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## DESERET EVENING NEWS SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1 1908

## HOW STEEPLEJACKS CLIMB

says the New York Times. Once set your man, with a ball of twine tucked

in the pocket of his coat, safely astride the coping of the big brewery chimney which rears it bulk of brickwork per-

N THE climbing and repair of chim-neyå and steeples it is, as in so many of the upward steps of life, undoubtedly the first which counts. man to the giddy summit-that is the question.

which rears it bulk of brickwork per-traps 300 feet above surrounding roofs. T on the ajex of the steeple of a hurch, his arm around the weather Anothe

usual manner and gradually coaxed over the steeple or chimney under treatment; then drawn down until the treatment; then drawn down until the tail string lay across the top. It was then merely a matter of time and pa-tience to pass a rope over and haul up a man. But the method had ob-vious disadvantages. To draw the tail line successfully across a chimneytop, still more across the poined spire of a church, often took more than one or two attempts. Moreover, there must be a fair wind blowing at the time and a large open space available close by in which to raise the kite--this last con-dition one not often found about the chimney stallks or steeples of a town. Another system was that of ladders

system

built upward from the steeple's base, exceedingly cumbrous and, in the opin-ion of many modern steeplejacks, highly dangerous.

highly dangerous. The man who, on this damp autumn-al morning, stands beside us at the foot of a great shaft of brickwork tow-ering skyward from the very center of a famous northern town, will fly no kite, nor does a wagonload of sectional ladders walt his orders in the yard. A small man, sinewy and lean-faced, is he, and all the tackle that he needs to take him safely to the coping 60 yards above our heads has traveled to the seeen of action in his pockets or his hands. On the ground before him are two "bo'sun's chairs" or short planks. or short planks, "bo'sun's chairs"

through holes at either end of which a rope is passed, forming a loop by which the chair may hang. Beside them lie three L-shaped from pege of staples. he three L-shaped from pegs of staples. The longer airn of each peg has a sharply-pointed end and is nearly a foot in length; the short arm is but two or three inches long. The handle of a heavy hammer peeps from the pocket of our companion's coat; and that is all. Taking a staple in his hand, he drives it into the chimney at a point breast

Taking a staple in his name, he universe it into the chimney at a point breast high above the ground. On this he hangs a chair, and mounting, drives a second peg two or three feet above the first; on this the second chair is hung. The upright arm at a right angle to the

peg precludes all danger of the rope slipping off; nor do the chairs hang close against the shaft, for strips of wood projecting from each end insure a space in which the climber's legs are free to move. Now, stepping up into the second chair, the stepplejack drives the jast of his three pegs. Above him is a 'peg; below another, on which hangs a chair. Leaning ande and down, he lifts this chair and hangs it above him on the topmost peg; leans down and with a twist of his forkhead-ed hammer wrenches out the peg. This is less dangerous or difficult than might at, first be supposed, for the pegs are at, first be supposed, for the pegs arc never driven deeply in, having but the steeplejack's light weight to bear, and

that only for a few minutes at a the while, should the hammer or a per-from his hand it is easily recovered means of the ball of the state of the pocket and the watcher below.

Such is the system the acre chanked repetition of the movem-just described—which has carried safely to the top of many a glant s Arrived at the summit of the chin he will find holdfasts built into the sonry-sometimes a massive ba chain is stretched across the shaft which a rope and pulley blocks ca made fast This done, he can desc and reascend at will, scaffolding ca slung and inspection and repairs carried out

