abnormal size, and sometimes I really did wonder whether I still was wandering in this world, or if I had ascended to a country worthy of the descriptions which made Dante immortal," the explorer remarked. Other features of the new paradise were birch trees 150 feet high, bending over, and nearly touching the ground. During the winter there was no frost, the hot springs and lakes providing a protecting veil of fog. Mr. Perry also found iron and coal, the latter almost forming a separate mountain, one seam 300 feet across, while the largest iron ore seam measured about 200 feet in thickness. He also thinks he has found a quartz deposit free from overburden and which ought to bear development. "Why I claim to have traversed unknown territory is because I know as a fact that the only human beings that ever are in these districts are the fur traders and they always use the rivers and waterways as means of transportation. I have met a few Indians, but have found they nurse a tradition that the valley is haunted by what we know as pre-historic animals. By a discovery I found out the origin of their fantastic belief.

"This part of the country has not been exposed to the destructive forces of glaciers, and I was not astonished to find footprints in sandstone of a three-toed monster. I also saw a number of bones of immense size in remarkably preserved condition, north and west of the head waters of the Finlay river. The bones are not fossilized and those exposed to daylight are sections of the spine and the hips." By excavation Mr. Perry thinks that a find would be made of much historic value. It is only in the valley that the muscular monsters which ruled the world thousands of years ago, and the situation of the remains suggests that some natural disaster closed them in this valley and drowned them. The creek, which has in modern time been flowing through the valley, has in its erosional action exposed the giants. Mr. Perry was from early age made familiar with the mining conditions in Montana and Idaho. He has always studied geology and the vast open spaces of the North were always the fields on which he used to let his imagination play in younger days. He is now through with the foundation work of his scheme.

Ragtime for Penguins.
Captain John Cadwallader, of Vancouver, British Columbia, who has just returned from South Georgia after a two years' hunt for whales, told the writer of a remarkable gramophone concert he gave in the Southern Sea, with thousands of penguins as his audience. "One day," he said, "I took my gramophones into the open and began to play it. There wasn't a penguin in sight, but within a minute of the first record being started hundreds of birds appeared and walked in their slow, stately gait towards me. "Very soon I had an audience of thousands. Several king or crested penguins sat within a few feet of me, and the ordinary species formed a number of circles. They listened with almost human interest to the music, and the lit of ragtime sent them shuffling and swaying. "When my concert was over the penguins rose, bowed gravely as if to express their thanks, and walked off."

Where ignorance is bliss perhaps it shows wisdom to remain ignorant.

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TWO BEAR STORIES.

How a Mother Rescued Her Captured Cub.

Two amusing bear stories, both vouched for by reputable eye-witnesses, are going the rounds of British Columbia. Forest fires in northern British Columbia this season have had a peculiar effect upon some of the wild animals of the woods, judging from some of the stories.

A fight between a fire-crazed bear and a mule in which the bear was worsted occurred at L. Mason's ranch at Bednest, B.C. The forest fire routed the bear from its lair, and in its dash from the flames into the open country it collided violently with a jack-mule. The bear was promptly stretched out on the ground by a double tattoo from the capable hind hoofs, and the mule calmly resumed its interrupted grazing.

Thoroughly angered, the bear picked itself up and cautiously approached the mule from a different angle. The huge paw was brought down with a resounding twack on the mule's ribs. This was unfortunate. The hoofs were again brought into play, after a quick, accurate manoeuvre for position, and the fight was called off so far as the bear was concerned. Mr. Mason, who had witnessed the unusual encounter, dashed to the house for a rifle to finish the bear, should any life be left. Before he could get back to the scene, however, brain managed to get groggily to his feet and return to the less exciting environment of the forest fire.

A fire patrol ranger is sponsor for another bear story. While making a survey in the mountain district he came upon a young cub suffering from severe burns on its feet and body. The youngster was whimpering from the pain and the forester took pity on it, lifted it into his car, and there made it fast with some rope.

