

PIONEERSMAN

Dec 14 1893

Published by
E. H. Nelson. Birdshost. F.C.



The last month of the year
Has come to blow and sheet
At this small world of ours
But we will laugh at cold
And keep with in the fold
Through the long evening hours

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The first month of 1861
the same is done and given
at the same time of day
but we will keep it as
and keep it as it is
through the year.

1861
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A

THE PIONEERSMAN

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SAMMIE

Chap 1

It was a morning in mid winter, the sun had not yet risen over the top of Old Bear Mountain, but a long column of white smoke was issuing from the chimney and most of the household was astir but Sammie was still abed dreading to get up into the cold air.

"Sammie, time to get up and help do the chores" came a voice from the foot of the stairs.

Sam with a shivering "Yes" jumped out of bed and into his clothes about as fast as ever he could which did not take him long and soon he was down in the kitchen before the stove.

"Pa's just gone out and told me to hurry you right along this morning for he wants to get started for the village bright and early or he won't get back to night" said Mrs Kant as Sam was putting on his overcoat ready to go to the barn, "and he said as you might go if you liked" she added

"Did he, Oh I'm so glad"

and Sam started off with a push for the barn. The wind was blowing fierce and cold, but Sam minded it not for it was only a few steps to barn, and soon he was busy getting down hay, feeding pigs and the like, while his father milked their eight cows they were living on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres or a quarter section as it was called on the great level plateau, twenty miles north of Farmington. Across his farm ran the great Farmington and Trappers City R.R. The wagon road from the place of Mr Kant to the city was level and good but the day were short.

It was not long before Sam and his father went into breakfast, and it was a regular farmers breakfast consisting of potatoes, cream, and fresh beef, besides turnip and a few other vegetables, to which they all gave evidence of a hearty appetite.

Breakfast over they hurriedly changed their

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clothes the horses were harness-
ed and they were soon on
the road. It was a fine
morning for a ride, as
the sled glided along the
shoes kept up a squeaking
sound. small particles of frost
were in the air making the
atmosphere glisten in the
morning sunshine. The day
slowly wore on they had
nearly reached their des-
tination and it was about
eleven by the sun and
as they rode along Mr
Kants eye rested on a
track a little ahead of
them and as they came
opposite it, he recognised
it as a wolf track. Occa-
sionally these fierce creat-
ures had come down
out of the mountains to
the west of them in such
numbers as to do a good
~~deal~~ of harm but a
single track did not sur-
prise him any, when
they got to the city
they did the trading as
soon as possible and start-
ed back, they had a little
lunch with them and as
they again headed for home
Sam got out the pail but
when they lifted the cover
they found things froze
so they stopped at the
next house and ate their

dinner and while there they
got to talking about the
prospects for the winter.

"I believe wolves are going
to be plenty this winter and
we may have some trouble
with them," said Mr Slater their
host

"You do, why so," asked Mr
Kant in a little surprise

"Oh I saw a couple of
wolves yesterday go across
my farm and I have seen
tracks of one or two at
a time before at different
times along."

That may not amount to
any thing, wolves are al-
ways round more or less
during the winter. Mr Kant
answered.

Then he rose and he and
Sam again started for
home it was a long drive.
It was pretty near dark
when they first saw their
home nearly two miles away
on the plateau, suddenly a
howl met their ears from
far behind soon answered
by another and another,
what should be done? Nothing
but go ahead at their best,
the nearest house was their
own cabin. Two miles ahead
The old horse had heard
them too and with ears
laid back ~~the~~ started a

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cross the plain but Mr Kant
stopped her long enough to
set off a couple of barrels
of flour and what meal he
had on before beginning
their race for life and then
he started in earnest for
home. Their horse started at
a pace that make Mr Kant
grip the reins and hold her
back a little as she might
lead her speed to finish up
with the howling of the
wolves became more frequent
and louder and dark specks
could be seen scurrying



Had the wolves got ahead
over the snow in their wake
but in the mean time the
distance was shortening be-
tween themselves and home
Their hopes began to rise
when Sams sharp eyes rest-
ed on a couple of dark ob-
jects gliding across the plains
to the right and ahead of
them which make his heart
beat faster, had the wolves
got ahead of them and
would they yet be caught
it looked that way, but he
said nothing hoping that he
might be mistaken.

Continued
B. Green

SLEIGHING TIME

The snow is bright and clear
And sleighing both draw near
To gladden every heart
The winter moon is full
The horses their loads do pull
For pleasures sake I know

A shining tracks ahead
And the continued tread
Of horses ever going
Over long roads hard packed
And that are smoothly tracked
Where the winds are blowing

Oh how we like to ride
Where roads are smooth and wide
And horses swiftly go
When the big moon is bright
And everything in sight
Oh what fun when winds are low

Ida Green

winter

The snows are deep
And heads do peep
From under robes
And around stoves

To see the snow
In pure heaps grow
To cover tree
And land and sea

From the cold breeze
That would quite freeze
Yours ears and toes
Even through your clothes
Don Dicky,

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TEN NIGHTS IN
A HUNTERS CAMP
THIRD. Long Legs
Adventure

My cabin was then up in the Trappers Mountains between the peaks of Elk and Little Indian. It was a lonely place and all I had for company was my two dogs and my gun and I tell you they were a good deal of company sometimes. I have had to stay in my cabin a whole week because the snow was so deep and I hadn't my snow shoes to go out on. But I will get to the time I started to speak of, the snow was six feet deep every where and not a great way from my cabin was gulch in which the snow came clear to the top of the ~~cabin~~ trees. Well I started out with my gun to look at my bear and wolf traps located near the top of Old Elk in a place that was rocky and full of dens. And those who could catch bears made some thing, as I went up the mountain I was making plans on how many bears and wolves I would probably have. but when I came to my traps not a thing did I see and I went on around the

mountain looking at the traps the snow was only a foot or two deep up here as the wind had blown it most all off into the valleys below, but soon I came on to a path leading in the same direction as I was going, then suddenly as I came around a large ledge what do you think met my eyes? it was four bears all sitting around one in a trap and talking and snarling like mad, all at once one of them began to sniff and



