

DELL
15¢

NO. 8223

BONANZA

NOVEMBER





BONANZA

THE SNOW WALKERS



A murdered cowboy and an empty horse corral coincide with the stealthy departure of eight "cavalry troopers."



Grim trailing of the horse thieves, on homemade skis, leads to a half-frozen girl and a deadly gun battle.

RAPIERS AT PAIUTE CREEK



The cold clash of dueling rapiers rings out over Paiute Creek as Little Joe fights for his honor against an American Baron.



But when Little Joe loses his heart to his adversary's daughter he doesn't foresee the vindictive hate of the outlaw Joberts.

BONANZA

The SNOW WALKERS

A CAVALRY DETAIL!
I WONDER WHAT THEY
WANT HERE AT
PONDEROSA?

THEIR HORSES ARE
PACKED OUT, PAI!
MAYBE THEY WANT
TO REST AND
BUY FEED!



ONE AFTERNOON IN EARLY SPRING, BEN CARTWRIGHT AND HIS THREE SONS, ADAM, HOSS AND LITTLE JOE, STOP THEIR FENCE BUILDING TO WATCH THE APPROACH OF
SIGHT VISITORS...



DISMOUNT!



MR BEN CARTWRIGHT I BELIEVE I
I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT YOU HAVE
A NUMBER OF GOOD HORSES
FOR SALE... I AM LIEUTENANT
STAGS, OF THE ARMY
RECOUNT COMMISSION!

WELCOME TO
PONDEROSA,
LIEUTENANT!
I HAVE SOME
HORSES FOR
SALE, AT A
FAIR PRICE!



ADAM, YOU KNOW WHERE
THE HORSES WERE FEEDING
YESTERDAY? TAKE HOSS
AND LITTLE JOE AND
ROUND THEM UP -
WILL YOU?

RIGHT, PA!
WE SHOULD
HAVE THEM
BACK HERE AT
THE CORNALS BE-
FORE SUNDOWN!



YOUR MEN CAN OCCUPY OUR EMPTY BUNHOUSE
FOR THE NIGHT, LIEUTENANT! I'LL SEND OVER
A GOOD SUPPER! YOU, SIR, ARE
WELCOME TO DINE WITH US
...SLEEP IN ONE OF
OUR GUEST ROOMS!

THANK YOU
KINDLY, MR
CARTWRIGHT - BUT
I THINK I'D BETTER
REMAIN WITH MY
TROOPERS TONIGHT!

THREE HOURS LATER...

TI-FI! KEE-HOO!
GET IN THERE, YOU
BOODYBAGS!

THEY'RE ROUGH- BUT
THEY'RE ALL SADDLE-BROKEN
AND GOOD STOCK,
LIEUTENANT!



TWENTY HORSES--
AND THEY LOOK
SOUND! I CAN OFFER
YOU FIFTY DOLLARS
A PIECE FOR THEM,
CARTWRIGHT!

THAT'S A FAIR PRICE!
YOU HAVE THE CASH
WITH YOU, OF COURSE,
LIEUTENANT?



CASH? WHY NO, MR. CARTWRIGHT,
BUT SOMETHING JUST AS GOOD!
I'LL GIVE YOU A VOUCHER
FOR ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS
CALLING FOR PAYMENT
BY THE QUARTERMASTER
GENERAL'S OFFICE!

THE
QUARTER-
MASTER
GENERAL'S OFFICE
IS IN WASHINGTON,
D.C.; THAT'S A
LONG WAY
FROM HERE,
LIEUTENANT!



MAJOR WHITE OF THE
RECONUIT COMMISSION,
ATTACHED TO GENERAL
REYNOLDS' THIRD MILITARY
DISTRICT, WILL CASH IT, MR.
CARTWRIGHT! BUT I'M SURE
ANY VIRGINIA CITY BANK
WILL HONOR THE VOUCHER
AT A SMALL DISCOUNT
TO SAVE YOU
TROUBLE!

