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AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, 20.—The report of Lieut. Melville to the secretary of the navy is at hand, dated Yakutsk, Siberia, January 6th. He says: We made a landing at the mouth of the Lena River on September 16th, four days after the dispersion of the *Jeannette's* three boats. Reached a settlement called Buckoff on September 26th. Ice was making in the river on the next day. We made an effort to get up the river with three native pilots, but after grounding very often the pilots insisted upon returning, and our condition did not warrant me in advancing, for the most of us were very much exhausted, suffering from frozen feet and legs, and lack of food, the majority being unable to walk. The natives gave us quarters, and a limited quantity of fish and dried geese. On October 10th, a Russian exile, named Kausmah Guymayeff, discovered us accidentally. He gave us salt and all the food his scanty supply allowed, and agreed to go to Belun to inform the commandant of that place of our presence and obtain food and transportation. He started on October 15th, and was to have returned in five days, but he did not return until October 29th, when he brought a small supply of food, and reported that the commandant would be at Bukoff on November 1st, with deer and sleds to carry the whole party to Belun. On his way back, on October 26th, Kausmah met two of the first cutter's crew at Kamouk Shaka, and they gave him a brief note. I immediately started with dog sleds for Belun, hoping to anticipate the commandant on the way, but he had reindeer and traveled by a different route. John W. Danenhower having recovered the use of his eyes, he was placed in charge of my party, with orders to follow me to Belun as soon as transportation could be obtained. I arrived at Belun on November 2d, and found the two men in a very exhausted condition. From them I learned the particulars of what had transpired subsequent to October 1st, the date of the latest of Lieut. DeLong's records.

The party crossed the Lena to the west bank on October 1st at a summer hunting lodge called Usteria. The toes of seaman Erickson having been amputated, he was placed upon an improvised sled which was hauled by his comrades, several of whom were hardly able to stand owing to frozen feet and legs. They proceeded south slowly for two days and crossed a small branch of the Lena which they had to wade. On the 6th of October they stopped at a small hut where Erickson died the next day and was buried in the Lena. By this time they were in a deplorable condition, having eaten their last dog meat and being on an allowance of three ounces of alcohol per man per day. They proceeded south until October 9th when DeLong decided to send two men ahead to seek relief. The feet of Niderman and Noros were better than those of the others and they were supplied with their blankets and Remington rifles, with forty rounds of ammunition and six ounces alcohol, which was a per capita division of the stock of the latter. They were ordered to proceed south on the west bank of the Lena, and to send relief if found, being told others would follow their footsteps. When the two men started the party was at a halt on the north bank of the Lena, a western branch of the Lena. The two men ascended that branch about five miles to make a crossing, and then traveled southeast to a hut known by the name of Two Crosses, and situated on the Lena bank. After 14 days' intense suffering and slow progress they reached Belcour, and were found by three natives, who supplied them with food and transported them to Belun on deer sleds, arriving at that place on November 27th. The commandant at Belun took good care of them. He gave them writing material, and they wrote a long dispatch addressed to the American minister at St. Petersburg, which the commandant took with him to Berkoff. Danenhower immediately sent it to me by special courier, together with orders from the commandant to his subordinate at Belun to furnish me with an outfit and appointing Bansulk as the rendezvous, at which place I met him and the remainder of my party.

November 5.—Had a consultation with the commandant. Ordered

Danenhower to proceed south with all the party except J. H. Bartlett, first-class fireman, who was to remain at Belun to communicate with me, and I started north on that evening to the relief of DeLong, having with me two natives and two dog trails, with provisions for 10 days.

November 6.—Reached Bulcoura, found two deserted houses and traces of two men, Niderman and Noros. Examined small huts where two men had slept and where a number of sleds were stowed. Slept in a snow bank that night; visited huts at Two Crosses, Shoal and Astolelia, reaching Notvia after midnight. The next morning I found in a hut a waist belt that had been made on board the *Jeannette*, and these were good indications that one or two of DeLong's party had slept in the hut.

On November 10th, provisions running short, I decided to go to upper Belun in order to renew them. Reached upper Belun on the 11th, having stopped at a deserted hunting station, of Calhotta, and also having visited eight huts on the route. Considerable stale fish and deer meat were found at Calhotta, but no signs of the huts having been visited by DeLong's party. On my arrival at Upper Belun the natives brought me DeLong's record, dated October 1st, and I learned that others had been found. I sent to the neighboring villages for them, and next morning the records dated September 22nd and 26th and some Winchester rifles were brought to me. The only provisions to be obtained were deer meat and fish, there being a scarcity of the latter, the natives having to send 250 versts for their own supply.