Half a dozen bears. I knew that they had smelt me out and in all likely hood would make for me in a minute or two. near me was a rock the top of which was only accessible in one spot, I made a dash for this and up I went with two large bears close after me, as soon as I had reached the summit I turned to see one of the bears just beginning to ascend the rock also I waited till he had got part way up then fired, he lost his balance and down he went plump on

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to his mate. but he soon got up again but did not try to come up the rock again, then I lay down on the rock thinking that perhaps that if they could see me that they would leave but when I lay down I could still be seen so I hitched back a little. Everything was still then for a while except the occasional low growl of a bear then it became perfectly so and I began to think that the bears had all left so I lifted my head but was greeted by a chorus of snorts and growls and saw some half dozen bears all looking that way and two made a dash for the rock I got my gun ready and the hitching back a little so as to be out of sight I waited for one of them to come into sight soon one loomed up over



He fell over the ledge

the top of the rock I aimed and fired, the bear disappeared and at the same time I felt my own self slipping. I was surely going. I could grab on to nothing with my gun in my hand so I went and soon landed in a soft bed of snow. but this did not wait for me but started on also there was a sensation as of falling through space then I was in the snow nearly smothered I struggled to get out but I nearly lost my balance and got onto my back then I got upright and tried again but I seemed to go deeper then I tried to work my way forward and succeeded in this so well that I soon found my head out of the snow. Then I made out to work my way out but I had left my snow shoes up on top of the ledge so I had to wallow through six or seven feet of snow till about three o'clock that afternoon when I reached home, the next morning I took another pair of snow shoes and went up the mountain and found two dead bears besides the one in the trap and was well satisfied.

Big Rifle,

PARADISE LAKE

Paradise Lake lies at the foot of the Trappers Mts to the east of Farmington. It is surrounded by rather damp land which is everglades a farther to the west and East. Paradise Lake is about three hundred miles long and two hundred wide it has not hardly any islands and in time of storms the wind sweeps



Paradise Lake across this lake with a good deal of fury, the waves often rise to a great height so that boats dare not be out on it. The lake is surrounded by forests on all sides, these forests are alive with all kinds of game, deer of all kinds moose, elk, wolves and many other kinds. About the only inhabitants around the lake are the wild animals and birds and a few hunters and trappers who live mostly on game. Away to the west towers the high peaks of the Trapper Mountains while to the

East, West and North are only low forests or everglades rich in semi tropical vegetation. Paradise Lake is one of the prettiest lakes in the world.

Bill Knat

A SKATING PARTY

The evening was cold and clear when down the road came a couple of boys with skates on their arms one of them carried a lighted torch. As they were walking along some one called from behind them and they stopped when a boy and his sister came up each of them carrying skates also.

"Hello, Jessie you are going skating to night, fine night isn't it" said one of the boys.

Yes, lovely, I couldn't stand it to stay in the house to night so I came along with Frank. she replied.

Soon they reached the pond where several young folks had gathered before them, bonfires were crackling at the sides of the pond and the clink of skates sounded on all sides, they soon joined the party on the ice, others kept coming till there was a company of about forty on the ice, playing tag and many other games

but while they were yet in their fun a loud crack sounded across the ice and they all hurried off, no one had got in then the boys began to go on to the edge again and as it did not crack they became more daring till pretty soon they were going most all over and laughing at the girls because they dared not come on but they laughed to

the nearest farm house where their clothes were changed and they were put to bed it was several days before they could be taken home and it was weeks before they had entirely got over their ducking, the boys around there were not quite so reckless after this for quite a while and the two that got in never ran such risks again, they had learned a useful lesson at this skating party and it helped some of the others. We hope all who read this story will profit by our advice and keep off of dangerous ice or where it has become dangerous.

soon for all at once there came another crack and two of the boys were in the water floundering around amongst the broken ice all the



THEY HAD BROKE

other boys had left the ice and they were alone, but a couple of the boys on the shore had run to a fence near and got a couple of fence rails with these they went out as far as they dared to and then shoved them, they were then grabbed by the boys in the water who after some struggling succeeded in getting out on to the ice and then ashore. They were then helped to the road where a team was waiting for them they were then hurried to

our advice and keep off of dangerous ice or where it has become dangerous.
 Sadie Maxwell

FARMING ITEMS

The winters logging has begun, the snow lies from two to five feet deep in most parts of Elm and in the very northern parts it deeper. There is a sled used round these parts for logging that I think quite good it is a very low runnered sled boarded

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beneath and the ends of the boards are rounded up in front, so that in the deep



THE SLEDS

snow, if the runners go clear in the boards will act as a toboggan and hold the load up on top of the snow. This kind of sled has kept a good many loads from getting stuck as a load of logs on one of these sleds will go where ever the cattle can.

pasture spruces and hemlocks cut the best these cold frosty days that they do at all as the sap is frozen solid and the wood brittle, every one should be cutting their pasture spruces for sugar wood now. It is a good plan to build a bonfire then as you cut the trees and limb them out, throw your limbs onto the fire and then if your feet or hands get cold as they are a little apt to do you have a place to warm them by.

kill your hogs and cattle now while it is cold, that you may freeze them up and

keep them the longer. Pack your meat in half barrels then set these into barrels and pack snow around them, it will take more than one thaw to spoil it, or instead of using snow use sand dust which is better if you can get it.

TERMS

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