

# THE PIONEERSMAN

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## THE TREASURE OF OVAL MOUNTAIN

In Four chapters. Chap 1

Oval Mountain is a high lofty mountain in the town of Franconia this town is very famous in the county in which it is situated it being the land of the great Indian battles at one of the battles a fort was taken by the Indians all but a small room in one side and this had been set on fire when out of the woods strode a figure six feet in height clad in white robes reaching the ground and in the fire light for it was growing dusk the figure looked ghostly and wild indeed when the Indians saw this strange being they turned and with a frightened yell fled in to the woods the strange figure followed them to the edge of the woods then turned and glided across the clearing into the woods again the people all got away but did not save the fort but I did not start to tell the history of this noted town I only set out to tell about the mountain and a couple of boys and the adventures at gold seeking as they called it. This great mountain stands almost entirely alone separated from a range of mountains to the westward by a brook of considerable size that rushes along down the ravine caused by Oval Mountain coming up on one side and the rest of the range on the other. The side of the west side of the brook about two hundred feet west of the way and then forms a broad

plateau, two miles in length by one in breadth from the west side of this again rises the mountain its peaks towering away against the horizon. The plateau has but a few trees scattered over it but it is lined with trees on the sides clear down to the valley beneath there are some deer and a good many panthers and bears inhabiting the mountain caves and dens. Oval Mountain is noted for such things and is regarded by some of the people in the neighborhood with superstition because of some mysterious things that have happened on its sides. It is called that once a band of robbers lived in some cave in the mountain and came out every few weeks and robbed some town in the neighborhood and carrying the booty of it to the mountain once when they had come down in to a town a party of soldiers met them and after a short fight the robbers turned and fled for the mountain the soldiers followed firing every chance they could get till many were left on the ground. The robbers kept on up the mountain with the soldiers close behind them at last the robbers disappeared over the top of the mountain and when the soldiers reached there two minutes later not a sign was to be seen of the escaping robbers, but those who were after them searched awhile for them but found no tracks of them and so went back but the robbers were not seen many times after that. At the foot of Oval Mountain on the south side is a small lake about eight miles long and from one and a half to two wide surrounded on all sides by woods. A couple of men had made the



and put up a couple of log cabins  
 one of these men by the name of  
 Grade had a wife and three children  
 the youngest was eight years old  
 his name was James though every  
 one who knew him called him Jimmie  
 the next one was twelve years old  
 good size and stout he was called  
 Jack then next came Tom a boy  
 of fourteen rather taller for his age  
 than Jack and as stout as a young  
 giant or at least so the boys at  
 the school which he went said, so



OVER MOUNTAIN

it almost be so for boys always  
 know the strength of those with whom  
 they play or if they don't they are  
 not the boys to have. It was getting  
 dusk at the time at which my story  
 begins, in the Grade cabin and Mrs  
 Grade was getting supper the kettle  
 was hanging over the fire place filled  
 with hot nasty pudding that was  
 most done, Tom was oiling up his  
 rifle ready for a hunt the next day  
 Jack was reading a paper that their  
 father had got at the village the  
 day before while Jimmie was fixing  
 up a sailboat that he was going  
 to sail on the lake the next day  
 soon their mother had supper ready  
 and Jimmie went out back of the  
 cabin and called their father who  
 was cutting wood by lantern light.  
 A little while after that they  
 had got their supper eaten, there  
 came a knock at the door and  
 when Tom opened it Mr. Beam  
 was at the door. "How do you  
 want I would come over

and spend the evening with  
 you" he said. "Come night in" said  
 Mr Grade, Mr Beam was a rather  
 short man, of middle age and an  
 experienced trapper who lived in the  
 cabin, which stood with Mr Grades  
 in this small clearing. Jack whisper-  
 ered to Tom that he hoped that  
 Mr Beam would tell one of his  
 Indian stories while he was there.  
 Mr Grade first spoke about the wea-  
 ther then about the tenness of the  
 potatoes in a hill and at last they  
 got to talking about Oval Mountain  
 and how few bears and panthers had  
 been seen lately on it. "There are  
 not quite as many bears and panthers  
 round here as there used to be" remark-  
 ed Mr Grade. "No they were a good deal  
 more plenty when you and I first  
 moved on to these strips of land  
 here by the lake and it makes me  
 think of an adventure I had with  
 a panther here on the mountains"  
 Mr Beams replied. It was the year  
 just before that you moved here or  
 the second year after that I come  
 I had five old sheep and three  
 lambs that we let run round our  
 house during the day and we put  
 them in the barn at night. One  
 day as I was out at the door wash-  
 ing dishes when some great animal  
 bounded into the clearing grabbed  
 one of my lambs and was gone I step-  
 ped in side grabbed my gun and  
 went to where I saw the animal  
 go in to the woods, I could follow  
 the tracks up the mountain side  
 quite easily and I noticed every lit-  
 tle ways spots of blood that show-  
 ed that the lamb was probably  
 dead now I kept on up the mount-  
 ain and after a while reared the  
 summit all at once as I was think-  
 ing that I had better turn round  
 and go back I heard a growl  
 come from a bunch of bushes and  
 when I look that way I saw a  
 large crouching animal that I knew  
 was a panther.