MAYBE--AND ALIASE
NOT, LIEUTENANT!
THE THIRD ARMY
HAPPENS TO BE
IN ARIZONA,
RIGHT? NOW--
ACCORDING TO
REPORTS--AND A
BANK LIKES TO
CLEAR ITS TRANS-
ACTIONS QUICKLY!



I'M AFRAID IT WILL
HAVE TO BE CASH
OR NOTHING,
LIEUTENANT!

AWW,
PA--!

VERY WELL, SIR! WE
DO NEED THE HORSES
SO IN THE MORNING I
WILL RIDE INTO
VIRGINIA CITY AND GET
THE CASH FOR YOU!
I AM CERTAIN THE
BANK WILL NOT BE
SO DIFFICULT TO
DEAL WITH!





THAT EVENING, AS DOLIGHT FADES...



LATER THAT EVENING....



NO SOUND BUT THE SIGHING OF THE WIND
PENETRATES THE WHITE BLANKET OF SNOW
FALLING ON THE CARTWRIGHTS' ROOF THIS NIGHT...



BUT IN THE MORNING...

HEY! THE BUZZARD
HAS GUTT—BUT WE'RE
BURIED! TURN
OUT, BOYS!



THE HORSES!
THEY'RE GONE!
THE CORRAL'S
EMPTY!

WHERE'S JERRY
BUCK ?



JERRY BUCK - HERE ?



STABBED WITH THE
BUTCHER KNIFE I
SENT OVER TO THE
TROOPERS AT
SUPPERTIME!

THEN—THEY'RE
GONE! GONE
WITH OUR
HORSES!

WE'LL FOLLOW
THEM—NOW
WON'T WE,
DAD?





WHILE ADAM AND LITTLE JOE ARE HUNTING FOR MORE SADDLE STOCK...



IN THE WAGONER SHOP ROUGH SKI FORMS ARE QUICKLY BLOCKED OUT...



THAT AFTERNOON THE SKI-BORN
CARTWRIGHTS SPOT THEIR QUARRY.



DOWN THERE, PA-- SEE--
WHERE THE TREES COME UP NEAR
CHIEF BLACK MOUNTAIN'S
CABIN! OUR STOLEN HORSES!

THAT'S BAD! CHIEF
BLACK MOUNTAIN'S
DAUGHTER LIVES WITH
HIM, AND SHE'S ONLY
SIXTEEN! IF THOSE
KILLERS HAVE
HARNED THEM--

--THEY'LL JUST HAVE THAT
MUCH MORE TO ACCOUNT
FOR! BOYS, WE MUST
PLAN OUR ATTACK NOW,
BEFORE WE'RE
DISCOVERED!

BUT A HORSE THEF COMING OUT FOR AN
ARWILL OF FIREWOOD, GIVES THE ALARM...



HEY! SOMEBODY'S
UP ON THE CLIFFS,
THERE! THEY'RE
TAKING COVER!

THE CARTWRIGHTS ARE FORCED TO PLAN
UNDER FIRE AS THEY DESCEND THE SLOPE.

HOLD YOUR FIRE,
BOYS! GET CLOSER AND
TAKE COVER! THEY'VE
GOT THE ADVANTAGE
NOW!

THAT CABIN HAS THREE
BLIND SIDES! ONE
DOOR AND WINDOW!



CRACK-ARANG!
--CRACK!

A SNOW-COVERED MOUND DIRECTLY IN ADAM'S PATH STIRS AND BREAKS OPEN...



THE WAY THE CLIFFS
CURVE AROUND THAT
ROCK COULD BE ROLLED
RIGHT DOWN ON THE
CABIN IF WE COULD
START IT! THE HORSE
THEY'VE WOULD
HAVE TO GET OUT
AND FIGHT IN THE
OPEN, THEN--



"IF THEY HAD ANY
RIGHT LEFT IN
THEM! I THINK
HORSE'S IDEA IS
WORTH TRYING,
SEN!"



PING!
ZZZZZZ!

DON'T STOP TO ANSWER
THEIR FIRE, BOYS!
BOB IS COVERING US!

