

THE EVENING NEWS.

Saturday, - August 24, 1872.

CAUGHT IN A PRAIRIE STORM.

[CONTINUED.]
I had gone too far. She took it seriously. With a flush of scorn from her brilliant eyes and a high color, she arose went to the other side of the room, and closed the door with some noise.
The storm had just blown over. Cordelia retained her anger. More hurt at it than I would confess, I would gladly have apologized; but her manner repulsed all overtures of reconciliation. Once, when I had accidentally caught hold of her hand, she twisted her own away, and gave a scornful fling at mine.

Now you know just what our social atmosphere was, when fate, that winter morning, decided that we should start together in that long ride.

The bells danced merrily, the air was clear, the sky blue; all things were pleasant except Cordelia. Say what I would, she was ungracious and hardly answered me. I suppose she wanted me to understand she had not come with me for pleasure, but to get the letters. We had gone miles beyond the last settler's camp that we should see until we came into the vicinity of Bingley's Mills, when we apparently thought better of her behavior, and spoke of her own accord cheerfully.

"How natural it is for the greater part of people to attach themselves to home, let it be where it may!"

"Two years ago I could not have believed that I should have followed my aunt's family West, and been compelled to travel the utmost bounds of civilization. I'm sure I wonder that you stay, Mr. Rolfe."

"Do you know how well Brown Bess goes today?"

"She always does. There's not her equal in Uncle Dan's stables."

We arrived at Bingley's Mills—the largest settlement thereabouts, and the post town—a little after noon. Brown Bess had tossed her nimble heels well. Apprising three hours for the mare to rest, I went to my business, leaving Cordelia to do her at the post house, and to remain at the inn in the middle of the village.

Chatting with this one, and chattering with that, and getting through Uncle Dan's commissions, the short winter day flew away like a minute; and before the clouds had clear skies had appeared with a gray thickness, that suggested the idea of another snow-storm, and ought to have warned me to get done quicker, but it did not. When Brown Bess and the sleigh came around to the inn, it was dark, raining for hours through snow-clouds, had sunk into a bank of leaden blue, and could not be more than an hour high.

"A little risk," said the man, glancing at the cardinal points of the compass and shaking his head slightly.

Cordelia, her glowing cheeks nearly as bright as her scarlet hood, came forward, and the buffaloes around her, I thought, a week ago, should have esteemed the privilege of this close companionship as invaluable. But I did not seem to appreciate it now. She had treated me too cavalierly, and I had grown somewhat resentful.

We dashed off anyway. The air was damp and cutting, and we were in the open prairie! It stung our cheeks like needles. Half an hour after I said to her, "If the snow only stays off, we shall get along nicely." Cordelia glanced up from her scarlet hood! She did not seem to think much about it one way or the other.

"Did you accomplish your postal commission, Miss Cordelia?"

"Oh, yes, thank you."

At the very moment a particle of icy snow fell on my glove. I would not believe but that the mare had flung the particles from her flying heels. In a moment more a handful of fine particles sifted over us both. Cordelia gave me a half-startled glance. I spoke out cheerfully, and tucked the blankets in around my companion. A half-hour longer found the northeast wind steadily and perceptibly rising, while the icy flakes tinkled on the crusty surface around our way. Quite soon there were small whirlwinds driving the dry, powdery stuff around and around, and then spinning it up in a little column. Darkness came down rapidly, but not before the wind had fearfully increased, and the atmosphere was white with tiny flakes that drifted by us in loose bulging folds.

Cordelia did not speak, she only tightened the fur scarf around her neck, and sat perfectly quiet. At that moment I would have given a fortune if the girl had been alone, and I was safe, and I breasting the storm alone. We came to a belt of woodland, just ten miles of our journey through; nearly twenty more before us. Heaven! It seemed like a voyage across the world. And a most awful fear was tugging at my heart.

A white gloom was let down around us. On and on we went. I did not speak to the mare nor whip her; there was no need. She was trotting like a race horse, her tail streaming in over the dashboard of the sled.

Another hour passed. The light snow was mounting above the runners, and driving obliquely across our laps in blinding, smothering thickness. Still we were getting on well, I hoped were nearing home.

"Are you cold?" I asked, drawing Cordelia closer to me.

"I don't think so," she cheerfully replied. But I felt a strong shudder shake her from head to foot.

Presently the sleigh pitched considerably, although I held a tight rein.

"Rope," she began, and I thought I again felt her frame tremble, though the wind was cool and steady, "the wind does not strike us just as it did; neither did we pitch this morning as we are doing now. Have we lost the road?"

"By Heaven, you have spoken my thoughts, Cordelia!" I ejaculated, while a damp, icy coldness broke out from every pore of my skin. She shuddered again, but said nothing.

I knotted the reins and dropped them over the dashboard. This was why the mare had held firmly—she knew better than I. I must trust to her instinct. In twenty minutes she had swung around so as to bring the wind on the old quarter with us. It was blowing heavy. I put my arms around my companion to hold the blankets in place.

To be continued.

NOTICE.

It is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between J. W. Stainburn, William M. Gillette and Chas. A. Gould, under the firm name of Stainburn, Gillette & Gould, will be dissolved on the first day of August, 1872, Gillette having withdrawn by mutual consent.

All outstanding indebtedness due and owing to and by the said firm will be settled by Stainburn & Gould.

J. W. STAINBURN,
W. M. GILLETT,
C. A. GOULD.

The business of the late firm of Stainburn, Gillette & Gould will be continued at the old office building, Main Temple St., under the firm name of Stainburn & Gould.

J. W. STAINBURN,
C. A. GOULD.

Salt Lake City, August 6, 1872.

RAILROADS.



ON AND AFTER

MONDAY JULY 17th

1872.

Trains will leave Salt Lake City daily at 5 a.m. and 2 p.m.; arrive at Ogden 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.; leave Ogden City at 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; arrive at Salt Lake City 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

In addition to the above

MIXED TRAINS

WILL RUN

DAILY, SUNDAYS EXCEPTED

Leaving Salt Lake City at 5:30 p.m. and Ogden at 5 a.m.

Passengers will please purchase their ticket at the office. Fifty cents additional will be charged when the car is occupied on the train.

Depot opposite Seaville Hall.

JOHN MILBURN.

d185 w18 km.

For style, finish, and easy running, they cannot be excelled, and are made expressly for the UTAH TRADE.

We challenge a comparison with any Wagons in the market.

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