THREE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC MEETINGS OF MEN IN

By Col. W. H Gilder, of the Greely Expedition.

terruption. The finding of a record in the Winter harbor of Perry by one of the officers of the Resolute led to the sending out, as early as possible, the following Spring, of a sledge party under Lieutenant Bedford Pim to the relief of the ice-beleagued crew of the Investigator before Captain McClure should have abandoned his vessel, upon which the men had existed on two-third rations for nearly two years. The record stated that the imprisoned crew would endeavor to reach Baffin's Bay or the Hudson's Bay Company's ports in North America with sledges and boats, an undertaking fraught with great peril and with little prospect of success.

It had been decided to commence the desperate retreat on April 5, but the death of one of the crew occasioned delay. On the following day Captain McClure was walking near the ship discussing with his first lieutenant the subject of digging a grave for their shipmate when they discovered a figure walking rapidly toward them. They at first thought it was a member of their party pursued by a bear, but failed to recognize him.

"When within about 200 yards of us," wrote Captain McClure in his narrative, "this strange figure threw up his arms and made gesticulations resembling those used by Esquimaux, besides shouting, at the top of his voice, words which, from the wind and intense excitement of the moment, sounded like a wild screech." All stood still for a moment, and then, the writer adds, "had the skyfallen upon us we could hardly have been more astonished than when the stranger called out:

"'I'm Lieutenant Pim, of the Resolute. Captain Hellett is in her at Dealy Island.'

"To rush at him and seize him by the hand was our first impulse, for our hearts were too full for our tongues to speak."

Thus relief had come to them from the opposite side of the world, just in time to save, in all probability, the lives of the thirty men, who would have started next day on a hopeless attempt to reach home with sledges and boats.

It was on January 7, 1887 that I started across Siberia from a point about 200 miles west of Behring Strait, with dispatches from Captain Berry, of the United States ship Rodgers, to the Secretary of the Navy, describing the total loss of that vessel by fire, and asking that relief be sent to the shipwrecked crew, who were all living in the huts of the native Tchouktchis, upon a diet of frozen, raw, rotten walrus meat. My instructions were to make all haste to arrive at the nearest telegraph station and wire a short report as soon as possible. As I said before, I started for this telegraph on the 7th of January. I arrived at Irkoutch on the 5th of July.

My only companion on this trip was a Cossack named Michalla, and, as I, at that time spoke no Russian and he spoke nothing else, out conversation was limited to the absolute necessities of the occasion.

We had just crossed the great Yoayaska tundra with do gteams, when we met two sledges going northward, drawn by reindeer teams. The driver of one of the sledges told Michalla of a wonderful American who was approaching and described him as sumptuously arrayed, somewhat, I fancied, "like Solomon in all his glory," for they said he wore gold epaulets and a crown. Before I had time to think the matter over my dogs began to show their knowledge of the presence of reindeer and he began to run. Just then there emerged from the forest of stunted fir trees be-

't you Nansen?" "Yes, I am."

across the Desert of Sahara, or while groping your way ts of Central Africa, you come upon your brother, be not er all, the world is small!

to the above statement by a recent happening which, added to n and an occurrence whereof I have read, has convinced me run across his best friend in the heart of a wilderness as in house. The recent happening to which I refer was the meet- en and Mr. Frederick A. Jackson, in Franz Josef Land, in the

53 Captain McClure, of the British exploring ship Investi- Pim, of the Resolue, came face to face on the ice between le Island, having arrived at the spot from opposite direc- er, while acting as correspondent of a New York newspaper, kson, a correspondent of the same newspaper, in the wilds of

occurrences are, to my mind, the three most remarkable in- lous encounter in the history of geographical exploration. lure, in command of H. M. S. Investigator, sailed from 850, to pass around Cape Horn and enter the Arctic Ocean way of Behring Strait, to prosecute from that direction the Franklin, who, in 1845, had left England to seek a northwest of whom nothing had since been heard.

e than 1,000 miles along the northern coast of America the In- ay to the northern shore of Banks Land, through open water f that island and the "great sea filled with ice" that has alers and explorers, for no vessel that has entered that

led in securing a harbor on the north coast of Banks hazardous voyage and many desperate struggles with d their utter anihilation. Such was their joy at find- porary relief from anxiety that they christened the

mmer of 1852 came, Captain McClure made every ef- d continue his journey to the eastward, but in vain. t duration, and the cold continued almost without in-

"Siberia is not so very big, after all."

