FADS AND FANCIES of FASHION

February 1.

WE are enjoying some deliciously fresh and frosty weather today here in dear old Gotham, with the result that we are stirred to a little activity and the thought of skating costumes and outdoor sports of the kind becomes a fascinating one. To be sure, there is no ice in the open as yet, but we always have the rinks, and fashionable folk of leisure fly away to the ponds of the country whenever Jack Frost opens the way.

Costumes that are designed for the ice always are interesting. As in the case of other sports, there are two kinds—those designed for the woman who enjoys the skating and those for the woman who finds the sport an occasion for pose. The latter wear velvet fur-trimmed and all sorts of handsome materials, but the former find the sweater and simple skirt make the most satisfactory combination to be found. Europe, with its high mountain resorts, makes a real feature of ice sports, and, on top of the Alps, it is claimed that only one daytime costume exists—the sweater, short skirt and close-fitting cap with a soft, worsted muffler of bright color that can be used either about the throat or as a sash.

Sweaters for Skaters.

To a greater or less extent that idea has permeated the skating world at large and the sweater is the garment of general favor. It is worn over a narrow, simple skirt of cloth or serge, or any similar material in any preferred color. Leggins or gaiters are worn, and really fascinating, close-fitting little caps and hats. The sweaters of the season are single-breasted and button right down the front and frequently they are bordered with color. Bits of real brightness are introduced. Quiet tones, such as dark blue, browns and the like, are apt to be chosen for the cloth skirts, even when the sweater may be of white or of a bright color. Cerise, gold, Chinese blue and brilliant emerald green are seen in the coats and the effect over the white, blue, black or brown skirt is an exceedingly attractive one. Hip length for the sweaters is the preferred one for the real lovers of the sport, for it does not, in any way, interfere with free movement. This mild winter has induced indoor skating to an unusual extent, and at an exclusive nearby rink there was seen a costume consisting of a skirt of dark-blue velours de laine made with a short flaring little tunic at the sides, which disappeared under the panel back, while over it a handsome knitted sweater of a very rich and beautiful red was worn, with the sleeves of only elbow length met by heavy white chamois gloves. The cap and the scarf were of knitted silk and altogether the costume was chic in the extreme.

Amateur skaters and the lookers-on wear a great many Norfolk and Russian costumes, and many of these are exceedingly handsome and exceedingly smart. Velvet, velveteen, velours de laine and ratine are the chosen materials and almost uniformly they are fur trimmed. A somewhat distinctive example met during the week is made of ratine in the real khaki color. There is a plain little skirt with the finished edges overlapped at the front and trimmed with buttons and simulated buttonholes, and there is a jaunty little coat in Napoleon style that extends just the tiniest bit below the waist line at the front, but is made with long tails at the back. This coat is finished with collar and cuffs of Siberian cat. The style is a good one and just such costumes can be met wherever fashionable folk are skating andenjoying the ice.

Kimono Sleeves in Vogue.

February is already upon us and there are only a few days remaining before Lent. As usual, these are to be crowded with entertainments of various kinds and not a few weddings will take place. The newest gowns of the handsomest sort that are to be seen give evidence of certain interesting facts. Unquestionably we will wear a great many kimono sleeves during the afternoon and evening hours, at least, and there will be many women glad to welcome the news. They are always graceful, always pretty and they seem peculiarly well adapted to soft stuffs. The later ones, however, are frequently long and close-fitting, and, to give freedom, the outer edges are gathered at the elbows, while uniformly they bag somewhat under the arms. For dinner and all occasions of half-dress these long sleeves with half low necks are becoming more popular and the combination, while unusual, is most attractive. When the sleeves are not in kimono style they, for the most part, show the drooping shoulder line with the sleeves attached and this latter style allows the effective use of contrasting material. A very lovely gown of satin crepe shows sleeves of chiffon in matching color that are joined to it. Another is made with a sleeveless bodice to be worn over a guimpe, and this guimpe is entirely of brocaded, while the gown itself is of plain silk. There are a great many bright colored effects to be noted in many of the newest costumes, but many of the most charming are quiet in tone with bits of brightness to give relief and the Bulgarian influence is manifest. Vivid colors are used as trimming. The oriental rich reds and blues appear and frequently the combination of distinctly Bulgarian colors is seen. A very charming dinner gown, for example, is of gray charmeuse satin and the only bit of color is found in the girdle of rich green embroidered in Bulgarian style, while the neck is finished with a lace chemisette and frill. A very beautiful white serge gown that makes part of a trousseau is finished with a sash of American Beauty red satin, and this sash is knotted at the left side to fall below the edges of the skirt over a panel near the lower edge of which it is caught and weighted. A most attractive gown of royal blue crepe is finished with real Bulgarian embroidery on the girdle, tiny callor and cuffs, and Bulgarian effects will be extensively used in such ways throughout the spring. Every one of the gowns mentioned is made with long kimono sleeves.