The patrolman started on his journey only to discover that the mother bear had appeared and was in hot pursuit. As the track ran uphill at this point, the bear, making long strides, gained steadily, and the need for strategy was clearly indicated. The forestry book of instructions does not cover a situation such as this, but the ranger was resourceful and decided that the best plan would be to throw the cub overboard.

His attempts to untie the knots on the lashings which secured the youngster to the machine however, proved futile. Pursuer and pursued came to a yet steeper grade, with the advantage all with the former. Finally, with one mighty effort, the old bear threw herself on the back of the car, holding on by her claws and paws.

This is where the forester decided to retire in favor of the enemy. He dove off the car, and regained his feet in time to see it continuing its journey eastward, with a mother and child happily reunited as its passengers. Later the automobile was found, run down and everything intact, except the side of the seat where the cub had been tied, the old bear having torn it out to release her offspring.

A Mud Turtle's Nest.

The little mud turtle is a common inhabitant of the frequent sluggish creeks of this northern country. It possesses to so marked a degree the qualities differentiating a turtle from all other back-boned animals! Safe within the folds of a shell by which it is protected as completely as any species but the terrestrial box turtle, it lives a life of serenity and monotony, supposedly as free from worries as that of any mortal creature.

When tired of contemplating the shimmering dragon flies, the spreading ripples in the wake of a chance muskrat skirting the reeds at the water's margin, it has but to draw its head and limbs to the surface and sink down through the cooling water weed to blend with the velvet mud at the bottom of the creek, thus in peace and harmony with its surroundings living out its allotted years, however many they may be. Certainly some individuals of this species, with green water moss growing on their mud colored backs, seem old indeed.

Near high noon of a summer day, with the wind in the south and sun burning through a light haze, a female mud turtle had climbed upon a thin grass-grown point of land, scraped an excavation in the sandy soil with her hind feet, and was laying or preparing to lay her eggs therein. A naturalist paused but an instant to make note of the spot and then moved quickly away so as not to interrupt the procedure. Some hours later he returned with a spade. Scarcely an indication remained that the ground had been broken, but, digging down, six eggs were brought to light. They were quite unlike the long, leathery shelled egg of the painted turtle or the spherical egg of the snapping turtle. About one inch in length, a little more than one-half as broad, they had hard shells like the eggs of a bird, and were pretty, translucent pinkish white in color.

Learn to Laugh.
Learn to laugh: a good laugh is better than medicine.
Learn how to tell a story: a good story, well told, is as welcome as sunshine in a sick-room.
Learn to keep your troubles to yourself: the world is too busy to care for your ills and sorrows.
Learn to stop grumbling: if you cannot see any good in the world, keep the bad to yourself.
Learn to hide your aches and pains under pleasant smiles: no one cares to hear whether you have headaches, earaches, or rheumatism.
Learn to meet your friends with a smile: a good humored man or woman is always welcome, but the dyspeptic is not wanted anywhere.
You will pass through this world but once: Any good thing, therefore, that you can do, or any kindness that you can show to any human being you had better do it now; do not defer or neglect it.
If you don't exaggerate you never get believed.—Mr. Rudyard Kipling.
Society is like a lawn, where every roughness is smoothed, every bramble eradicated and where the eye is delighted by the smiling verdure of a velvet surface.
Choir boys are not suited to church singing, owing to their lack of understanding of the meaning of the words they sing, according to one London rector.

