

side. These are about five inches in diameter. A large log is now laid across the head of the tent, serving both to hold down the canvas, and as a pillow. Small poles are then laid across the tent, their ends resting upon the two side logs: and these poles extend from the "pillow log" to within a foot or so of the stove, which is on the left hand side of the tent as one enters. The "door," so-called, is merely a slit in one gable end,—a little off the centre of the tent,—provided with strings with which it is laced up close at night.

The bed is not complete until "feathers," or *sapin* branches have been laid some six inches deep over the poles, and when these have been covered by a buffalo robe or blanket, the inside of the tent looks quite inviting. Of course, the bed being raised a foot or so from the ground, and taking up the lion's share of room in the tent, there arises the disadvantage of being unable to stand erect anywhere except just beside the entrance—the tent being at its highest point only some six and a half feet from the ground. But this is more than counterbalanced by the additional comfort it affords, as a warm current of air from the stove passes continually under the bed, warming the occupants, and thawing the frozen earth beneath.

The space beneath the bed can be made useful also for piling wood, or keeping snowshoes in, as it sometimes becomes necessary to bring the latter into the tent nightly on account of the destructive habits of squirrels.

Lines passing all around the wall of the tent and along the ridge, inside of course, serve as clothes lines for hanging up wet articles of clothing, &c.

All cooking is done by means of the aforesaid stove, which measures about two feet in length by some fifteen or sixteen inches square, and is placed facing across the tent, at right angles with the door of the latter, and within a foot or so of the front gable. The in-

tense heat which can be produced within the tent by simply leaving open the damper of the stove for five minutes after lighting the fire, would hardly be credited by one who has not tried it. The preparation of each meal is done either by lot or in turn, and on such occasions all but the cook "clear out," and the latter unfortunate sits in front of the stove, continually poking his head out of the door for a mouthful of cool air, and streaming with perspiration. At night, when bedtime has arrived, the wood for use during the night is got in, the door laced up, a good fire built in the stove, and the damper all but closed before finally turning in. Should the weather be mild and blankets plentiful, the fire will not require rekindling until early morning; but should it be cold, the coldest subject of the party, after being awakened by the low temperature, and lying shivering as long as possible in the hopes of some of his neighbors being moved to arise and stoke, will at length get up and with chattering teeth and benumbed fingers start the fire afresh, crawling back again under the blankets, when thoroughly warmed, to be greeted, in all probability by the voice of a now wide-awake companion, who congratulates him upon the pleasant temperature, and informs him that he, too, while pretending to snore, was half frozen, but was also waiting to see if no one else would save him the misery of "firing up" in the cold. The fire usually requires to be made afresh only two or three times during the night, so that there is plenty of time for sleep between those periods.

It should have been mentioned previously that the tents are not made of canvas, but of unbleached cotton, this being very much lighter, which is of some consequence when the equipment of a party has to be *portaged* or drawn in Indian sleighs for a distance. (The two tents we have described weighed together but twenty-seven pounds.)