WHUP!



YOU HIT HIM, SHOW
WALKER! LOOK! ANOTHER
MAN SHOOT AROUND
END OF CABIN!

KRANG!



ONCE MORE--
WH! IT'S
MOVING!

PING!



YI--HEE! IT'S
GOING TO
HIT---





HALF-BURIED IN SNOW, HOSS WORKS TO THE EDGE OF THE TREES....



A SLEIF OF DRIFTED SNOW DUMPS HOSS CLOSE TO HIS QUARRY....





HIDDEN AND WITH BANGS, LITTLE JOE
BREATHES A POWER AND SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER ..



THE OUTLAW IN HOSS'S HUGE HANDS
BECOMES A LIVING CLUB...





HURTLING DOWN THE LOWER SLOPE, ROLF THORSEN FLANKS THE FOUR UNWOUNDED OUTLAWS...



DAYLIGHT IS FADING WHEN BEN CARTWRIGHT'S PARTY REACH THE RANCH HOUSE WITH THEIR PRISONERS AND LITTLE BIRDSONG...





MR. CARTWRIGHT? OR CAPTAIN WADSWICK? I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT BACK THE DESSERTERS WE'VE BEEN HUNTING FOR!

YES--ALL BUT TWO WHO ARE DEAD! THEY MURDERED TWO OF OUR PAULINE FRIENDS--AND GAVE OFF OUR HORSES!



THEY'VE COMMITTED CRIMES ALL ALONG THE WAY FROM ARIZONA, POSING AS AN ARMY DETAIL! THE MAN, STAGG, STOLE AN OFFICER'S UNIFORM! HOW DO YOU CATCH THEM, CARTWRIGHT?

THE BUZZARD CAUGHT THEM, REALLY!



WE WERE ABLE TO FOLLOW THEM OVER THE SNOW ON THESE "SNOWSKATES" SOUL THORSEN TAUGHT US HOW TO USE!

"SNOWSKATES"? THAT'S SOMETHING NEW TO ME! PERHAPS ONE DAY THE INFANTRY MIGHT FIND USE FOR THEM! AND NOW--IF YOU COULD PUT US UP FOR THE NIGHT, CARTWRIGHT...



THE NEXT DAY--AFTER THE CAPTAIN AND HIS PRISONERS ARE GONE...

PA, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT POOR LITTLE BLOSSOM--ORPHANED BEFORE SHE'S OLD ENOUGH TO MARRY, AND THESE HORSES--

I GUESS WE'VE ALL BEEN THINKING ALONG THE SAME LINE, LITTLE JOE!



TWENTY GOOD HORSES WOULD MAKE HER ALMOST WEALTHY AMONG THE YOUNG GIRLS OF HER PEOPLE, PA! A NICE DOWRY, TOO--WHEN SHE DOES MARRY!



WE'LL FIX HER UP WITH SOME TRINKETS FROM VIRGINIA CITY, AND SEND HER TO HER RELATIVES IN STEELE! OH, PA? MAKE THEM PROUD OF HER!

WE WILL! BUT THEY COULDN'T BE HALF AS PROUD AS I AM, OF MY THREE SONS--AND WITH OUT ANY PROBLEM EITHER!

BONANZA

LITTLE JOE'S SECRET



ADAM, THE ELDEST OF THE THREE GUN-SLINGING BROTHERS, FEELS HE OUGHT TO CHECK ON LITTLE JOE'S IMPRESSIVE RIFLE.

LITTLE JOE, YOU HAD A BRAND-NEW WINCHESTER RIFLE IN THAT SADDLE-BOOT WHEN YOU LEFT HOME THIS MORNING! WHERE DID YOU LEAVE IT?

I LEFT IT WITH CHIEF WALKING HORSE AT THE PAUTE ENCAMPMENT—IF IT'S ANY BUSINESS OF YOURS, ADAM! THE CHIEF'S MY FRIEND! I CAN MAKE HIM A GIFT IF I CHOOSE, CAN'T I?

