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Woman Klondiker Tells of the Hard Work They Do-They Have Quite as Much Courage as Their Husbands and More Hope-Like the Snalls.

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

LAKE LINDEMAN, March 27. Like snails, we carry our houses on our backs, but we envy the snails their easy housekeeping. Every one says the first camp is the hardest on the greenhorn, so I will tell about our first abode in the wilderness at Sheep Camp. We landed in a snowstorm. Every available spot in sight was occupied by tents or piles of goods where they had been dumped by their owners. The people who have camped for a summer outing know nothing of camp life on the trail in winter. First the snow must be shoveled away, tent poles cut, logs hauled for the four sides and nails driven in to hold the stay ropes. Then boughs must be cut to be laid on the snow before the sleeping bags and blankets are spread down. There is no insomnia along the trail. One is too tired at night to long for spring beds or clean sheets. The hard ground and warm blankets bring

the sweetest repose possible for mortal man, or for woman either. In the morning new complications arise. The air is biting and frosty. The water which was dipped up through the ice from the river in the canyon the night before has frozen thick, and it must be cut with a hatchet for use in making the morning toilet. The camp stove is to be put up and wood chopped. The latter is green and wet, and it requires a bit of coaxing before it will take fire. Nothing short of a lighted candle and a thorough drenching in kerosene will induce it to give blaze. By this time the appetite is sharp enough to eat anything, whether it be raw or cooked. Sacks and boxes are piled in the snow where they were left by the packers the night before, and the article most needed is usually at the was commeal mush with diluted condensed milk, pilot bread and coffee without sugar. This bill of fare does not sound tempting, but it tasted as

good as the best meal I ever had. An Elaborate Dinner Menu. Here is the most elaborate dinner menu we have had thus far:

Fried ham.
Desicented potntoes and onions.
Hot corn bread.
Rice pudding with raisins.

It was a feast fit for the gods. Blessed You will save money by dealing with us. tain air gives, we sigh not for home

thing that many of them did not take into consideration before they left. Thoughts of Home.

Because I am a woman and they feel many who have left families in the States seem to take pleasure in telling me about their wives and children. If any auxious woman has husband, brother or sweetheart in this country and this letter comes before her eye, let her remember that those she loves are just as anxious to hear from her. The mail facilities in this country are about as bad as they can be. One man who has a camp adjoining our own tells me that he has written home to the States six times, but that his wife has only received one letter.

I am writing this on the typewriter, with no fire in the tent and the thermometer 20 degrees above zero, yet I suffer absolutely nothing from the cold. BLANCHE NICHOLS HILL.

BPARK TELEGRAPHY.

Possibilities of the Method of Telegraphing Without the Use of Wires.

Privy Counselor Dr. Slaby of Charlottenburg, Germany, contributes to The Century an article on "The New Telegraphy." Dr. Slaby conducted a series of experiments in telegraphing without the use of wires before the German emperor. He says in concluding his article:

I have often been asked in what directions and in what field the use of spark telegraphy might be employed. Our knowledge of the phenomenon in question is, so far, a very modest thing; we are really in the very opening chapters. Who would care to say today how far and whither, the path will lead us? I do not ing that the vessels were about to sail up purpose to paint pictures of the future, but I believe I can state with emphasis that for certain purposes the new telegraphy is ripe today and well worthy of consideration. The most important appear to me to lie in the military field. Besieged fortresses and advancing armies which have the enemy between them could make use of spark telegraph today as a method of communication. The system works just as surely on a bright day as by night and in fog, though, to be sure, only in cases where balloons can be employed, since the distances reached when towers, musts and high trees were used

would hardly suffice in cases of this kind. Quite as important is the usefulness of the discovery for the navy. Experiments of last summer have made perfectly certain the possibility of using captive balloons on the high sea. In place of bal-loons, without doubt, one might use the bottom of the pile. Our first breakfast | modern kites, brought to such a pitch of perfection in America, as those of Hargrave and others. I owe it to the kindness of an acquaintance in New York that I know something of these excellent kites, and a few experiments have already shown

telegraphy for lighthouses and lightships. | lot of hot rum punch. Then they went The receiving apparatus can easily be out, and, taking the willow withe which made in a handy form, not bulkier than a Mr. Pierce had used for a whip, planted chronometer. On the approach to a light- it butt end down in the loose ground in house it would not only give signs, but would tick out the name of the lighthouse; it appears even possible to provide with the sharp appetite that this moun- | the receiving apparatus with a regulator, to be adjusted at will according to wheth-

LAKE LINDEMAN.

dainties and long not for modern culinary conveniences. A sack for a seat, a box for a table, no servants to bother, no disappointing dressmaker, no dust, no worry as long as the provisions hold among the best judges of good Malt and Hop liquors that to ter bucket. Empty tin caus are also used for Yukon stove legs.

