

to work to skin and cut them up. We had brought a few sticks of wood with us and our kettle. While I was at the next to the last animal father made a fire and boiled some coffee, and he and I lunched together for the last time, as it proved to be, on earth. Little did I think this at the time. Father never seemed more affectionate and also hopeful as regards the future, for when we were together he was always planning about carrying on the work in which we were together engaged. When we had our animals cut up and tied upon the flat sleds it was already dark, but this did not cause us any anxiety for we had been in many such circumstances, and the idea of being lost never entered our minds. It might have been six or seven o'clock in the evening, when, accompanied by an Indian who was also out for meat, and had joined us, we started for our camp, father alternately walking or riding on horse-back as suited him. I drove the four sleds we had loaded. The night was clear and star-light, though not extremely bright, owing to a little drift floating in the air near the ground; this was caused by a west wind blowing directly from the direction of Morleyville, and our camp was only a little north of our course home. When we had proceeded some way, father said I had better take the horse he was riding and go on to camp and he would bring up the sleds, but to this I did not agree, as he would then have to walk all the time. I told him there was no necessity of any one going on, and he acquiesced, and we went on together conversing on various subjects. As our loads were heavy our progress was slow, and I should think it was about 11 o'clock when we came to a creek which ran near camp, and which we had crossed the same morning. Father had fallen back a little as we went down the hill to cross the creek, but as we were going up the hill on the homeward side, he came riding up opposite to me and made as if he was going on; I said to him, "You think of riding on to camp?" he said he thought he would; he also pointed to a bright star-light in the direction of the camp, and gave it as his opinion that that was the direct course. I told him the star was right over the tent, apparently, and as we were now within less than two miles, I felt no doubt of his getting there all right. He accordingly rode off at a hard gallop, straight for the camp. It might have been twenty-five minutes afterwards when we came to the tent. Directly upon seeing the camp my heart misgave me; I saw no fire-light, for I knew father would have gone right on making preparations for supper. When I got the sleds to the tent I jumped in, calling out, "Father! Moses!" as loud as I could, but no answer came. However, I soon, in feeling around in the tent, came upon Moses sound asleep. "Has father come home?" was my first question. He said, "No." I jumped out and seized my rifle, fired off several shots in succession, and hallooed with all my might without any effect, no answer came. By this time the wind had risen very high, but being from the west was not cold. I went around and did what I could, and then awaited daylight, confident that if father did lose his way he would stay in some sheltered spot, and come to us as soon as it got light, for our

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