THE CHIEF IS YOUR FRIEND? HE IS ALSO THE FATHER OF A VERY PRETTY DAUGHTER! IT WOULDN'T BE PROPER FOR DARNING ROUGH TO RECEIVE GIFTS DIRECTLY! ON THE OTHER HAND, IT ISN'T WISE FOR YOU—

STOP RIGHT THERE, BROTHER! I'M SO FED-UP WITH YOUR FATHERLY LECTURES THAT I EVEN HEAR THEM IN MY SLEEP!

WHICHEVER WAY I TURN, I FIND YOUR LONG NEW ENGLAND NOSE POKING INTO MY BUSINESS! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF IT—**MORE** THAN ENOUGH!

THERE IS SOMETHING MORE THAN INDEPENDENCE BEHIND IN YOU, LITTLE JOE!



NEXT MORNING...

PAI HOSS! THE SAFE IS EMPTY! AND LITTLE JOE IS GONE!

GONE? GONE WHERE, ADAM?

YOU'RE **SURE** HE'S NOT AROUND SOMEWHERE? LITTLE JOE WOULDN'T TAKE MONEY FROM THE FAMILY SAFE WITHOUT TELLING US!

IT'S PARTLY MY FAULT! LAST EVENING WE HAD HOT WORDS! I WARNED LITTLE JOE SERIOUSLY ABOUT MAKING UP TO CHIEF WALKING HORSE'S DAUGHTER—AND HE GREW VERY ANGRY! NOW **TWO!** WE'LL HAVE TO FIND HIM AND BRING HIM BACK!



THAT EVENING, AFTER TEACHING LITTLE JOE TO THE STAGE-BOX.



ADAM: LOOK! THERE'S LITTLE JOE--GETTING KISSED BY A WHITE GIRL!

YOU'RE RIGHT, HOSS!



LITTLE JOE, I APOLOGIZE-- FOR ALL MY HASTY THOUGHTS AND WORDS!

OH HELLO, ADAM!



WHO WAS THE LOVELY YOUNG LADY, SON?

HER NAME IS SUSAN WALL, PAI SISTER OF DAVE WALL WHO GOT DROWNED IN A FLASH FLOOD THIS SPRING! SHE DAVE WEST DISGUISED AS A BOY TO WORK THE PLACES CLAIM HE LEFT HER!



IT WAS LUCKY I FOUND HER BEFORE ANY OF THE TOUGHS FROM VIRGINIA CITY BOTHERED HER! CHIEF WALKING HORSE AGREED TO HAVE HIS BRAVES GUARD HER TILL I COULD PERSUADE HER TO SELL ME THE CLAIM AND GO BACK EAST TO HER FOLKS.



HEAR FINE BOY--LITTLE JOE! HEAR FINE RIDE! KETCHUM BAD MAN STEALUM GOLD FROM LITTLE JOE--BAD MAN KETCHUM SOLD GOLD BULLET, YOU BET!

THAT SOUNDS AS IF EVERYBODY PROFITED BY LITTLE JOE'S DEAL--EH, ADAM!

INCLUDING ME! I LEARNED A LESSON!

BONANZA

RAPIERS at PAIUTE CREEK

AT A DINNER GIVEN BY ONE OF MEXICO CITY'S WEALTHY WINE OWNERS, BEN CARTWRIGHT MAKES THE ACQUAINTANCE OF AN AUSTRIAN GENTLEMAN, BARON WERNER VON FELSSENHEIM...

AND MEANWHILE, ADAM IS SHARRINGING HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE BARON'S DAUGHTER!



I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE INTERESTS IN A NUMBER OF WINES HERE IN MEXICO, BARON VON FELSSENHEIM!

YES, MR CARTWRIGHT—BUT PRESENTLY I AM INTERESTED IN CATTLE RANGING! I HAVE A HERD OF ONE THOUSAND TEXAS CATTLE ACROSSING ANY DAY, NOW!



DO YOU REALLY OWN AN "EMPIRE" OF TIMBER AND RANGELAND AS LARGE AS A EUROPEAN COUNTRON, MR CARTWRIGHT?