November 13th.—I obtained four days supply of fish, and with fresh dog teams and native sleds for Balokha hut, in which record number two and Winchester rifle were found. Slept there that night; found both huts filled with snow. On November 14th I followed the east bank of the Lena to the coast; followed the coast about three miles to the east and found the cache that had been made by DeLong, Sept. 19th, 1881. I made a thorough search and gathered up everything. The sleds being too heavily laden to carry it. I searched for the boat both east and west of the cache for a distance of five miles, and saw no sign of it. The ice was very much broken, and was shoved up in masses to within twenty-five feet of the cache. I returned about midnight to the upper Belun. Next day, November 15th, turning stormy, I was obliged to wait there two days to rest and feed the dogs. During this time I overhauled everything obtained in the cache, and following is a correct list, viz: one box containing refuse medical stores; one box small articles, mess gear; one box for navigation books and sextant; one box chronometer; two tin cases containing four log books; two cook stoves; seven old sleeping bags, condemned; one lot old clothing, worn out; one Winchester rifle, one repeating rifle, and other articles. There was no live article found in the cache, but the following record was found in the navigation box: "Arctic exploring steamer *Jeannette*; Lena Delta, Monday, 19th September, 1871. The following names (14) persons, DeLong, *Jeannette*, which was sunk by ice June 12th, 1881, in latitude north 77 degrees 15 minutes, longitude 155 degrees. Landed here on the evening of the 17th inst., and will proceed on foot this afternoon to try to reach a settlement on the Lena River. (Signed) George W. DeLong, Lieutenant Commanding, Lieutenant DeLong, Surgeon Ambler, M. R. Collins, F. E. C. Niderman, A. Goetz, A. H. Sam, Alex. Y., H. A. Erickson, H. H. Koch, C. W. Boyd, W. Lee, N. Juerson, L. P. Noros, A. Dressler.

Whoever finds this paper is requested to forward it to the Secretary of the Navy, with note of time and place at which it was found."

Copies of the above in six languages followed. On Nov. 17th I left the Upper Belun with fish for 10 days food, and with three dog teams driven by three natives. I discovered the place at which the DeLong party crossed the Lena, and traced the party to Sisteraneck, from which place I wished to search for the hut in which Erickson died. There was a storm raging, and the natives insisted on returning either to Belun or the Upper Belun, because there was lack of food, and the dogs refused to work. We had only raw frozen fish to eat, so I determined to return to Belun, and arrived there Nov. 27th in a terrible condition, feet, hands, legs and face badly frost bitten, having been ten

days in continuous storm, remaining two nights and one day, all the while in a snowbank, without shelter of any kind. From my knowledge of the country, and the evidence of Noros and Niderman, I am convinced that DeLong and party are somewhere to the westward of the Lena, and between Sisteraneck and Bulour, which are separated by an extent of about 150 versts of barren and desolate region, devoid of substance. To search that region a large force will be required, with proper authority from the Russian officials. I therefore came to this place to communicate with the United States, and immediately, with the aid of the authorities, to organize searching parties. In the meantime, the commandant of Belun is searching with all the force his station offers. The governor of this province has sent a general order throughout the entire region from Lena to Kolgma to search for and render assistance to both parties that are missing. I am now completing my arrangements, and will start north in a few days.

Yakutsk, Siberia, Jan. 7.—Noros was one of the men selected by Lieutenant DeLong to go ahead for relief. In a letter he says: "We traveled about two weeks short of them. The captain decided to send Niderman and myself ahead to look for assistance. We walked 120 miles without anything to eat. For six days we had not a mouthful of food and were most starved when found by the natives. The captain and 10 men have, I fear, died from starvation and cold.

Governor General Tchrinoff was in charge, rendering every assistance in his power. By next mail I will give you a full statement, explaining the organization and the plans adopted for the search. When Danenhower reach Belun transportation south could be furnished for only six men, so he took four of the weakest of the party and reached this place Dec. 17, the remaining six arrived yesterday.

