#### AN UNEXPECTED ESCAPE.

Forty or more years ago, in the days when California was only poor, far-off Mexican California and nothing more, and I was a very young officer in Uncle Sam's little army, I once found myself stationed at a certain inland town-if a collection of adobe or mud huts deserved the name-situated about sixty miles distant from the then scarcely larger village of Yerba Buena, the now mighty city of San Francisco.

We were doing garrison duty-a single company, under old Captain Jack B- an easy-going commander, who gave us little to do and plenty of time to do it in.

So, as the hours hung somewhat heavily upon our hands, Captain Jack and I-the only officers at the post-took to hunting and shooting, with now and then a little fishing by way of change, to vary the monotony of our soldier life.

Countless flocks of wild geese, brant, and lesser water fowl came by thousands to banquet on the wild-oat fields, and make their reedy homes among the wide marshes which separate the firmer land about Sonoma from the spreading bays that terminate in the Golden Gate.

We had goose for dinner, brant for breakfast, and cold duck for supper and lunch, till old Jack declared his belief that he should quack if he ate any more such fare.

One morning I had been very successful as duck-shooting, and when I tired of the sport I proceeded to shoulder my piece and secure my game for the homeward tramp of three or four miles.

As I lost sight of the shooting-ground and began to enter the live-oak groves scattered here and there along the higher ridges bordering the marshy edges of the bay, I found myself suddenly enveloped in one of those dense mists which sweep up at certain seasons from the sea, like the ocean vapors of a Newport summer

As I had no special path and was traveling by familiar landmarks, now rendered indistinct by the hoary haze, I was obliged to move more slowly, and soon felt satisfied that I had missed my way.

Reaching at length a space-open on three sides, the fourth being thinly wooded, but without a particle of undergrowth-I paused for a moment to survey, so far as my limited horizon would permit; a tract of country which was new to me; moreover, I hoped to hear the sound of running water, which, as I knew the general direction of the streams, would serve to guide me in taking what sailors call a fresh departure.

While listening intently, I heard from the wooded side of my narrow visible world a sort of pounding, as if some man with large boots and no corns had found his feet unpleasantly cold, and was endeavoring to warm them by stamping in a manner which betokened an utter disregard of shoe leather.

Then came a wheeze like that of a gruff giant troubled with the asthma, and finally a mixed compound of crunching and mumbling, as if a huge hog were eating hard corn. My attention being now thoroughly aroused by so short of surrender. remarkable a combination of sounds, I peered into the gloom until I fancied I could perceive the vague, misty outline of some creature stirring up the fog within twenty feet of the spot on which I had halted.

"It is-no, it can't be-yes, but it is a grizzly ! Don't I wish I was at home!" That's what I thought. You see I hadn't come bear hunting, I was duckshooting, and had no conveniences for carrying home a bear, even if I should kill one, and the more I looked at Mr. Grizzly, the better satisfied I was he had every convenience for killing and carrying me!

All I had ever heard or read of his ugly, hateful ways seemed to rush into

If I had been examined on this subject in natural history just then I should have gone up to the head of my class immediately.

Meanwhile, we stood looking at each other. It was evidently a surprise on both sides. I stared at the bear very hard with wide-open eyes, while the bear stared very hard at me with wideopen mouth.

I think the bear got over his astonishment first, and, what is worse, I could see he wasn't at all alarmed. He stopped eating, gave a sniff and a sort of interrogatory "Who are you?" grunt, and then took a step toward me.

As I am of a retiring disposition, and have never been willing to intrude myself into company where I have not been invited, I felt some delicacy in continuing to be a witness to his repast, and was accordingly withdrawing in as unostentatious way as good manners would permit, when it seemed to occur to bruin that he owed it to good-fellowship to cultivate my acquaintance.

Declining that honor, I dropped into a backward walk, keeping my face, after the manner of royal presentation, toward this monarch of the Western wilds, when, to my horror, he favored me with a grin-such a grin !- and it was fol-

lowed with a snap and a growl. As he quickened his steps towards me, I unconsciously hastened my own; when, taking a long stride backward, I found myself suddenly prostrate in a sort of dry ditch or "slue," where I lay for a moment half stunned, in company with my dead birds and duck-gun.

As I recovered myself, I could hear my grunting and grumbling friend, doubtless not a little astonished at this sudden disappearance, go tramping up and down in the vain attempt to nose me out

merchant might say, "take stock" of my position and prospects. On one side I was chased by a bear, a hungry bear, a cross bear, a bear disturbed at his breakfast of sweet acorns. I had lost my way. I had only a ducking gun, which, however formidable to wild geese, 

As for my hunting knife, I had left it at home. What wonder if, as an Irishman might say, I wished that I had left myself there, before I started?