WHY, YES, MA—I AM AN WINE VON FELSSENHEIM! THAT IS MY FATHER AND MY TWO BROTHERS, HENK AND LITTLE JOE, AND I OWN IT! BUT WE DON'T THINK OF POND-EROSA AS AN "EMPIRE".



I DO HOPE I SHALL HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO TALK WITH YOU, MA'AM! AND SOON!

IT IS VERY POSSIBLE, MR CARTWRIGHT! MY FATHER HAS NEARLY COMPLETED A NEW RANGELAND—AND WE SHALL BE YOUR NEIGHBORS!



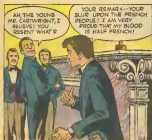
I'LL ADMIT THE LADY IS STUNNING, ADAM... BUT YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'D BEEN POLE-AXED! HA! HA!

OH? MAYBE I HAVE BEEN, LITTLE JOE! SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!



NAPOLEON? HE WAS A WERE ~~POLE~~—A LITTLE COCK WHO LOADED IT OVER THE FRENCH BARRIARD!

BARON VON FELSSENHEIM! I DESERT THAT!



AS DEATH BREAKS OVER FAUTE CREEK...



FROM THE FIRST, LITTLE JOE'S QUICKNESS AND SKILL EASILY MAKE UP FOR THE BARRON'S LONGER REACH.



A FERRY PAIN STABS THROUGH THE BARRON'S SWORD-ARM AS LITTLE JOE'S TRAINING UNDER A NEW ORLEANS FENCING MASTER PAYS OFF...



LATER, AS THE FOUR CARTWRIGHTS ARE LEAVING TOWN,



LOOK! THERE'S THE
BARON AND HIS FRIENDS
-- IN AN AWFUL HURRY!

AND ARMED TO
THE TEETH! I WONDER
WHAT'S UP!

I CAN ANSWER THAT, BEN!
THE BARON HAS JUST GOT WORD
THAT HIS TEXAS HEARD H/IS
ARRIVED--AND THE LOCAL
RANCHERS ARE PLANNING
TO TURN THEM BLACK--
OR SHOOT THEM!

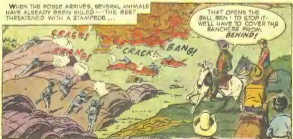
FOR FEAR OF
THE TEXAS
TIG-PEVER,
SHERIFF!



THAT'S IT, BEN! AND
THERE'LL BE MEN KILLED
OVER IT, IF WE DON'T
GET THERE IN A HURRY!
I'M DEPUTIZING YOU
AND YOUR THOSE SONS TO HELP
ME--NOW!



WHEN THE POSSE ARRIVES, SEVERAL ANIMALS
HAVE ALREADY BEEN KILLED--THE REST
THREATENED WITH A STAMPEDE...



THAT OPENS THE
BALL, BEN! TO STOP IT--
WE'LL HAVE TO COVER THE
RANCHERS FROM
BEHIND!

CRACK!

CRACK!

CRACK!

BANG!





CLEAN THROUGH ADAM?

I'M LUCKY, PA! THE BULLET ONLY GRATED THE BONE!

I'LL HAVE IT BANDAGED IN A MINUTE - SEEING THAT THERE'S NO MORE SHOOTING!



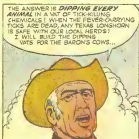
SHARP RIDE OUT THERE WITH ME - BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES! I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY THAT MAY SETTLE THIS!

ALL RIGHT, BEN! IF YOU THINK YOU CAN--



LISTEN EVERYONE! LOCAL RANCHERS CAN'T BE BLAMED FOR WANTING TO KEEP TEXAS FEVER OUT OF THEIR HERDS! BUT SHOOTING IS NOT THE ANSWER!

WHAT OTHER ANSWER IS THERE, BEN CARRWRIGHT?