Continued. Mort Breed.



## THE BROOK

Come on if you want  
And will a fishing go  
way up the brook  
where the pine trees grow

The brook is filled  
with many a trout  
that'll bite a hook  
I have no doubt.

Many a pretty fish  
In our basket are hid  
And the brook of many  
A bright fish is hid.

And we slowly come  
To the sparkling fountain  
That starts way here  
In the heart of the mountain

It bubbles up  
From under a stone  
And very soon  
To a river's grown

It has neighbors  
straight and tall  
That stands beside  
Of the water fall

It swiftly goes  
Through dales and glens  
Over rich moores  
And sloping green fens

It runs and creeps,  
And singing goes  
And by its grassy banks  
It gently flows

And to the flowers  
Water it quickly sends  
Then it creeps and crawls  
And turns and bends

And a welcome  
To all it gives  
Especially to those  
who on its bank lives

A squirrel may come  
And eagerly drink  
The water that flows  
By its grassy brink

And its froggies all  
Have a merry tone  
That in its waters  
Have from children grown

But we have wasted  
lot of time  
Tanning of the brook  
And this long rhyme

So we say good by  
with many thanks  
pleased with your compliments  
Through all these pranks.  
Ida Green.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### FRED WARRINGTON

Fred Warrington was born on Black Archipelago in 1860 when he got to be about sixteen years of age he in with five other boys stole a ship and went to sea they started out to go to the north pole when they got as far as the north end of Big Continent they thought they would not go any further but go home for they were nearly out of provisions and water but as they were getting ready to go back a great storm struck them and they were driven seven days to the eastward then the wind shifted and blew from the north



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about six days when it cleared up and disclosed a ship wrecked about as near as it could be and not far and the crew on board was nearly starved so they put up to land which they did not know what was, and fixed up a little, shot game and got a fresh supply of water then they put to sea again and kept on southward hoping to meet a ship and find out where they were after several weeks of sailing to the south they came to an island bearing tropical fruit here they stopped built them selves some cabins and stayed a while then they again embarked and went to the main land and told what a fine place it was so that about two months later three ships went away and soon quite a number of clusters of houses were to be seen on the island and soon Fred Warrington formed a purpose to unite his colony with another party on a distant island and call them the Kingdom of Rock Island



ROCK ISLAND HOUSES

he did so and after a while became the king of the whole place with a while later he had a little trouble with Ethan Allen and at last he and his small colonies were obliged to leave in their ships they went southward and at last settled on a high rocky, mountainous island some ways from the coast of Round Continent and a while later when the new land was discovered across the sea, Fred Warrington asked for a grant of land here on this new land and was granted it then he and more than half of his new people again moved and settled here they were well pleased with this land and are now happy in a growing nation with plenty of land to grow on.  
Milon Daney.

## CROW SHOOTING

Crows are very sly and full grown ones are not easily shot so the best time to shot them is in the spring when they are very young and do not know much. When you hear them cawing far off in the woods walk off through the woods with out making more noise than you can help and keep watch not to let any old crow see you and when you get within in any decent range and fire if you don't make out to get to them the first time try again and if you persevere you will shot one. The crow is jet black all over and looks about as large as small hens but not as heavy by considerable as a hen. It is quite hard work to catch them but it can be done the best way is to get some eggs from some bird nest fix up a nest in a clump of bushes and set a trap by the side of it on this side fix a sort of path to the other side of the clump then the crow will see the eggs and walk in to get them but the he is caught in trying to do it.

James, Fray.