

reach the Hudson Bay post of Mistasiomy. Meanwhile, looking more like a demon than a human creature, "Ha!" he continued, "'tis your fault we are now starving; last winter you allowed the dogs to gnaw the deer bones, consequently the deer god is angry and withholds his food theretor. Evil livers that you are, leave my lodge, and may the bad spirit burn your bodies." Knowing full well the improbability of their ever reaching the Company's post, in tears the poor expatriated heard the inhuman order. But as there was no alternative, it behove them to depart, rather than remain to be murdered. So telling her son, "Go, my child, and bid your grandfather good-bye, for you will never see him again in this world," Wasesqueo left the tent, followed by her companions. Here were these unfortunates without an atom of food among them, and in their famished condition compelled to proceed on a journey which it would take a man in robust health four days to perform. Truly indeed said the poet, that

"Man's inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn."

Before we accompany them on their harrowing walk, we shall first mention how fared the rest of the inmates of that camp. No sooner were the miserales out of sight than Etap ordered the tent to be struck. Lashing their property and camp equipage on the sleighs, the party proceeded eastward. At the Kabuskeka Swamp they fell in with a herd of 20 deer, every one of which they killed. So that ere night they had glutted their fierce appetites by drinking blood and eating flesh still reeking warm from the animals. Although their starving relations were within 15 miles, yet none attempted to reach or succor them. The first day Wasesqueo and party went about 12 miles, camping among small birch and poplar trees, where several rabbit tracks were perceived. After cutting down some brush for the children to sit on, and making a small fire for them, James, Wasesqueo and Numaby then proceeded to set rabbit snares. Early next morning the snares were visited; two rab-

bits, however, only were found in them. These with the liquor or broth were equally divided among all. Our readers will have an idea of the insufficiency of this meal when we state that an Indian child can very readily dispose of two rabbits at one meal, without at all considering that he has eaten too much. Let them judge, then, how unsatisfied these seven starving people must have felt. Their next camp was among burnt woods, where white partridge tracks were seen, but the Indian on following them up, soon reached the spot from whence the birds had flown away. Supperless, then, they went to bed. About noon of the next day, Numaby's oldest son, a lad of fourteen, dropped down on the ice from exhaustion. He was left to his fate, none showing less concern than the mother. The next morning when preparing to start, Wasesqueo found her son was entirely unable to walk. Finding that her own weakened condition prevented her from carrying or hauling the boy, she determined, rather than abandon her child, to remain and die with him. Her brother and the heartless Numaby did their utmost to dissuade her from such a step, urging her by all means to save her own life, but her invariable answer was, "I love my son too much; I cannot leave him." Then turning, she would fondly kiss the wasted little face, that in health had been so pretty. In the autumn, the Indians found the bones of the mother and child mingled together. Let us hope that an all merciful God has permitted them to gain that haven where "the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

Little now remains to be told. That same evening James found fresh signs of a porcupine. Eagerly looking around, it was not long ere he saw the animal and killed him. This carefully doled out lasted them three days, when, unable to proceed further, Numaby gave out. Here with her children she was left by James, who reached the company's post, but in a fearful state of exhaustion. After partaking of food he was enabled to mention where he left his wife and children, from whence they were hauled to the establishment by some of the Company's employees.