THE ANSWER IS *DIPPING EVERY ANIMAL* IN A VAT OF TICK-KILLING CHEMICALS! WHEN THE FEVER-CARRYING TICKS ARE DEAD, ANY TEXAS LONGHORN IS SAFE WITH OUR LOCAL HERDS! I WILL BUILD THE DIPPING VATS FOR THE BARON'S COWS...



AND AFTER THEY'VE BEEN DIPPED I'LL MIX SOME OF MY OWN SHORTHORN CATTLE WITH THEM! WE'LL QUARANTINE THE WHOLE LOT UNTIL THEY'RE *PROVED* FEVER-FREE AND SAFE - THEN PUT THEM ON THE RANGE!

THAT'S FINE! DO YOU ALL AGREE? BARON-F!



I AGREE--WITH SINCERE THANKS TO MR. CARTWRIGHT FOR HIS GENEROUS OFFER!

YEA! IT IS GOOD!



THAT WILL BE ALL RIGHT, IF FOLKSWHORN HOLDS HIS HERD WHERE THEY ARE TILL THE TIME'S UP AND IF HE AGREES TO HAVE THEM DESTROYED IF THE DIPPING DOESN'T WORK...

--OR ELSE SEND THEM BACK TO TEXAS!



AGAIN-- I AGREE!



WE DON'T AGREE! THIS DIPPING IS A NEW IDEA! AND I'VE HEARD IT DOESN'T ALWAYS WORK! THE JOHARTS ARE GOING TO PROTECT OUR COWS...

--AND SHOOTING IS THE ONLY SAFE WAY TO HANDLE--

FOREIGN COWS OR FOREIGN CRACKPOTS!



THAT'S ENOUGH FROM YOU! TAKE YOUR BOYS HOME, JOHART--OR BACK UP YOUR FIGHT TALK--NOW!

AGREENT! YOU AND YOUR RANCY FOREIGN FRIENDS --YOU'LL HEAR FROM US! NOT NOW, BUT LATER!



ONE MORE THING, NEIGHBORS--I'D ADVISE YOU ALL TO HAVE YOUR CATTLE DIPPED! SOME OF THEM MAY HAVE GOT NEAR THAT TEXAS HERD ALREADY!

NOT LIKELY, SON! DIPPING OUR COWS IS GOING TOO FAR! MIGHT MAKE 'EM SICK!



THE FOLLOWING DAY ON THE PONDEROSA...



LATER....







WELL, NEIGHBORS, YOU'VE ALL LOOKED OVER THE BARON'S STOCK AND THOSE OF BENS THAT WERE MIXED WITH THEM! IF DIPPING WORKS THAT WELL, WE'D BETTER LOSE NO TIME ABOUT IT! WHAT DO YOU SAY?

WE'RE AGREED, MURRAY--ALL BUT THE JOBARTS! WE'LL DIP!

AND ENOUGH--SEEING THE BARON WILL PAY FOR WHAT WE LOST!



WHEN WE'RE DONE DIPPING OUR HERDS, WE'LL DIP YOURS--TO PROTECT THE RANGE, JOBART--WHETHER YOU WANT IT OR NOT! OR ELSE WE'LL BURY THEM!

THEN YOU'D BETTER COME SHOOTING, LARSON! WE'RE NOT DIPPING--AND SOMEONE WILL PAY PUNY FOR EVERY HEAD WE LOSE!



THOSE JOBARTS ARE RIDING OFF ALONE! THEY'RE TROUBLE-MAKERS, BEN!

THEY HAVE BEEN--FROM THE START, WERNER! WE'D BETTER KEEP A DOUBLE GUARD ON THIS HERD TONIGHT--BECAUSE OF THEM!



IN THAT CASE, ADAM, PERHAPS YOU WILL DO ME A GREAT FAVOR! I WAS GOING TO VIRGINIA CITY TO BRING MY DAUGHTER OUT TO OUR NEW RANCH HOME...BUT NOW THAT I MUST STAY AND RIDE HERD...

YES, SIR? YOU'D LIKE ME TO BRING HER?