A Season of Bulgarian Colors.

Eastern coloring appears in many of the borders, too, so that, while we will not be blatantly Bulgarian with the coming season, we unquestionably will pay our tribute to the late disturbance. One of the most striking blouse costumes planned for a Suthern outfit is made of the mohair that will be so much used for utility purposes. The color is a lovely shade of ecru. The gown consists of a plaited skirt showing a tightly drawn short tunic and a fancy blouse short at the sides and longer at the front and back, but the all-important feature is found in the sleeves, which are sewed to the lining only, the armholes of the blouse being finished, and these sleeves are made of the mohair for the upper portions, but of printed satin showing an East Indian design on white for the lower portions. A most striking evening gown seen at a recent important gathering is made of brown silk voile with what is known as a mosaic border in really bright colors, the printing approximating the effect of the mosaic or richly stained glass, and the contrast between this vivid border and the quiet tone of the voile it delightful. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that the border is very cleverly handled, the skirt being dragged up in front to draw the border round in curved lines. There is a plain little bodice with the long tunic or peplum which seems so general this season and a fascinating little coat of Bohemian lace in matching brown.

Women who are planning spring costumes may bear in mind that costumes of dark colors will be smart brightened by bits of vivid color or of Bulgarian embroidery, that everything that is oriental or semi-oriental will appear in trimmings and that there will be a great deal of embroidery of the heavy, coarse sort that is quickly done, both upon gowns and upon suits. A pretty feature is the introduction of tiny little celluloid rings with the heavy embroidery, and these rings frequently make the outline of the pattern. A handsome gown of palest pink chiffon cloth is embroidered with heavy silk floss and the pattern is all outlined with white rings of this sort scarcely more than an eighth of an inch in diameter. There are two rows, one opaque white and one in a pale yellowish tone, and, combined with the pink, they are exquisite.

MAY MANTON.

DAILY FASHION HINTS BY MAY MANTON

[Design by May Manton.]

7693 Draped Coat, Small 34 or 36, Medium 38 or 40, Large 42 or 44 bust.

A BEAUTIFUL EVENING COAT.

Draped coats are exceedingly fashionable this season and the one illustrated is unusually beautiful. The coat is cut in front and back portions and the big, loose sleeves are joined to it at the long shoulder line that is so fashionable now. The collar is a most attractive feature. The back portion is plain but the fronts are draped in the most graceful manner. The front portions of the coat are draped, too, and the lovely folds are exceedingly becoming. There is a shaped trimming band that finishes the lower edge of the coat. In this case, brocaded velvet is trimmed with fur and the effect is marvelously beautiful. In the small view, ivory-colored broadcloth is trimmed with fur and the coat is charming. If a lighter weight coat is wanted, brocaded silk with trimming of plain or plain silk with trimming of brocaded would be very attractive. Fashionable fabrics are all soft and pliable and almost any of them would be appropriate for this coat.

For the medium size, the coat will require 6¾ yards of material 27, 5¼ yards 36 or 3½ yards 44 inches wide, with 1 yard 54 inches wide, or fur skins according to size, for the bands.

The May Manton pattern of the coat 7693 is cut in three sizes, small 34 or 36, medium 38 or 40, large 42 or 44 inches bust measure. It will be mailed to any address by the Pattern Department of this paper, on receipt of ten cents.

PATTERN No. 7693.

UPON RECEIPT OF 10c. THE PATTERN DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN will send the above-mentioned pattern, as per directions given below, to

Name .....

No..... Street.....

Town..... State.....

Measurement—Waist..... Bust.....

Age (if child's or miss' pattern).....