McClure a

fore me several reindeer teams. Fro a fine looking man, handsomely clad in a skin, who approached me, but even before ognized a fellow correspondent of my paper same time I left my shipwrecked comrades and while both were on the same errand we ness. We were both in a great hurry and c change of courtesies, but when, later on, we elated my friend Jackson's remark that "Sib

But of all timely and thoroughly accident and Dr. Nansen on the southwest corner of Fr dence. After having reached the highest lati turned toward the southwest, shaping his cou

After a month's hard journey a black strea weary travellers indicated that they were ap Franz Josef Land, and there they were obliged ling was still very difficult when Nansen contin

On the morning of June 17 of last year Nan do nd turned shoreward through the hummoc ined he heard a human voice calling to ed that it was voice of a stranger.

he and the stranger approached each other ly n and looking much as he did wheen he met fore that he was not as readily recognized by for the dirt of thirteen month accumulation since and hair that had grown during that time without re pearance that it is doubtful that he would have be by the loving eyes of his wife and child.

As they walked together toward the comfortable ter quarters of the Jackson party, the latter sudd Turning toward him he exclaimed:

'Ar'en't you Nansen?'

"Yes, I am."

"By Jove! I am glad to see you" was the qu that it came direct from the hea

A LOVE SONG 3,300 YEARS OLD.

ars old!

before Rome was Egypt wrote to a king his daughter's King of Babylonia, apa, discouraged the followed a long corre- wonderful to relate, ke the correspondence when a European mon- is head to get married. ese two kings, and thir- lled slowly over their orld grew to be vastly t it once was, and yet— e same.

a peasant woman seek- sell among the ruins Tell-el-Amarna found a written in cuneiform course of time these hands of students who d lo! they turned out r less than the letters etween this King of of Assyria regarding

ologists chuckled over published it in their and then they were d would, perhaps, the end of the world ident named Hugo and translated them he press of Reuther there has just come "The Tell-el-

reds of spot, dip- e the king aria gypt had king in de- so, ed, his on er in at l- s e y g,

the King of Egypt, your brother. I am well, may you be well; with your house, your wives, your sons, your chief men, your horses, your chariots, and your lands, may it be very well. I am well, with my house, my wives, my sons, my chief men, my horses, my chariots, my people, it is very well, and with my lands very well.

Verily I have heard the communication, which you have written me, namely: You wish, indeed, my daughter to wife, although my sister, whom my father gave you, is there with you, and no one has seen her as yet, whether she is alive, or whether she is dead. These are your words, which you, in your letter, have written me. But you never have sent a kamiru, who knows your sister, who could have conversed with her, and could have recognized her, and could have spoken with her. The people, whom you sent, Rika, the messenger of Zakara, a Prince ..... there is not among them one, who stood near your father, and ..... very much ..... messengers ..... speak she..... .....very much.....and she gives .....to her mother.

And when you write: "Even if you command my messengers and your wives, that they should all come together in open session, in your presence, and even if you (Pharaoh) say (to the messengers): Behold your mistress, who stands before you," nevertheless my messengers do not know whether she (really) is my sister, who is with you. In regard to the fact that you write: "My messengers do not know her," and, "Who was to recognize her?" you say, "Why do you not send a kamiru who could give a reliable account of the well-being of our sister, and why do you not command him that he should go to see her house and her relation to the King?" And when you write: "Who knows whether she is the daughter of a beggar or of a Gagaian (Gog, barbarian), or a maiden of Hanigalbat, or who knows whether she is from Ugarit, she whom my messengers see? And who is to tell them that she who is with you....not..... or what else can be not tell them?" These are your words. If, however, your sister were dead, why should it be concealed from you....over all women.....of the Kings of Egypt.....in Egypt, and when you write as follows: "Daughters....to wife for kings of Kardunias, and when my messengers (come) there and speak with her, they ought to bring me a present (from her), as proof of the fact that she is with you." These are your words. But when the kings of your neighborhood, great kings, receive your daughters, do they send to you then all that they have, and that she has? Your sister who is with me, when she receives anything, then I will send it to you as a favor, in order that you may give your daughter to....of your vicinity. And when you write that I have repudiated the words of my father, you do not narrate his real words. 'First establish good brotherhood between us.' These are words of yours which you write. Verily, brothers, are you and I, we too, and I am angry at your messengers because they have spoken in your presence as follows: "Nothing at all has he given us." Whoever comes to Egypt, when they come to me, or if there comes only one of them, then he receives silver, gold, oil, clothes, all possible favor, more than in another land. And when he says * * * the first time messengers came to your father, and plotted treachery, in that they spoke evil, the second time they came and announced evil to you; and so I answer: "If I had given them something, or if I had given them nothing, they would have spoken in the same way." And I have done them good; by no means have I withheld anything from them. And when you write: "You have spoken to my messengers as follows: 'Has not your master people? and the maiden whom you gave me is not beautiful.'" (these are your words), your messengers have not in this case told you the truth. Whether they have said that you have soldiers or that you have not, why should I have asked them whether you have people and whether you have horses? But do not listen to what your messengers, whom you send, plot of evil. For, because they fear you, they plot treachery, in order to escape your hand. But when you say: "He has placed my chariots among the chariots of his dependent princes, so that the ahitu, which was to bring them to your territory, could not find them." And if it (the ahitu) has not seen them, the ahitu is yours and the chariots are yours. As to the horses of my land, the chariots require all of my horses. When you write by the hand of Rika, to give oil * * * to the maiden, so you write for a present. * * *

From Kallima-Sin.