The general health of the whole party is excellent, but Danenhower's eyes are badly affected. Janroele, seaman, suffered from aberration of mind, and Hubert Leach from frozen toes. Tomorrow Danenhower with nine men will proceed to Yakutsk and thence to the Atlantic seaboard. I will keep Bartlett, fireman, and W. F. Niderman with me. Danenhower will carry to the United States the records and articles found in the cache. In conclusion allow me to call the attention of the department to the upright and manly conduct of Master J. W. Danenhower, who cheerfully rendered the most valuable assistance under the most trying circumstances and whose professional knowledge I availed myself of on all occasions. We were in perfect accord at all times, although an unfortunate circumstance deprived him of his legitimate command. The conduct of first-class fireman Bartlett is worth special notice. His superior intelligence, cheerful disposition and energy is highly commendable. Also seaman Hubert Leach, who was at the helm 11 hours in a gale, during which time his feet and legs were badly frozen, after which he worked manfully at the oars without a murmur, and during the most intense pain.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed) GEORGE MELVILLE,
Past A. S. Engr. U. S. Navy.

The following record was left about one and a half miles north of the south end of Simonatki Island, buried under a stake:

The 33 persons comprising the officers and crew of the *Jeannette* left that island in three boats on the morning of September 12th, one week ago. That same night we were separated in a wind and have seen nothing of them since. Orders had been given in the event of such an accident for each boat to beat its way to a settlement on the Lena River before waiting for anybody. My boat made land the morning of the 16th and I suppose we are at Lena delta. I have had no chance to get sight for position since I left Simonatki Island. After trying for two days to get in shore without grounding, or to reach one of the river mouths, I abandoned my boat and waded one and a half miles, carrying our provisions and outfit with us. We must now try, with God's help, to walk to a settlement which I believe to be 95 miles distant. We are all well, have four days' provisions, arms and ammunition, and are carrying with us only the ship's books and papers, blankets, tents and some medicine.

Therefore, our chance of getting through seems to be good.

(Signed) GEO. W. DeLONG,
Lieut. Commanding,
Surgeon Ambler, J. J. Collins, A. Gutz, C. Niderman, A. Dressler, H. H. Erickson, A. Sam, H. H. Jor, Alex. T., G. H. Boyd, L. P. Noros, W. Lee, L. Jurs n.

It is understood the friends of the Union and Central Pacific Companies are working vigorously against the passage of the Chinese bill in the House. They are interested in hard money and also Chinese labor.

MEMPHIS, 20.—The country south of here is swarming with buffalo gnats, and much stock that was saved from drowning by the overflow are being killed by these insects.

St. Louis, 20.—Captain Lee, of the Government relief steamer *Anita*, has information that there is great distress and suffering throughout the Yazoo Delta. It was originally designed to remove the people from the flooded homes to secure comfortable quarters, but it is learned there are so many of them that it would require a whole fleet of steamers and boats to carry out that plan. People will be left in their houses except in extreme cases, and arrangements will be made to furnish them supplies from depots which will be established at eligible points. Capt. Lee held a consultation with prominent citizens of Greenville, and at last accounts many were making all haste to Yazoo County.

Seven persons were drowned when the *Levee* broke at Prentiss.

New Orleans, 20.—There are now reported 33 breaks in levees between Hushpuckiana and Greenville, and terrible suffering is experienced. A dispatch says: The country from Milliken's Bend is submerged down to Duckport. Houses are floating for miles in the country.

The steamer *Cannon* arrived at Vicksburg yesterday. The captain says he rescued over 200 head of cattle, mules, etc., and a number of families on the ends of levees, and at one place went into the swamp about a mile and a half for 30 people who were literally starving to death. The captain reports a terrible condition of affairs below, and says in many instances there is not only a lack of means but absolute poverty. The pilots of the *Cannon* report five feet of water over Newtown, Miss. Below Newtown the whole country, with the exception of Natchez, is submerged.

Governor McEnry received applications for rations for 70,000 people, Madison parish having added 12,000 to the previous applications. The clerk of the steamer *Natchez* says matters are a good deal worse than on the last trip.

St. Louis, 20.—The clerk of the steamer *City of Providence* says the Paragon Steamboat Company, who run steamers up the Yazoo river and its tributaries, is doing more to assist and rescue people in that district than the government and everybody else combined. It has sent in the submerged district of the Yazoo the *Sunflower*, *Tallapache* and other steamers equipped for special work. They steam out into the flood as far as practicable, then anchor and send detachments in every direction to look for sufferers. They have medicines, etc., in each boat. The crews are started out with instructions to prosecute their search until the twilight and then to return. The steamer *Sunflower* returned the day we left Vicksburg. She had on board 350 sufferers and her deck was crowded with cattle that had been picked up. The people on board were nearly all sick and a majority of them in a destitute condition. Another one of the boats, the *Headlight*, is expected back at any time. This will also be crowded with passengers and cattle. The worst point on the whole river is Milligan's Bend, there is an overflow and a counter overflow in that district. The waters from the Mississippi are going over the levee and the floods and back water from the Yazoo are coming in from behind. As a consequence when the two meet a whirlpool is formed which destroys everything in its course. The locality of the whirlpool is changing constantly, and every day it completes new destruction. A large yawl filled with negroes was caught in it the other day and upset, and all the occupants were drowned. The whirlpool struck a church a few days ago in which several people with their stock had taken refuge. The church was, in a few minutes, torn to pieces, planks broken and carried away. The stock was drowned and the people floated around in the water some hours, but were finally