CAUTION.—Be careful to give correct number and size of pattern wanted. When the pattern is bust measure you need only mark 32, 34 or whatever it may be. When in waist measure, 22, 24, 26 or whatever it may be. When miss' or child's pattern write only the figure representing the age. It is not necessary to write "inches" or "years."

All orders for patterns, accompanied with 10c. for each, must be addressed to Pattern Department, Baltimore American, Baltimore, Md.

EACH MAN OWNS A STREET CAR

Public Conveyances Are Not Depended Upon in Mombasa.

[Stewart Edward White, in Harper's Magazine.]

There are no horses or draft animals in Mombasa; the fly is too deadly. Therefore all hauling is done by hand. The tiny tracks of the unique street car system run everywhere anyone would wish to go, branching off even into private grounds and to the very front doors of bungalows far out of town. Each resident owns his own street car, just as elsewhere a man has his own carriage. There are, of course, public cars also, each with its pair of boys to push it, and also a number of rather decrepit rickshaws. As a natural corollary to the passenger traffic, the freighting also is handled by the blacks on large, flat trucks with short guiding poles. These men are quite naked save for a small loin cloth; are beautifully shaped, and glisten all over from the perspiration shining in the sun. So fine is the texture of their skins, the softness of their color, so rippling the play of muscles, that this shining perspiration is like a beautiful polish. They push them behind, slowly and steadily and patiently and unwaveringly, the most tremendous loads of the heaviest stuffs. When the hill becomes too steep for them they turn their backs against the truck, and by placing one foot behind the other, a few inches at a time, they edge their burden up the slope.

NEW YORK FUR CO.

F. MITCHELL

ESTABLISHED 1902.

224 W. LEXINGTON STREET

FUR SETS & FUR COATS That Certainly ARE Bargains!

The long continued mild weather has brought about a serious state of affairs in the FUR BUSINESS of the country; people haven't needed FURS up to now and consequently haven't bought in as great quantities as in previous seasons. This leaves us heavily overstocked and necessitates that we resort to the most drastic measures to quickly REDUCE OUR IMMENSE STOCKS OF FURS—hence these otherwise RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES! Everything Guaranteed.

BLACK FOX (like cut) $9.00 Each.

Never Again

Will you have such an opportunity to buy New Furs at such ridiculously low prices.

Genuine Black Fox (like cut), large Pillow Muff or Animal Scarf with head and tail, worth $18.00, each..... $9.00

Genuine Black Fox, large half barrel Muff or Double snake scarf; worth $30.00 each..... $15.00

Near Seal Coat, extra fine, 52 inches; latest Model, with long roll collar; worth $125.00..... $55.00

Genuine Red Fox, Large Pillow Muff with head and tail or animal Scarf; worth $20.00; now, each..... $9.95

Silvered Fox Set, with large double skin Muff and animal Scarf; both trimmed with heads and tails; worth $100.00. Set..... $48.00

French Coney Sets in Black and Brown; worth $8.00; now, Set..... $2.95

French Coney Coat, 52 inches, in black or brown; Satin lined throughout; worth $55.00. Now..... $24.95

Black Pony Coat, 52 inches; latest Model, brocaded Silk lined; worth $65.00..... $32.00

Near Seal Coat; 52 inches, brocaded Silk lined; worth $80.00..... $39.00

Natural Pony Coat; 52 inches, brocaded Silk lined; worth $100.00..... $45.00

Jap Mink, exactly like this cut, large Pillow Muff or Fancy Scarf, worth $20.00, each $9.95

MUFF $9.95

SCARF $9.95

AMONG THIS LOT ARE SOME VERY FINE EASTERN MINK

$ 35.00 SCARFS OR MUFFS, $18.00
$ 50.00 SCARFS OR MUFFS, $25.00
$ 75.00 SCARFS OR MUFFS, $39.00
$ 98.00 SCARFS OR MUFFS, $49.00
$110.00 SCARFS OR MUFFS, $59.00

NEW YORK FUR CO.---224 WEST LEXINGTON STREET

CARLE'S CAREER

MOST American theatergoers know Richard Carle as the star comedian of The Tenderfoot, The Storks, The Maid and the Mummy, Jumping Jupiter and other plays of the same sort written by himself. Very many of them regard him as a personal friend and never think of calling him anything but Dick, so intimate and direct are his stage methods. But few are familiar with the story of the times when he was only a theatrical promise, or, as some people have said, a threat.

