

From

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SYNOPSIS.

Chip McGuire, a 15-year-old girl living at Tim's place in the Maine woods, is sold by her father to Peter Belduc, a half-breed. She runs away and reaches the camp of Martin Belduc, who is the husband of her mother. Martin, his wife, nephew, Raymond Stacey, and cousin, John, are all there. Mrs. Frisbie, an old woman, who has resided in the wilderness for many years, when camp is broken, Chip and Ray escape some canoe. The party reach camp of Mrs. Frisbie's father and are welcomed by him and by Chip's old friend and former townsmen of the "hermit." They settle down in a canoe on the lake. Chip and Ray are in love, but one realizes that Chip is not really across the lake. Martin and Levi are sent across the lake. Martin and Levi are sent to get officers to arrest McGuire, who is a trapper. They are escaped. Chip's new friend, Tom, an Indian, visits the woods. Peter Belduc is seen being rescued by Martin and Levi as they are returning from the settlement. Ray is returning in the woods with himself and a trap during the winter. Ray is convinced to go to school. The party return to Greenville, taking them with them. Chip starts to school in Greenville, and finds life unpleasant at Aunt Cornelia's, made so especially by the Old Old Cy and Ray discover strange tracks in the wilderness. They follow them into the wilderness and discover the hiding place of the man who had been speaking about their cabin.

CHAPTER XIV.—Continued.

Then came another surprise, for suddenly Old Cy caught sight of a man just emerging from behind a rock fifty ten rods from the rising smoke; he stopped, lifted a canoe into the water, and pulled to the shore, still it halfway into the water, returned to the rock, picked up a rifle, then pushed the canoe off, and crossing the lake, vanished into the outlet.

The two watchers on the ridge exchanged glances. "He's got to tend his traps, an' mebbe ourn," Old Cy said at last, and then led the way back to their bark shack. Here he halted, and placing a hand across his forehead, he listened intently until he caught the faint sound of a paddle touching a canoe gunwale. First slightly, then a more distinct thud, and then less and less until the sound ceased.

"The coast's clear," he added, now in an exultant whisper, "an' now the old cat's away we'll take a peek at his den."

A hurried gathering of their few belongings was made, the canoe was shoved into the lagoon, and no time lost until the two trappers had crossed and were still rising in a thin film. No landing was possible here, for the shore was a sheer face of ice and water, and only where this lone trapper had launched his canoe could they make one.

From here a series of outcropping slate ledges rose one above another and between them and parallel to the shore, narrow, irregular passages partly closed by ice, and others were a sort of slaty formation, jagged, serrated and gray with moss.

Following one of these passages, Old Cy and Ray came to the ledge out of which the smoke was rising, and crevasse. It was a little lower than one in front, perhaps 40 feet in breadth, double that in length, and of a more even surface. In length, and was a short transverse passage hardly wide enough to walk in, and a few feet deep.

Now, after a more careful examination of the crevasse out of which the thin film of smoke rose, Old Cy began a search. Up and down each narrow passage he peered, and he saw, but nowhere was a crack or crevasse to be found in their walls. In places they were as high as his head, sheer faces of slate, then a ledge, a ledge, moss-coated, or of yellow, rusty color. Here and there a stunted spruce had taken root in some crack, and grew back from the top of the ledge, this green enclosure began and continued up the low mountain. Here, also, in a sunny nook below this belt, a tangle of scrub spruce, and here the pale signs of a trapper's occupation in the way of pellets stretched upon forked sticks and hanging from a cord crossed this niche. They were the usual specks found in this wilderness, — a dozen muskrat, with a few mink and other skins and one lynx.

Another sign of human presence was also noted, for here a log showing marks, with split wood and chips all about, was seen. "Some of these pellets is ours," Old Cy ejaculated, glancing at the tracks. "An' I've a notion we'd best look on 'em. Mebbe not, though," he added somewhat later, "but might git us into more trouble."

And then another, and all the while listening and advancing again. "It was McGuire's habit, while staying here, to look at the weather prospects each night, and also to obtain a drink of cool water before going to sleep."

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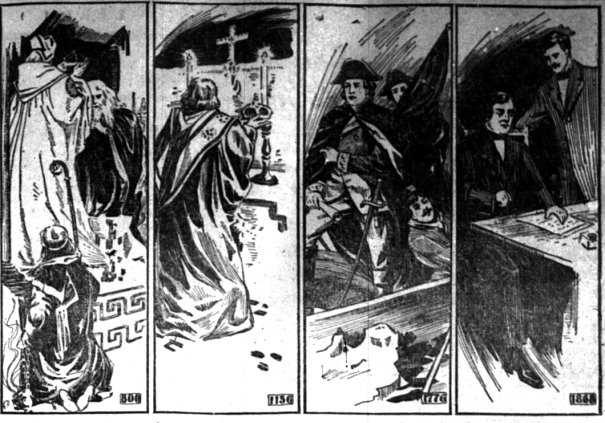
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NOTABLE CHRISTMAS DAYS THE WORLD'S HISTORY

1068 King Swein, of Denmark, rose in revolt against the Norman King, and William, in a spirit of wild revenge, caused all northern England to be laid to utter waste, that its people might never again rise against him. On Christmas day many died of starvation; others killed themselves, and hundreds fled to other lands, while their homes were burning and their fields being devastated.