> and she is certainly quite happy in her work. A Swedish woman of unusually strong physique is assisting to pack her own goods. We passed her with a sled upon which were at least 200 pounds of provisions. The men stopped their own work to admire not only her courage and physical strength, but her hand-

I think the women, as a rule, have quite as much conrage and rather more hope than their husbands. Whether either quality be well founded time alone will show. One reason for their cheerfulness is doubtless owing to the fact that they accompany their loved ones, while most of the men have left their wives and children at home. This separation of families is far more trying because of the uncertainty and infrequency of the mails. Few men here now have heard from home since they crossed the Chilkoot, and they have little reason to expect letters under at least three months. This, no doubt, is sometimes the cause of discouraged argonauts turning back, the absence of news from home being evidently some-

er a greater or smaller sensitiveness is de sired, whereby the distance of the light

house can be read off. An undeniable weakness of spark teleg very interesting battle might occur in the waves of either.

Brain Processes and Crime. In our courts of law the question double consciousness occasionally forms the subject of legal deliberations, for a man in his second self may commit a orime of which he has no recollection whatever in his natural state. He is, in other words, at one time the Jekyll of his household and may be a loving father, a responsible citizen and a reasonable friend. Then, when he lapses, he becomes the Hyde of the romance realized to the full. He may become a veritable villain, who will not stop short of murder if his unnatural propensities direct his energies in a homicidal direction. Yet he will wake up, all unconscious of his wrongdoing, to resume his life as a peaceful man and sober citizen.

The interdependence of our social life is aptly illustrated by cases of this nature. The question of responsibility for crime committed under dual consciousness is one of the gravest which law and medicine alike can have to face and determine. It is not without the bounds of reason to sup pose that our education in the story of the brain's byways may lead us perchance to form judgments even of criminal acts more consistent with mercy than have often been delivered, and to regard apparently irrational offenses with a charity which is nono the less real in that it is founded upon a knowledge of the weakness and irregularities that beset the working of the brain.-"Some Byways of the Brain," by Andrew Wilson, M. D., in Harper's Maga-

fairyliko handsi engo Nowa

FAMOUS MAINE TREE.

A HISTORICAL WILLOW THAT FLOUR-ISHES AT FORT KNOX.

Planted During the Exciting Times of 1814 and Often Threatened With Destruction, It Has Had Many Eminent Defenders.

The largest tree in the state of Maine stands on top of a gravelly bank just in-side of the walled inclosure surrounding Fort Knox, one of the four granite case-mated fortifications which the United States have constructed east of Boston. The old "fort willow," or "war willow," as it is called by the residents, was planted as a sapling to commemorate the day when the English warships sailed up Penobscot river and laid all the towns between Cas tine and Banger under tribute to the king

John Pierce, a former fisherman, owner

farm of 160 acres, extending from the narrowest point of Penobscot narrows, a mile back, to the top of Moore's hill and having 80 rods of water frontage, where weirs were set for salmon, shad and other fish. Above the farm the river expanded so that it was half a inile wide opposite Bucksport. Below, the waters dashed between steep rocky banks that nobody could cultivate. In the autumn of 1814 Mr. Piesco, having taken in his weir hedges and harvested most of his crops, inounted his horse and rode five mile south to old Fort Pownal, hoping to get some news of the English troops that were in garrison at Castine. He reached the sett early in the forenoon and learned that a fleet of warships had lately ing that the vessels were about to sail up river and burn all the towns as far as the head of tide water. While he was discussing the prospect

with the people the ships hove in sight above Sears' islands and began to fire shots at the houses on Cape Jellison. Seeing that the fleet was under full sail and making good headway before a southerly breeze, Mr. Pierce started for home to give the nlarm. As he passed the house of Daniel French, on the "neck" below Sandy point, a 6 inch shot passed through the top of a big willow which grew in front of the house, covering the ground with broken limbs. Without dismounting, Mr. Pierce reached from his horse and cut a switch from one of these fallen limbs and used it as a whip to urgo the horse along. He reached home nearly an hour before the ships appeared around Fort Point, so that by the time they had reached the narrows twoscore of men and boys had assembled on the rocky bluffs with loaded guns to give them welcome. The townspeople fired at the passing ships, and the officers and men, finding their foes out of range, fired volleys of terrible oaths back at their assailants. After shooting me that they are perfectly adapted to the carrying of thin wires.

all their lead away and killing three men on the ships, the Yankees went back to There is a future for the use of spark | the house of Mr. Plerce and drank a whole front of the house.