THERE IS NO ONE I WOULD RATHER TRUST HER WITH, ADAM, THAN YOU--EVEN IF YOU STILL HAVE BUT ONE GOOD ARM!

THANK YOU, SIR! I'LL RIDE HOME NOW AND GET THE SICKBOARD!

NEXT AFTERNOON...

HELP OUR HERO'S
SICK OR DEAD OF TEXAS
FEVER, BOYS AND
CARTWRIGHT AND
HIS FRIENDS ARE
GOING TO BAY-
HEAVY!

THEY'LL PAY US A FAIR
PRICE NOW, RAPPY. IF
WE GET THE BEST
DIPPED!



NEXT TIME YOU SAY "SHUT" TO
ME, DAN, I'LL KILL YOU! YOU
WERE RAISED ON SHEEP
MILK AFTER YOUR MA
DIED--AND YOU'VE
STILL GOT SHEEP
IN YOUR BLOOD!

BLURRY HERE
COMES SHACK
--A-FOUNDING
LEATHER!



RAPPY, I JUST SIGHTED ADAM
CARTWRIGHT IN A BUCKBOARD
WITH THE BABON'S MILK-
FACED DAUGHTER --
COMING FROM TOWN!

LUCK! LUCK'S
PLAYING RIGHT
INTO OUR
HANDS, SHACK!



WITH THAT PAIR IN OUR HANDS,
WE'LL MAKE CARTWRIGHT AND
THE BABON PAY TEN TURKS
OVER FOR OUR COW GRITERS!
COME ON, BOYS! WE'RE
PLAYING FOR THE
JACKET!



BUT YOUNG DAN JOEBART HAS HAD ENOUGH...

THEY'LL PLAY FOR
TOD! WORSE THAN THEY'VE
DONE BEFORE! I'M
CLASING OUT--TO SOME
PLACE WHERE THE NAME OF
JOEBART'S NEVER
BEEN HEARD!



THAT EVENING--IN BARON VON FELSENHEIM'S
NEW RANCH HOUSE....



ADAM AND YOUR DAUGHTER
ARE LATE GETTING HERE!
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE
WORRIED, WERNER?

WORRIED? OF
COURSE NOT BEN!
MARIA HAS SIMPLY
NEEDED ANOTHER DAY
TO GET READY--TO
PACK HER THINGS!



WELL, IT'S TIME I WENT
BACK TO DINING HALL!
NOT YOU, WERNER--YOU'D
BETTER WAIT HERE, IN
CASE THEY DO
SHOW UP!

WHY HURRY AWAY,
BEN? THERE'S BEEN
NO THREAT TO OUR
CATTLE IN THE PAST
TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS!



CRASH!

WHAT--?



AH! A WATCH
AND--A RING! IN
--THIS NOTE--

A NOTE? READ IT,
WERNER!



"BARON FELSEHEIM--AND
BEN CARTWRIGHT--IF YOU WANT
TO SEE ADAM AND THE GIRL
ALIVE, YOU'LL HAVE FIFTY
THOUSAND IN CASH READY
TO BE LEFT AT A PLACE
YOU WILL BE TOLD ABOUT
THREE DAYS FROM NOW!"
--THAT'S ALL, BEN! IT'S
MARIA'S RING!

--AND ADAM'S
WATCH! THEY
MAY BE ALIVE
OR DEAD! IF I
COULD ONLY
THINK WHAT
TO DO,
WERNER!

I THINK VICTOR AW
YOUNG BLOOD-HOUND-
WILL LEAD US TO THE
BEARER OF THIS
NOTE, BEN! THEN
WE SHALL KNOW
BETTER WHAT
TO DO!

YOU'RE RIGHT,
WERNER! GIVE
YOUR HOUND THE
SCENT--AND LET'S
GO!



ONE HOUR LATER...

ABANDONED
TRAPPER'S CABIN!
I HAVE A HUNCH
WE'LL FIND THEM
HERE--ALIVE,
WERNER!

HEAVEN
GRANT IT,
BEN!



