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MATCHES,

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NARRATIVE OF THE WRECK OF THE "STRATHMORE."

BY ONE OF THE SURVIVORS.

[CONTINUED.]

We found our island to be about one mile and a half long by half a mile in breadth; no wood grew on it, indeed a considerable part of it was bare rock; the rest of it was covered with rank grass, and an edible root with a top like a carrot, but not in any other respect resembling that useful esculent. We found this of great service to us, as it was our only vegetable, and grew plentifully; we ate the stalks at first and afterwards the tops only; sometimes boiled sometimes raw. It has been said that he was a brave man who first ate an egg; if that be admitted I think some claim to courage may be made by our quartermaster "Bill," who, notwithstanding some warning jokes, first tested this plant, very much to our future benefit.

We were also fortunate in discovering an excellent spring of water, somewhat impregnated with iron, but imparting a quality which I believe was very favorable to our health. In our frequent and very necessary ablutions we used, in lieu of soap, the yolk of eggs and birds' livers; some made use of their blood for the same purpose, which I did not much incline to. When we landed on the island there were about two hundred albatross, young and old, and notwithstanding the warning of the ancient mariner, we killed many of these fine and, to us, useful birds. We agreed, however, not to meddle with the eggs, that we might in due time have the benefit of the young birds. There were several hundred "graybacks" (knot)) a very few small white pigeons, sea and land ducks, and lots of "whalers" (ivory gull) and divers—birds about twice the size of a sparrow. These make their nests in the ground, about a foot or two deep. Mutton-birds were found for many months; they also make nests underground, but are rather more particular in selecting dry spots. They are about the size of a small hen, black-feathered, and coated with fat, which, even now, we considered a luxury. The molly-hawks (fulmer petrel) came in about the middle of August: there were several hundreds of them. As soon as one lot was killed, others came in; in all, there must have been five thousand, if not more. The first penguin was killed by the cook, I think on the 29th of September; only a few were seen within the next three days, but every day after that they came in hundreds. There must have been from time to time fully a million of these birds. We killed upwards of fifty thousand without making any apparent impression on their numbers. The albatross, which had left, returned to the island before we were taken off. This fine bird, that "holds its holiday in the stormy gale," I had heard say was fourteen feet in the expanse of its wings; but we had specimens on our rock that were seventeen feet from the extreme points of their extended pinions. Captain Carmichael (Linn. Trans. Vol. XII.) says that the great albatross raises no nest, but merely selects some cavity for the reception of a single white egg; whereas those on our island raised a very fine high nest. It nourishes its young by disgorging the oily contents of its stomach. The cock-bird comes to land first, as it were to select the spot for the hen-bird to deposit the egg; which, when laid by the hen, he sits on for days, while the lady bird goes to sea.

The penguin, which feeds its young in the same way as the albatross, is a curious bird, having, in place of wings, two membranes which hang down at each side like little arms. It cannot fly. Its mode of walking is very singular, something between a waddle and a hop. As our rock was precipitous on all sides, the penguins came in where the rock was lowest, riding on the crest of the beating wave, often failing in their first attempts to land. When they touch the ground, they march landward in Indian file, keeping good order; but are received as intruders by those already on shore. In fact their reception is most inhospitable; they are pecked at, and made to understand that they are not wanted; however, there is no blood shed, and they soon unite with the original settlers, in turn joining them in the assault on the next comers, or invaders, as they seem to think. They sit for about two months, apparently without eating, and then return to the sea greatly emaciated. The penguin makes no preparation for the egg, dropping it anywhere. Their patient endurance is remarkable. They often sit on the egg until their tails, covered with icicles, are frozen to the ground. This strange bird appears quite in keeping with the remote and lonely islands in which it congregates and has congregated for untold generations. The molly-hawks, too, fine large birds, rendered us good service as food.

The killing of the birds was at first very repugnant to us. The albatross was easily dispatched; but the penguin was more tenacious of life, and though a harmless bird if left unmolested, at times showed fight. The tedium of our life was mitigated by the necessity we were under in hunting these birds for our daily food; and the eggs which lay in hundreds around us were a very acceptable and nutritious article of diet, and contributed greatly to keeping up our strength.