A white willow will grow almost anywhere. Farmers who cut willow wands for their pole beans to climb upon have to pull them up in the fall or there will be a willow tree growing in every bean hill. The whip stick which Mr. Pierce used to drive his horse ahead of the invading fleet bore leaves the next spring, and has kept doing so every year since. It was only 2 feet tall in the spring of 1815. After the Mexican war, when the United States had bought the Pierce farm and Lieutenant Isaac I. Stevens had been sent to survey the land and lay it out for a fort, the willow was 30 feet high and as big round as a flour barrel. As the tree grew in a gravel bank which was needed to complete the earthworks around the fort, Lieutenant Stevens wished to cut it down, but when he learned its history the willow tree was spared, though the earth was removed so that some of its roots were laid

Before the civil war broke out Lieutenant Stevens was sent away to the Pacific coast, where he rose to the rank of major, and Colonel Joseph G. Totten took his place as commander of Fort Knox. Major Stevens joined the Army of the Potomac at the beginning of the war, and when he had reached the rank of major general he was shot while leading his division in the second battle of Bull Run. In the meantime the casemated galleries of Fort Knox had been completed at a cost of about \$2,-000,000, and about 100 heavy guns were put in position for service when General Godfrey Weitzel, fresh from the capture of Richmond, came to Maine to finish the structure. The plans called for a wide glacis at the rear of the fort, and to make this glacis the old willow would have to go. The engineers argued out the matter for some years, and the old tree was in great danger until General Grant became president. Then General John A. Rawlins, the secretary of war, gave positive orders that no harm should be done to the tree. In the administration of Mr. Hayes another attempt was made to have the willow cut down and the gravel bank removed, but Colonel James C. Duane, who had charge of the Maine fortifications at that time, defended the aged tree against

Though Fort Knox is practically abandoned to the bats and owls, the old willow is growing rapidly. It is now 23 feet around the trunk, and good judges say that it contains eight cords of wood. The parent tree, from which it was torn away by a British shot, is still growing upon Cape Jellison, but the younger tree is much larger and more thrifty than its battle scarred ancestor.—New York Sun.

"Oh, John," exclaimed the fair young mother, "I am glad you're home. I have been so worried."
"Why, dear," he asked, "what's the

matter?" "It's about the baby. I tremble to think of it. You know they say children that are too smart never grow up."
"Yes, yes," he cried; "go on! What is
it? Where is our darling? What has hap-

"John;" she said, putting her arms around his neck and sobbing upon his breast, "he said 'da da' today, and he only 9 months old!"-Chicago News.

Farmer Corntossel. "I've just got to the chapter," replied his wife, "where two young men of byfur good an all which was the best fencer. "Well, that shows some sense. Et the young men nowadays get up contests like that, we'd not only have less loafin, but

Foreign Clerks In L. gity, according to evidence collected by the London chamber of commerce, 35 per cent employ foreign clerks, who are almost always Germans. The reason given is that 99 per cent of English clerks have no serviceable acquaintance with French and Ger-

passing sentence of death on a man con-

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out-who can ask for a more novel experience? The chandelier which gives me light to write this is a tallow caudle in a discarded tin can, suspended by a string from the center of the tent. Another empty tin can bent into an angle makes an excellent funnel for filling the oil stove. When we discard our five gallon oil can, some one will cut off the top, boil it in soda and use it for a wa-

Women Strong as Mon. I have not met as many of my own sex as I expected to. Those whom I have seen are quite up to the average in intelligence, character and modesty. Their husbands are in most cases with them and they are as ambitious to make themselves useful and do their part as are the men. In a tent adjoining ours is a woman who is using a crosscut saw and ax to provide firewood for the stove, while her husband packs their goods piecemeal along the weary way. The woman seems to be as strong as a man

raphy is this: Every telegram is imparted to the whole world; every receiver can take it up. Owing to this reason for the pres ent its application will have to be confined to particular cases. For practical purposes, if one desires to protect oneself from having dispatches read by others, there remains only the use of signs arranged beforehand. In war, to be sure, telegraphy would become impossible as soon as a hos tile spark generator should cause a permanent disturbance of the characters. A

Miss Gyett-Oh, wouldn't that be just too lovely for anything! And I've always wanted a monkey must so much!-Chi-

Then He Sighed Again. Softleigh (sighing)—Ah, would I were your muif, that I might hold both your

Frightful Precocity.

pened? Go on!"

Approval. "What are yo readin about?" asked

better fences."-Washington Star. Of the leading business houses in the

It is told of Lord Norbury that when