Against all this I had the consolatory

assurance that the grissly bear never climbs, which, as the trees were all on the side of the bear, did not add much to my sense of security. But my principal hope lay in the fact that I was just then hidden by the gully, the depth of which varied from eight to ten feet, with precipitous sides and a dry bed which probably led down to some neighboring stream of water.

"Now," thought I, "I have only to crawl along this ditch, reach the stream, cross it and bid good-by to grissly."

I had just picked myself up and was proceeding to carry out my plan of es-

cape, when I heard a crackling and breaking of the underbrush which fringed the ditch, and by which I was partly screened from view. This was speedily followed by an angry growl, as the treacherous earth gave way, and let Mr. Bear, with no gentle tumble, directly down into the very gully into which I

Fortunately for me bruin had not only a greater fall, but tumbled into the ditch at a point somewhat distant from my hiding-place, and the little ferret eyes did not at once preceive me. An unlucky tumble, however, which I owed to a twisted root, betrayed me, and he turned and gave chase.

They have a very expressive phrase in California when a person is desired to leave suddenly; it consists of two words "You git." My dear reader, when that beast tumbled into my gully I "got," and when he took up the chase I continued "to git" in a style which aston-

ighed even myself. When I first saw him fall I certainly hoped that he had broken his nose at

least, or even dislocated his great ugly neck, but that hope vanished in a mo-He was evidently not a whit the worse

for his somersault. I sped over the ground like a hunted deer, while my stout friend came lumbering and puffing on behind like a portly old gentleman who fears he may be too late for the evening train. I was expecting every moment to feel the blow of his heavy paw, when, turning an angle of the gully, I preceived, with no little dismay, that the ditch in front of me was blocked by an immense fallen tree. The smaller end of the broken trunk being toward me, showed an opening wide enough to admit my then somewhat -more than usually slender form,

There was little time for hesitation. could hear the bear's heavy tramp behind me. A moment more and I had plunged into the opening, and drew my gun after me, just as my fat friend rounded the turn of the "shue in hot pursuit. Running blindly on, he endeavored to force himself after me, giving the log . shock which made me tremble for the security of my new tens-

One or two furious plunges tended to convince him that I could enter where his huge frame could not, for he seemed to reflect, and finally introduced a paw from whose far-reaching grab I retired into the inner recesses of my chamber.

Finding that his attempts in this way were equally futile, I began to feel a little more at ease, and when bruin again poked in his great paw, in an inquiring sort of way, I managed to push a dead duck out to him with the butt of my gun, by way of a peace offering. I was willing just then to have peace at any price

But Sir Bear had no thought of such a compromise. He tore away, and made the feathers fly with his cruel teeth and claws, in a style which gave me a pretty lively notion of what I might expect were I to trust myself within their grasp.

I had begun to think seriously of giving my pursuer the benefit of a charge of duck-shet, in the hope of putting out one or both of his ugly little eyes and making him give up the hunt, when, my eyes becoming accustomed to the darkness, I discovered a faint indication of light behind me.

On working myself round, I saw that the hollow into which I had entered was divided by a narrow, rot-eaten wall from a still larger opening in the body of the trunk-beyond, the portion of the great tree in which I had ensconced myself being in reality only one of the main branches, and lying almost at right angles to the parent stem. A little lusty kicking, with some help from my pocketknife, soon enabled me to worm my way with difficulty through the opening. Into this I immediately stuffed my light outer jacket, in order to conceal my departure from the beast, who was just then too busily engaged in tunnelling an entrance into my hiding-place to take notice of my exit.

The creek was below me, and I dropped into it in a moment, and pushed apparently unheard to the opposite bank; for his excited bearship continued still at his, probably unwonted, but fascinat ing pursuit of man-hunting, at what may be termed the back-door of my re-

cent domicile. I was now comparatively safe, and felt strongly disposed to give the angry brute a more accurate notion of my whereabouts by lodging a charge of duck-shot in his shaggy hide; but prudence, coupled with some doubts as to the possibility of discharging a wet gun, induced me to leave Ursa Major to his log-boring, while I made the best of my way back to camp. LESLIE CUMMING.