To Nimmuria, king of Egypt, my brother: Kallima-Sin, king of Kardunias, your brother. May it be well with you, with your house, your wives, your land, your chariots, your horses, your chief men, may it be very well. As to the maiden, my daughter, to marry whom you have written me, she is grown up and marriageable; send and let her be brought. Formerly, when my father sent a messenger to you, you did not retain him for many days, but hastily you let him come (back), and a beautiful present you also sent to my father. Now, when I have sent you my messenger, you retain him till the sixth year, and for six years you have sent me thirty minas of gold, which is like silver,

as a pres of Kasi, he witness great fete, then send, and [send?] thirty minas have sent, are so and so.

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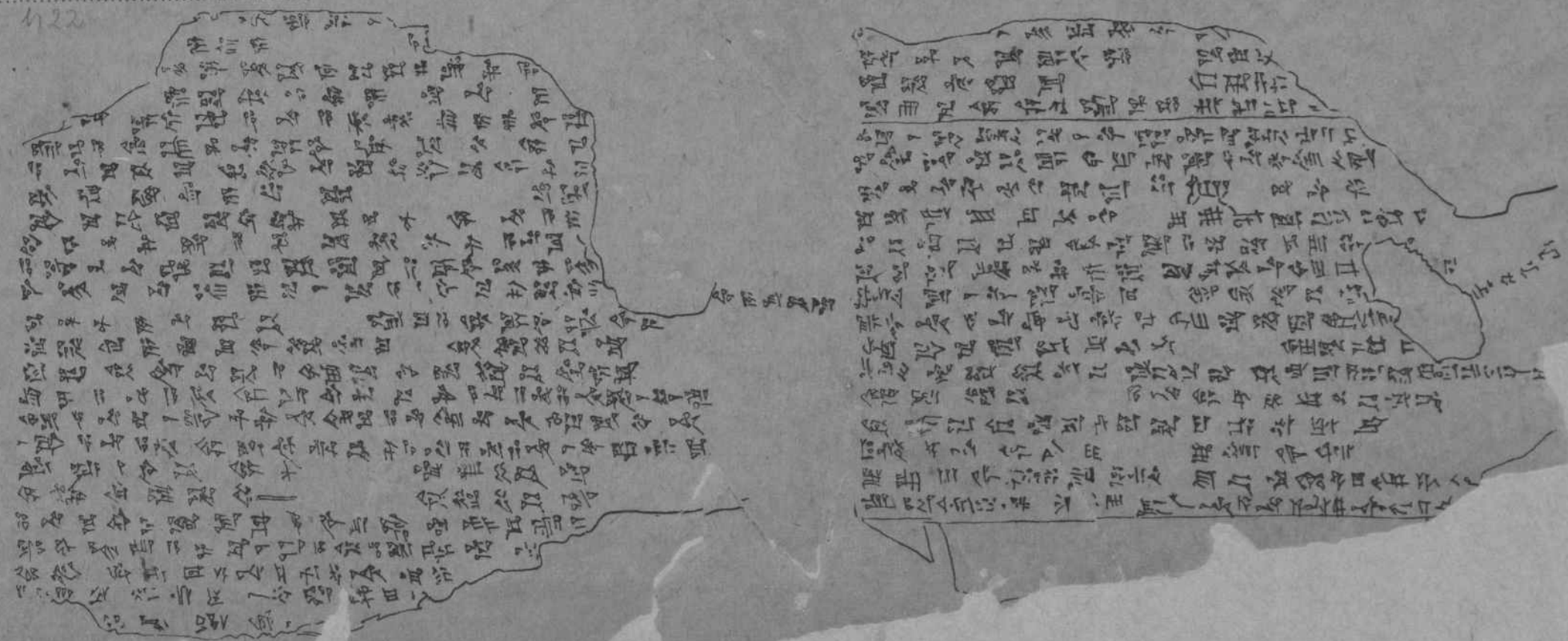
Now, my brot to marry your you would not "From of old, Egypt has not Why is that? can do according If you give her (against it). Wh (your answer), at

are grown up women. If there there, send her. not a king's daughte do not send any one have no regard for br ship." That we mig to one another, you and I, for this very hood and friendship nearer related to one to you of marriage. brother send me a send one, then I, like from you a wife.

Since as to a marr you * * * your chie daughters they daughter, whom have children your



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