JOHNS--THREE OF THEM!
OUR YOUNGSTERS TIED
HAND AND FOOT, BUT
THEY LOOK ALL RIGHT!
YOU COVER THE
WINDOW, WERNER--
I'LL CRASH THE
DOOR!

NO! WE
GO IN TO-
GETHER--
NOW! IF THEY
HAVE HARNED
MARRA--!



REACH HIGH!

DUCK, BOYS!



THREE SHOTS BLAST DRAPEENINGLY--ALMOST AS
ONE!



FORGET!
GET HIM--

AHH!





I'VE GOT THE OLD HE-WOLF
WERNER! MAKE A LIGHT IF
YOU'VE GOT A MATCH!

I HAVE THE ~~SCHEMERS~~
GUNS--AND A MATCH, TOO!

MARIA-- CHILD--
YOU ARE NOT
HURT? NOT
ANYMORE?

ONLY MY WRISTS
--WITH THE ROPE,
FATHER! BUT
ADAM-- HIS
POOR ARM!

DON'T
WORRY,
MARIA! IT'S
NEARLY
HEALED
ANYWAY!

THE NEXT DAY, AS THE CATTLE DIPPING PROCEEDS...



THE SWORD WILL BE
CLEAN NOW, SON-- WITH THE
TICK FEVER CONQUERED AND
THE JOBBERS IN JAIL!

CLEAR-- AND BEAUTIFUL,
WERNER-- AN AIDUCE
INTENDED IT SHOULD BE!
AND IF WE MUST, WE
WILL FIGHT TO KEEP IT SO!

SNOWSHOE THOMPSON



ANYWHERE SEEN JOY THOMPSON SIX HOURS IN WINTER COLD WHEN HE FOLLOWED THE FORTY-NINERS TO CALIFORNIA AND ABANDONED ITS STREAMS FOR GOLD. HE CHANGED HIS NAME TO JOHNS A THOMPSON.

ON HOMEMADE SKIS--THE FIRST EVER SEEN IN THE WEST, HE BOGGY CHRISTMAS MAIL, MEDICINES, GOLD AND SUPPLIES, TO SAVE WEIGHT HE CARRIED NO BUN--BUT ALWAYS HIS BIBLE.



FOUR YEARS LATER, AS A PIONEER BANDIER, HE LEARNED THAT THE BATH-HOUSES ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE SIERRA NEVADA MTS. WERE CUT OFF BY WINTER SNOWS FROM GAS AND MEDICINE!



"SNOWSHOE" THOMPSON FOUND JAMES GIBSON'S CARRY BURIED IN SNOW--AND GIBSON HAD IT HELD--LESS WITH FROZEN FEET. HE CHARGED GIBSON A STACK OF FIREWOOD AND LEFT.



THOMPSON SOLD TO CARSON VALLEY ANGLES AND FOR SIX, TAUGHT THE RESCUE PARTY HOW TO USE THEM, AND LED THEM TO GIBSON'S CARRY TWO DAYS LATER. GIBSON'S LIFE NOW GAINED.



NOW THE FEDERAL AND CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENTS WHICH FORGET TO PAY "SNOWSHOE THOMPSON" ANYTHING, HAVE VOTED THIRTEEN MILLION DOLLARS TO MAKE SONN VALLEY A STATE PARK IN HIS HONOR.

204 REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS

ONLY \$198

2 COMPLETE ARMIERS

ENTER FIRST OF FOUR MILLENIUM PLASTIC—BASED ON THE DRAWINGS OF THE 4TH COMPANY, 70TH REGIMENT, MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY REGS. COLONIAL AND THE AMERICAN BLUE COATS AT THE BATTLE OF THE RED BANKS. BASED ON THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR. YOUR OWN BATTLE (1780) ISSUED ON PLASTIC FOR THE SPECIAL \$198 SET.

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- 12 Cavalry Infantrymen
- 12 Sharpshooters
- 12 Field Generals
- 12 Cannon Leaders
- 12 Dragoons
- 12 Grenade Rifles
- 24 Mounted Infantry
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