rescued again after much trouble and danger. The vortex struck the residence and stable of an old paralytic farmer by the name of Jamison and totally demolished them. The old gentleman was drowned.

OMAHA, 20.—The relieving of troops, called here by the strike, commenced this evening, when two companies returned home. Four companies of United States troops remained to Camp Sidney to-morrow morning. Grading is carried on with a full force and no threats or interruption.

The Willow Springs Distillery hands filled the place of such employees as struck with new men.

The Smelting Works refused to take back such of the men as quit voluntarily, and has reinforced the day and night shifts to nearly its full strength with new men.

DENVER, Col., 20.—A *New* Pueblo dispatch says: To-night, a free fight occurred among the crowd assembled at the Opera House to witness a wrestling match between Leadville and Denver men. The latter won. The Leadville men declared the decision of the referee unfair, and pulling pistols threatened his life. Several police mounted the stage, and during the melee that followed, one man was knocked senseless and another badly injured.

SAN FRANCISCO, 21.—A Tucson dispatch says: The body of Frank Stillwell was found beside the railroad track, not far from the depot this morning, riddled with rifle bullets and buckshot. He was seen at the depot last night on the arrival of the west bound train in company with Ike Slanton, one of the cowboy gang with whom Earp brothers had a desperate fight last fall at Tombstone. By the train arrived, heavily armed, a party seized the body of Morgan Earp, recently assassinated at Tombstone, four of the party were seen to follow Stillwell down the track, who's were heard soon after and the quartette did not return this morning. Four armed men flagged and boarded the freight train nine miles east of the town. The deceased was a brother of the famous scout, Texas Jack.

WASHINGTON, 21.—Copy of record No. 3. This record was found by Yunkan, a hunter, and given me at upper Belun: Geo. Melville, P. A. Engineer U. S. Navy, Arctic exploring steamer *Jeannette*, at hut on Lena Delta, believed to be near Fiedelhogje, Tuesday, 22d of September, 1881. The following named persons, 14 of the officers and crew of the *Jeannette*, reached this place yesterday afternoon on foot from the Arctic Ocean. (Signed) Geo. DeLong, Commander of Expedition, Lieutenant U. S. Navy. Whoever finds this paper is requested to forward it to the Secretary of the navy with correct time and place at which it was found. Copies of above in six languages to be copied.

The *Jeannette* was crushed and sunk by ice on the 12th of June, 1881, in latitude 77 deg. 15 min. north and longitude 155 deg., after having drifted twenty-two months in a tremendous pack of ice in this ocean. The entire thirty-three persons composing her officers and crew dragged three boats and provisions over the ice to latitude north 76 deg 38 min., longitude 150 deg. 3 min. east, where they landed upon a new island—Bennett Island—the 28th of July. Thence we proceeded southward in boats, sometimes dragging them over the ice, until the 10th of September, when we reached Simonatki Island, about ninety miles north-east of this delta. We sailed from there in company on the 12th of September, but the same night we were separated in a gale of wind and I have seen nothing of the two boats or their people. They were divided as follows: Second cutter, Lieutenant Chipp, Mr. Dunbar, A. Sweetman, W. I. Harnell, E. Star, H. D. Warren, A. P. Khune, P. Johnson.

Whale boat—P. A. Engineer Melville, Master Danenhower, Mr. Bencombe, J. Cole, S. H. Bartlett, H. Arison, S. Londerbuck, L. Manson, Charles Long, S. Anegurn, H. W. Leach.

My boat, having weathered the gale, made land on the morning of the 16th inst. Tired after trying to get in shore for two days, and being prevented by shoal water, we abandoned the boat and waded to the beach carrying our arms provisions and records, at a point about twelve miles north and east of this place. We had suffered somewhat from cold, wet and exposure, and three of our men were badly lamed, but having only four days' provisions left, reduced rations, we were forced to proceed to the southward.

Monday, Sept. 19.—We left a pile