Mr. Carle was born in Somerville, Mass., in 1871. After being graduated with difficulty from the local high school he set up in life as a lyceum entertainer with Boston as his headquarters. It was then that he acquired that ministerial appearance, which has ever since been one of his marked characteristics. The lyceum business proved such slow work for him that after a couple of seasons he decided that there were greater rewards for him on the stage than on a rostrum. And so, after several attempts he got his first theatrical engagement with James T. Powers in A Mad Bargain. That was in the season of 1892-93. The next year he was with Pete Daly in A Country Sport, playing the role of the confidence man who was a foil for the star.

During the summer of 1894, Mr. Carle created the part of It in Davy Jones, a comic opera produced at the Boston Museum; and it was in this character that he made his first pronounced impression upon the theater-going public as a portrayer of a type of comic role with which his name is now associated.

During the next regular season he played a light comedy role in The Star Gazer, and the next year E. E. Rice engaged him to play the Bunco man in 1492, and a little later put him into Excelsior Jr. Canary & Lederer, then managers of the New York Casino, cast him for Lord Lavender in The Lady Slavey and his success in that role established his reputation as a leading comedian.

After this he made one hit after another in One Round of Pleasure, Yankee Doodle Dandy, In Gotham, A Dangerous Maid and Prince Pro-Tem. And then Mr. Carle took his one flight into the field of legitimate drama. George Tyler persuaded him to play Shossi Shmendrik, the sentimental carpenter in The Children of the Ghetto. He made a hit in the role but the play came to an untimely end and Mr. Carle returned to the lyric stage, finding an engagement almost immediately in The Greek Slave.

All this time Mr. Carle had been busy with his pen and had turned out numerous songs, burlesques and playlets. One of his more pretentious efforts, a burlesque entitled The Maid and the Moon, was produced on the New York Casino roof in the summer of 1899 and it was not long after that he went to Chicago and established himself as a manager at the Garrick Theater, then known as the Dearborn. There he managed the house and the company, wrote his own pieces and played the star doles in them. The Storks, the Tenderfoot, The Maid and the Mummy and The Forbidden Land are still well remembered.

Mr. Carle has a distinct and individual talent for neatly rhymed song and comic quip. Some of the best lines he has in The Girl from Montmartre are of his own spontaneous creation during rehearsals.

Develop Your Bust In 15 Days

New Way Instantly Successful HOME TREATMENT

The Charm of a Full, Firm Bust Is Worth More to a Woman Than Beauty

I don't care how thin you are, how old you are, how fallen and flaccid are the lines of your figure or how flat your chest is I can give you a full, firm, youthful bust quickly, that will be the envy of your fellow women and will give you the allurements of a perfect womanhood that will be irresistible.

They say there is nothing new under the sun, but I have perfected a treatment that I want to share with my sisters. What it did for me it can and will do for you, and I now offer it to you.

Others offer to build up your figure with drugs, greasy skin foods, creams, dieting, massage and expensive instruments and devices. I have done away with all these injurious methods and have given a legion of women a luxuriant natural development by a treatment never before offered the public. No massaging, nothing to take, nothing to wear.

Why be skinny, scrawny, flat and unattractive? I claim to be the highest priced artist's model in the United States, and what I did for myself I can do for you.

I don't care what your age may be. I ask only that you be at least sixteen and not an invalid, and I will undertake to develop your bust in two weeks. All I ask is five or ten minutes of your time every day.

Write to Me Today for My Treatment

It will only cost you a penny for a post card and I will mail you this wonderful information in a plain cover so that no one will know your secret.

Don't let a false pride and a silly sense of shame keep you from enjoying to the full the charms you should have to be a perfect specimen of womanhood. Let me help you. Your communication shall be held in absolute confidence and secrecy. Write me today.