We had recourse to many odd devices for table-articles, such as gin and other bottles for drinking-cups, as long as they remained unbroken; then bladders and penguin-skins made into bags, into which we dipped a long, hollow bone and imbibed the water, sherry-cobbler fashion. When we melted the fat of the birds it was poured into one of my sea-boots to cool, after which we put it into the skin bags to keep. My other boot was used to hold salt water. Bentley's boots were taken to the springs for fresh water, and were the best pitchers we had. When we had to resort to the feathers for fuel, the food took a long time to prepare and one meal was scarcely finished ere cooking was begun for the next. Each man was cook for a week at a time. In our shanty we cut off the foot of a sea-boot and used it as a drinking-cup. Bentley was very handy; he made needles out of wire, part of the rigging. As for thread, we drew it from a strong counterpane, and when that failed, we used dried grass. A knife was made from hoop-iron from a gin case, one side of the handle from the top of a powder keg, the other side from the blade of an oar, rivetted with wire from the rigging, the washers being made from a brass plate from the heel of my boot; also hands for a watch were fashioned from a plate likewise taken from my boot, all the work of Bentley. Our present abode was as truly the Rock of Storms and as deserving of that title as ever the Cape was. The island was ever more or less tempest beaten. Our hardships from cold, rain, and snow were very severe; in fact, we were never warm, and hardly ever dry.

[To be Continued.]

DR. A. W. CALDER,

DENTIST.

Fellow of the American Academy of Dental Surgery.

Office, Main Street, opposite Wasatch

THE DESERET NEWS WEEKLY

For Wednesday, Dec. 13, 1876.

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TO follow principle leads you in the right direction, and vice versa. Pay your dollar to your own household; perchance you will see it again. As well go live in Babylon as support her here.

ORLANDO F. MEAD,

Sole of Dr. Plant's, Market Row.

d18

Ho! For The New Meat Market.

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NOTICE!

Territory of Utah, }
County of Salt Lake. }

Probate Court in and for said County.

In the matter of the estate of ENOCH REESE, deceased.

The undersigned having been appointed Administrator of the estate of Enoch Reese, deceased, late of Salt Lake City, in said county, by the Probate Court in and for Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah, hereby gives notice to the creditors of the deceased, that by law they are required to exhibit their claims against said estate, with the necessary vouchers, to me at my office at residence, East Temple Street, between North Temple and First North Streets, within ten months from date. And all persons indebted to said estate are requested to come forward and liquidate the same without delay.

N. H. FELT,

Administrator of the estate of Enoch Reese, deceased.

December 1st, 1876. d9&s89 4t

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—IN—

FALL AND WINTER GOODS!

—AT—

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55

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—:o:—

IN PREFERENCE TO WAITING until after the Holidays before advertising our

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We have determined, on account of an Over-stock in many of our Departments, to mark down our prices

At Once.

Elegant Black Gros Grain Silks from $2.25 to $2.75 per yard.

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It is not necessary for us to say that the C. & N. W. R'y is a first-class road in every particular, that it rides as easy as sitting in a "rocking chair," that its coaches are parlors, that its employes are the most polite and affable gentlemen the traveling public can meet or will meet in a lifetime of travel—the *esprit de corps* of the employes, if we may so say, is at a high standard; we say we need not say this in a newspaper, it is self-evident to every traveler on the road. *But in the future these are to be increased; we suppose the speed will be increased; if possible, the superb trains will be more superb: there is to be no train more complete, either for comfort or safety, leave the world's commercial metropolis for the* GOLDEN GATE, THAN THE GREAT TRAINS ON THE CHICAGO & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY—THE ONLY COMPANY RUNNING OUT OF CHICAGO THAT HAS A ROAD SO RELIABLE THAT THEY ARE NOT AFRAID TO RUN AT ANY SPEED CAPABLE OF BRING ATTAINED BY ENGINES OF THE MOST IMPROVED CONSTRUCTION, RUN WITH THE HAND OF IRON NERVE, AND A HEAD OF BRAINS, WITHOUT ANY FEAR OF ACCIDENT OR INCONVENIENCE.

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Bountiful,	Anson Call.

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Deep Creek,	Edwin Tadlock.
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Charleston,	John Watkins.
Wallsburgh,	Wm. B. Nuttall.

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3d "		James Leech.
3d "		Jacob Weller.
4th "		Harrison Sperry.
5th & 6th,		W. H. Hickenlooper.
7th "		Wm. Thorn.
8th "		R. F. Sheets.
9th "		S. A. Woolley.
10th "		A. Speirs.
11th "		Alex. McRae.
12th "		L. W. Hardy.
13th "		R. D. Woolley.
14th "		Thomas Taylor.
15th "		R. T. Burton.
16th "		Frederick Keele's.
17th "		John Henry Smith.
18th "		L. D. Young.
19th "		A. H. Raleigh.
20th "		John Sharp.
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Brighton,		A. H. Raleigh.
Big Cottonwood,		Wm G Young.
Mill Creek,		Reuben Miller.
South Cottonwood,		J. S. Rawlins.
West Jordan,		Archibald Gardner.
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Lehi,	David Evans.
Cedar Fort,	H. F. Cook.
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Moroni,	G. W. Bradley.
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Mount Pleasant,	W. S. Seeley