1087 William Rufus caused to be erected a large and splendidly fitted-up hall at Westminster, which he dedicated to Christmas celebrations of such a nature that the place received the name "Rufus' Hall." Although it was a reprehensible royal merrymaking, it soon became a place of questionable character, and for many years was marked by riotous celebrations.

1126 Henry called an assembly of his kingdom for the purpose of declaring his daughter, who was the widow of Emperor Matilda, his legitimate successor. Six years previous to this King Henry had lost his son and heir apparent, Prince William, in a shipwreck. The king received the news while he was preparing a big Christmas celebration to welcome home the young man, and it is said that Henry never smiled again.

1156 Upon his third Christmas, King Henry II. created a decided sensation by taking his crown from his head during the festival of the birth of his son, and placing it on the head of the priest who was conducting services. He vowed that he would never wear his crown again, and kept his word.

1214 At a Christmas festival in 1214 the barons surmounted King John and demanded that he sign the paper which proved to be the foundation of English liberties, the Magna Charta. John was finally forced to accede to their demands.

1265 The first English parliament was summoned at Westminster in 1265, while the king was held a prisoner by Earl Simon.

1281 Christmas of 1281 became a day of horror because of the severity of the winter. Never were such frosts known in England. Fishes and birds died from cold and want of food, human beings perished, and everywhere was felt the blight of the black frost. Another fearful Christmas was that of 1564.

1286 Edward I. provided a sensational and gruesome feature for Christmas day of that year by having the mayor of London publicly hanged in the morning.

1315 Stephen of Blois was crowned at Westminster Abbey during the Christmas festivities of 1135. Trouble arose because Stephen and the Empress Matilda, who claimed the crown for her son Henry. Stephen waged war against "The Lady of the English," as Matilda was called, and on Christmas eve, 1142, the Empress fled from the castle where she was in hiding, and where she was threatened with starvation, because Stephen had cut off the source of food supply. On Christmas day a treaty was drawn up, whereby Stephen was to hold the crown for Christmas, hearing the bells toll for the son of Matilda.

1326 On Christmas day of 1326 Edward II. while indulging in a game of chess, was seized by his indignant subjects, bound hand and foot, and carried off a prisoner to Kenilworth Castle. On following Christmas day the king met and deposed him, electing his 14-year-old son Edward to the throne.

1418 Lord Cobham, who had revolted against the throne, was executed in St. Giles' field, and put to death in St. Giles' field, London, on Christmas day, 1418.

1861 The cabinet meeting held on Christmas day in 1861 was a momentous one for then it was decided by President Lincoln and his advisors that it would be wise to accede to England's demands that Mason and Slidell be released. Seven years later President Johnson made the day one of greater peace by issuing proclamation granting full pardon to all who had taken part in the war of the rebellion.

1868 On the great Christmas festival of 1868, President Johnson granted full pardon to every one who had taken part in the great conflict against the Union.

1906 King Edward's fast was marked by a tragedy, when Earl Tostig, brother of Harold, was brutally murdered by traitors in the monarch's court.

1066 When William the Conqueror was crowned king on Christmas day of that year, there was a division among the soldiers, several of which were important events in the reign of Edward were connected with the day. It was on December 25, 1053, at a meeting with his nobles at Gloucester, that he ordered that Rhyb, brother of Gruffydd, the South Welsh king, be executed.



Closed in a Death-Grapple.

Had Prepared For Ordeal.

Christening rehearsal struck clergyman as new idea.

"These college girls," said a clergyman as he gazed at the white and superb ranks of beautiful graduates, "are a boon to the world. They introduce new ideas to a frightened and superstitious people. I have seen a college girl, now, babies usually cry while they are being christened, but now they are as quiet as a mouse. Through the ceremony it will appear but Old Cy and himself should make the trip out together in two canoes, and convey their stores of gun and fire. At the settlement the canoe was packed, and the sale and shipment. Old Cy would then return to camp, and Ray would go on a canoeing trip in plan came in an unexpected manner, however, for a few days before the one set for departure, Old Cy, always on watch, saw the canoe enter the lake, and it appeared but Levi, Martin's old guide, "I've been cooking up at a lumber camp on the Moosehorn," he explained after a brief rest, "and the whole changed, 'an' I thought I would make a trip here 'an' call on you 'fore I went out."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

A Flag Pole. Iceland wants to have a flag of its own. It won't have to go far for its pole.