ELOISE RAE

1325 Michigan Avenue, Suite 2700, Chicago, Ill.

WORKED TO DEATH

WUCHANG (China), on the mighty Yangtze River, opposite Hankow, is the capital of the two provinces Hupeh and Hunan. Here, every third year, the examination for competitors from both provinces is held, and then it is that the streets are thronged with long-robed, large-spectacled gentlemen of all ages. Not long ago Wuchang had from 12,000 to 15,000 bachelors of arts within its walls, who came from the far borders of the province for examination for the provincial degree. About one-half per cent. only were successful. Thousands of them knew they had not the shadow of a chance, but literary etiquette compelled them to appear, says London Tit-Bits.

In the wake of these Confusian scholars there always follow a troop of traders, painters, scroll-sellers, teapot-venders, candle merchants, spectacle-makers and others, added to which there are the students' servants and friends, so that the triennial examinations makes a difference of 40,000 to 50,000 in the residential population. As soon as the lists have been prepared the city takes a holiday to witness the ceremony of "entering the curtain"—that is, opening the examination hall. Generally, for days previous, coolies have been pumping water into great tanks, droves of pigs have been driven into the inclosures, and doctors, tailors, cooks, printers, etc., have been massed within the hall for possible needs.

The whole company is first entertained to breakfast at the yamen, and then the procession forms. The hall is a miniature city, and what is practically martial law is proclaimed. In the central tower is a sword, and misdemeanor within the limits is punished with instant death. Altogether, there must be over 20,000 people shut in. Cases have been known in which a hopeful candidate was crushed to death in the crowd at the gate. Each candidate is first identified, and he is then assigned a certain number, which corresponds to a cell a few feet square, containing one board for a seat and one for a desk. Meanwhile the printers in the buildings are hard at work printing the essay texts.

Each row of cells has two servants, for cooking and attendance, assigned to it. The candidates take their seats, the doors are locked from the outside, the themes are handed out, and the contest has begun. The examination is divided into three bouts of about 36 hours—two nights and a day—each with intervals of a day. The strain, as may be imagined, is very great, and it is by no means an uncommon occurrence for a student to die in the hall.

At the end of the third trial the first batch of those who have completed their essays are honored with the firing of guns, the bows of the officials and the strains of a band of music. Three weeks of anxious waiting will ensue, and then a huge crowd will assemble to see the list published. Such is the mode of procedure in the Hanlin College of the Celestial Empire.

What They Want.

Those Western Senators want a Secretary of the Interior appointed from as near the Western exterior as possible.—Florida Times-Union.

Not Worrying About Others.

One judges from W. E. Corey's testimony about steel trust profits that he has already got his.—Washington Post.

MONEY TALKS

IN the comedy of Ready Money, James Montgomery, its author, has put into the mouth of Stephen Baird, the hero of this romance about money, many bright and witty reflections on the topic which is of such daily interest to all men and women. These epigrams flash with bitter irony, because Stephen Baird, who has been unfortunate in a mining deal, finds himself dead broke on New Year's Eve. At this time, when he is expected to spend money with his sweetheart and her friends, he realizes the sublime meaning of the word money.

Here are some of the things he has to say:

* * *

I'm leading the hand-to-mouth existence and my arm is getting longer every day. I've heard a lot about poverty being a great thing; it is; it's a great inconvenience; but I'll tell you one thing—if if I ever get any money, if I ever get my foot in the door, I'm going to be the meanest guy in the world.

* * *

I have 25 cents—every cent I've got in the world. A man asked me what I would do if I had Rockefeller's income. I do not know, but I have often thought what he would do if he had mine. All I have left is manner.

* * *

Hush money talks, but fortunately it cannot remember.

* * *

I often wonder what a bank cashier thinks when he counts his salary.

* * *

Health, friends, love and money—all for me and one for all.

* * *

Money made the world rounder.

* * *

Money brings trouble—come on trouble.

* * *

Men are like flies—they go where the sugar is.

* * *

Emotions are terribly expensive.

* * *

People will take your advice, if it is risky enough.

* * *

Wall Street trembles when outsiders go out there. It trembles with anticipation.

* * *

If you sit down and wait for the call of opportunity, you are liable to get an awful earache.

* * *

Knock and open the door of opportunity at the same time.

* * *

Many a man is like a little boy riding backwards in a street car. He doesn't see anything until he has passed it.

The Zone-American.

[From the Christian Herald.]