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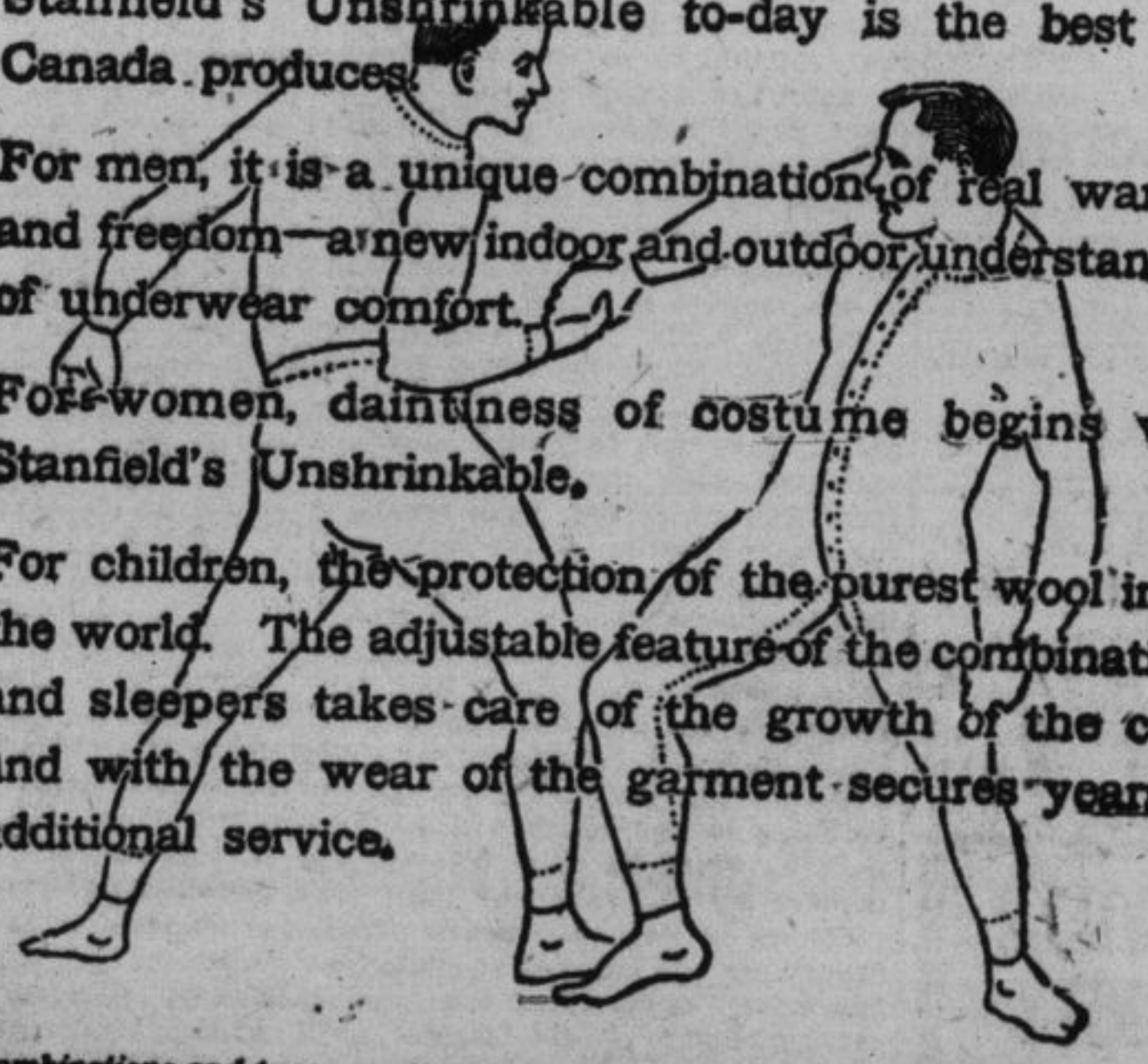
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Michael Collins Refused \$250,000 For Memoirs

Dublin, Oct. 5.—Less than \$10,000 was the value placed upon the estate of Michael J. Collins, slain leader of the Irish Free State, on which probate was granted at the request of his brother.
It is said that Collins refused offers for his memoirs that ran as high as \$250,000.

In 25 states in the Union, a series of national forest highways is planned. The construction involves an outlay of approximately \$10,000,000, covering 1,176 miles.

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A philosopher believes he might as well smile because things are going wrong anyway.
Most brides expect to be kept in all the little luxuries to which they haven't been accustomed.