The true humorist never smiles-the

is, unless somebody else pays for it. A Shanghai correspondent predicts "A big crash in China." He has evi-

dently employed a new servant. A new French invention is a smoke bomb, intended to be fired into the ranks of the enemy who uses smokeless pow-

der, and obscure his view. What shall we order for breakfast? Mrs. Verdant-Oh, anything light, Let's see. I'd like some fish cakes. I just love them. I think they are the best part of a cod, don't you? [Ex-

The cures made by Radam's Mi-The cures made by Radam's Mi-crobe Killer are in many cases con-sidered almost a miracle. If the the transportation on my seeds, and I sell was a mere plaything when brought to sidered almost a miracle. If the bear upon the thick tough hide of an doctors can give you no hope, try it. reight might be somewhere in the For sale by Dr. W. M. Fowlkes &

Is one which is guaranteed to bring you satisfactory results, or in case of failure a return of purchase price. On this safe plan you can buy from our advertised Druggist a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. It is guaranteed to bring felief in every case, when used for any atrection of Throat, Lungs or Chest, such as consumption, inflammation of lungs, Bronchitia Athers Wheering Court Cronn consumption, inflammation of lungs, Bron-chitis, Athms, Whooping Cough, Croup, etc., etc. It is pleasant and agreeable to taste, perfectly safe, and can always be de pended upon. Trial bottle free at W. M. Fowlkes & Co.'s Drug store.

#### A Female Railroad President.

An innovation upon man's hitherto conceded rights in railroad management was made at San An tonia, Texas, last week by the election of Mrs. Chas. D. Haines as President of the Haines Medina Valley railroad company, the line of road now being built between Lacoste and Castroville, Texas. Mrs. Haines is about thirty years old, handsome and highly accomplished. She understands the railroad business thoroughly, and is the wife of a member of the firm of Haines Bros. the short line railroad builders of New

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It s very pleasant to the taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain relieves wind colic, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for diarrhosa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle

A young woman began a song, "Ten Thousand Leaves are Falling." She pitched it too high, screeched and stopped. "Start her at five thousand." cried an

If you suffer pricking pains on moving the eyes, or cannot bear bright light, and find your sight weak and failing, you should promptly use Dr J H McLean's Strengthening Eye Salve. 25 cents a box. Sold at Fowlkes & co's drug store.

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(Little Pills), 25 cents a vial, one a does. Send two cent stamp for Almanac containing Storm Chart and Weather Forecasts by Rev. Irl R. Ricks, the "Storm Prophet," to The DR. J. H. McLEAN MEDICINE CO., ST. LOUIS, MQ.

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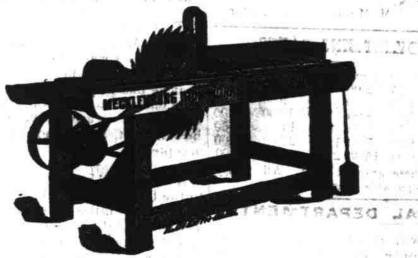
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Condensed Time Table. To take effect Oct. 21st. 1889. TRAINS MOVING NORTH.

No. 1. Passenger and Freight and 6.15 a m 4.20 a m Le Bennettsville, 8.85 a m Ar Maxton 5.35 a m 2.05 p m 7.35 a m Ar Fayetteville 12.55 p m 10:00 a m Ar Sanford 1.45 p m 8,00 p m Ar Greensboro

5.00 p m Ar Mt. Airy 6.00 p m No. 1-Breakfast at Fayetteville, dinner at Greensboro. TRAINS MOVING SOUTH. No. 2

Passenger and Freight and Accommod'n Le Mt. Airy, 3.35 a m 5.30 a m 1.15 p m 7.30 a m Ar Greensboro 7.00 a m 9.55 a m Le Greensboro 1.25 pm 2 15 pm Le Sanford 3.35 p m 7.45 a m Le Fayetteville e Maxton 5.35 p m 1.05 pm Ar Bennettsville, 6.50 p m No. 2-Breakfast at Greensboro, dinner at

Factory Branch-Freight and Accommedatios. TRAINS MOVING NORTH. 7.25 a m Leave Millboro, 9 00 a m

Arrive Greensboro,

10 10 a m Leave Greensboro, 12 80 pm Arrive Millboro, TRAINS MOVING SOUTH 9 1 45 p mos Leave Madison. Arrive Greensboro. 4 45 pm Leave Greensboro. Arrive Millsboro, 6.30 pm

Passenger and mail trains run daily ex-

cept Sunday. Freight and accommodation train runs from Bennettsville to Fayetteville Tues-days, Thursdays and Saturdays, Freight and Accommodation Train runs from Fayetteville to Bennettsville on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; from Fayetts-ville to Greensboro on Mondays Wednes-days and Fridays, and from Greensboro to Fayetteville on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from Greensboro to Manager of the Mana Saturdays; from Greensboro to Mt. Arry on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; from Mt. Airy to Greensboro on Mondays;

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