One of the effects of the life of the American people on the isthmus has been the development of a new type—the "Zone-American." First, this type will be identified by its sterling moral character; then by its independence, greater even than the independence of the average American. The melting together of different standards of life has taught many of the Zone-American families that the fine art of living is to be found in the home and in the family circle, rather than in the false life that seems so attractive in the great American cities "back home."

GREY HAIR Restored to Youthful Color

Why have grey or faded hair that makes you look old—Why lose your good looks that youthful, natural colored hair always helps you to keep? —There is absolutely no need for it. A few applications of

Hay's Hair Health

will restore your grey hairs to their natural color and beauty, almost immediately—your money back if it doesn't. Get a bottle to-day—prove it to your own satisfaction. Always ask for HAY'S HAIR HEALTH. Don't take chances with other preparations

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Store Closes 6 P. M. Saturdays, 10 P. M.

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All Prices in Plain Figures.

Out-of-Town Orders Shipped Free

Baltimore's Best Homefurnishing Store.

Reductions Continued During February

Our January reductions brought us so many new customers—to say nothing of the old ones who took advantage of this annual opportunity to make purchases—that we will continue the reduced prices during the present short month.

A great many new things bought for the coming season have arrived and are offered likewise at lowest prices.

CASH OR CHARGE—AS USUAL.

Many More Odd & Sample "Green Tag" Pieces at ½ the Regular Prices

Mahogany Suit Reduced to $60

$21 $19 $20

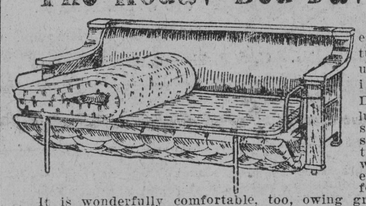
These big heavy Mahogany pieces are of Colonial design, having large beveled French Plate Mirrors. In design and appearance they are almost exact duplicates of pieces that were sold for twice what we ask for these.

Dining Room Suit Reduced to $55

$21.50 $17.00 $16.50

Here is an offer a little out of the ordinary. This Suit may be had in Quartered Golden Oak or Early English finish. All are splendidly made and Buffet has beveled French Plate Mirror. Sold separately at prices shown.

The Kodav Bed-Davenport



Here is the greatest piece of furniture for all-around usefulness you can imagine. As a Davenport it is big, luxurious and handsome, yet by a slight motion it is turned into a bed with covers and everything in place for a night's rest.

It is wonderfully comfortable, too, owing greatly to the Way Sagless spring with which it is equipped. This spring is guaranteed 25 years.

Priced From $33.75 to $85

WAY SAGLESS SPRINGS TO FIT ANY BED

A Carload of Kitcheneed Cabinets

We have another carload of these Cabinets in stock and are prepared to show you the best values equal money can purchase anywhere. All have the great advantages afforded by the dovetailed construction and vermin-proof casters.

Model Shown $25

It is complete in every particular; has large, full extension metal table top, metal tilting flour bin, non-rustable metal bread box, with sliding top; large china closet, pan compartment, etc.; has glass sugar bin and numerous glass tea, coffee, cereal and spice jars.

Others $18 and Up

Blankets and Rugs Greatly Reduced

We have a big supply of each, which we have greatly reduced to avoid carrying over to another season.

Brass Bed, Spring & Mattress Reduced to $19.75

This bed has the 5-year guaranteed Damard lacquer, 2-inch posts and 12 fillers. The price also includes a splendid spring—guaranteed 10 years and good fibre mattress with felt top. A splendid value at the reduced price of $19.75.

Tortured by Thirst in Sahara

GENERAL LAPERRINE gives some interesting experiences of the suffering by thrist to which French officers and troops in Africa are often exposed. Deaths from this cause are common and it has been observed that the faces of the victims instead of bearing traces of the tortures felt in the first stages invariably wear an expression of calm, as if asleep.

Generally they are under the shade of some tree and sometimes within a few yards of water and it would seem as if the dead man, believing himself saved, had wished to rest a while before drinking and had fallen into slumber never to wake.

One instance is given of a meharist, or camel postman, carrying letters to the station of Hassi Tufel in 1898. He lost his way and perhaps his head and having pushed his beast too hard, the camel died and he had to continue on foot. Arriving at a sand dune not more than half a mile distant from Tufel, from which the station could be clearly seen, the man began firing his rifle as a call for help. There was unfortunately a violent wind blowing and nothing was heard, and the next day his body was found surrounded by 120 empty cartridge cases. Probably if he had used his strength and energy required to work his rifle in struggling on he could have reached safety.

The most terrible adventure of the author, says the Paris correspondent of the London Standard in giving an abstract of General Laperrine's article, was when he was coming back from Taodeni with a troop of thirsty men in 1906. The Taodeni water is very salt, as is also that of El Biar, where they replenished. The men drank more than they ought to have done, but said nothing and fought heroically against their thirst, hoping to be able to hold out to the next well, and so conceal the fault of which they were ashamed. On the way the troop came upon some moist soil, and digging, found water, but abominably charged with saltpetre, which gave them colic.

Many fainted and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon seven were helpless in the General's tent. The nearest well was 36 miles away. They waited for nightfall, the baggage was left behind, a little water was given to each and a race was made for the well. This night march was like a nightmare. Many of the men were delirious and threw away all their clothes to ride the camels. Now and again one would fall off and beg to be left to die and he had to be put up again and tied on.

Those who kept their senses did all they could to encourage each other and help the worst cases, but the most admirable were the two French noncommissioned officers, who did the whole distance on foot as rear guard, picking up stragglers and attending to the worst. These two were already very tired the night before they started, but kept themselves going by injections of cafeine into their calves.

Another disagreeable experience was when General Laperrine was traveling with a doctor, a French corporal and two native camel corps men from Wargla to El Golea. At Wargla they had hired a few camels to carry their belongings and as the country was safe went on ahead every day, leaving the others to catch up during the afternoon siesta. One day their convoy, which should have been with them soon after noon, had not arrived at 6 in the evening.

For the five in front they only had a quart of water, a little butter, some roasted coffee and sugar and they were 84 miles from their destination and 66 from the nearest well. They decided to sleep for a couple of hours and started at daybreak. At 7 o'clock a halt was called and a meal made off four potatoes fried in butter.

At 1 o'clock the water was used to boil the coffee, a quart among five, and at 8 in the evening they reached the water. But the well was nearly 100 feet deep and had it not been for a native caravan coming up the plight of the party would not have been enviable. It seems that the drivers of the baggage camels had fallen asleep and lost their way, only coming in three days later by another route.

In 1906 the General reached at noon Bir el Hagag. The animals had not drunk for four days and the men since the evening of the preceding day and all the water left for seven Europeans and 80 natives was about 60 quarts. The well was filled up, so a quart was given to each European and to the men on guard around the well and working parties of eight began to unblock the well. As soon as a party had taken out 100 pails of earth a pan of coffee was distributed and the working party was relieved.

This work went on without stopping from noon till 10 next morning, when enough water was reached to give two quarts a man. It was only at 4 in the afternoon that the camels could be watered. Any small party of eight or 10 would infallibly have perished before clearing out the well.

As a setoff to these somewhat distressful stories there is an amusing tale of an old Arab, the father of one of General Laperrine's men. He was antelope hunting in the Great Erg and when half dead with thirst he reached a well 45 feet deep. At the bottom he could see the delicious water, but like Tantalus could not reach it.

Unlike the mythical martyr, though, he was not chained to the rocks, and as the well was not very wide he did not hesitate to let himself down part of the way, finally falling into the pool. It was quite impossible for him to get out, but like a good fatalist he waited in his bath praying Allah to send some travelers by.

In these regions weeks and sometimes months pass without the wells being visited, but next day fortune favored him by sending some of the French camel corps that way, who were not a little astonished at hearing a voice from beneath. "Good day, Syrians," as the Arabs call the Saharan troops, "you might send me down a stronger rope to climb up with." He had recognized at once the pattern of the Spahi rope and knew to whom he was talking.

General Laperrine's article proved abundantly that in one respect the French army is trained to meet a danger that up to now even the ubiquitous British officer has not to fear. Little enough is generally heard of the French African army, which in many respects may be compared to our Indian frontier forces, being almost perpetually liable to be called upon either to defend itself or to relieve comrades in peril. Both officers and men live in an atmosphere of hardship and frequent heroism of which only an occasional echo reaches Europe, as they are out of reach of correspondents and join modesty to bravery—sons of whom France may well be proud.

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