A MIDWINTER ROMANCE ON A FROZEN RIVER. By John Boyd Clarke.

Creek tumbled its rule current into the her sacrificed to her uncle's spite. sufficient room for an ice-yacht to work by in the stiffest breeze that ever awooped

temperature fell, this chasm in the igr was rived late), he blurted out: but lightly skimmed over, and the fer permen passing up and down the river with Franklyn had the Ice Wraith built under his personal superintendence. As soon as of the river he had set about the construc-

tion of the craft. For three months the her head. ice would probably afford the easiest route! The other ice boats were little better

than wood sledges with heavy sails affixed. Upon them the settlers from up the valley transported their cordwood to the railway got to be. at the landing. The Ice Wraith was built; after the most approved lee-yacht plans. Franklyn's duties as paymaster and gen-

eral overseer of his father's lumber camps Franklyn, disgusted with such tameness, took him thirty miles up the river two or was tempted to let her alone. But somethree times a week. The upper camp was thing impelled him to say: beyond Bannock's and back some distance from the river; Franklyn always left his

Franklyn, who had seen the river only | tied to him. Gals is allus ornery at first. in a booming spring flood when the timber But Franklyn couldn't believe that. He drives were aweeping down, scarcely recog- tried to tell himself it was none of his businized the stream under its present peaceful ness; nevertheless he could not drive all guise. For inties the white ice stretched thought of the girl from his mind and he away from the pulp mill landing, unbroken often wondered if there was no escape for

It was long before he dared broach the The river was half a mile wide, and, al. subject to Rose herself. He soon began to though the swift current of the creek kept the lee open quite half its width, there was bloom and that the pretty, appealing blue down the valley. No matter how low the temperature fell, this chasm in the igr was

"Rose, what is the matter with you?" brought a lump into Franklyn's throat. he arrived at the landing and sast the state said. "Is there anything I can do for you?" fore carrying their own plans into effect, She glanced around tearfully, but shook

"Come, my dear, you must trust me," he up and down the river and the possibilities said, soothingly, "You are not happy, of a swift ice boat appealed to the young Would you like to get away from this hole?" For an instant her face lit up; but then the cloud returned and she shook her head

> "I can't leave here," she whispered. "It's "You mean to say you've got to marry that Conley?"

She nodded, flushing to her forehead.

"You don't love the fellow, do you?" The red in her cheeks deepened and for crowd.

married right away?"

"How? There's no minister in these parts

pite of any objections on my part." Franklyn's jaws came together with a snap, "When?" he asked. "Not for several days, I think. The jus-

eave near the west shore, where the Upper Rose, or if he was doing right in idly seeing lice Wraith skimmed out into the river. "By thunder!" muttered Franklyn, after

eyes were growing dark-ringed and sunken. gor. But, then, that wouldn't have been fair lyn's head. Hi was an excellent shot-when Then it was quite impossible for the engl- to her. It would have started some evil sober. The engineer heard him yelling for

She started nervously as though she have been the best way out of the difficulty, the wind. There was no second shot, but senguil, balanced on her starboard runners, were all blue and gilt lave. The boys were up the Amazon was that it had been readtheir sledges or heavy iceboats always gave it a wide berth.

Tranking had the few Wraith built under the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the legal process promised to be glancing back Franking saw half a dozen of while the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the legal process promised to be glancing back Franking saw half a dozen of while the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the legal process promised to be glancing back Franking saw half a dozen of while the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the legal process promised to be glancing back Franking saw half a dozen of while the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the men leap upon horses and into a sledge then she shot away directly for that nat
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Franking had the few Wraith built under the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the mainstal dipped gracefully.

Franking had the few Wraith built under the mainstal dipped gracefully, and uniforms much like their father's and the mainstal dipped gracefully. "Come, I want to be your friend," he would await the pleasure of the courts be- cavalcade clattered away down the river actly astern!

> morning in a state of considerable indeci- there. sion. It would be a week or more before the lawyer could get an order from the court restraining Abe Bannock from exercising said Franklyn, cheerfully. There was some further guardianship over the girl until the danger from those on the river road, howcase had been examined by the judge; and ever. The wind might die out and leave week was a long time.

once that something was on foot. There was was considerably shorter than the ice route. as the broken ice cracked all about them. Franklyn saw the petticoats of two or three below. women. He entered the barroom in some trepidation.

Abe Bannock was behind the bar, but he was not waiting upon customers. His wife was doing the honors for the thirsty

"You mean that they are going to get you in sight as the engineer raised the yacht's own life but the girl's would be sacrificed. were just as anxious to wear their unimainsail and pushed the craft out upon the Fortunately Rese had not seen their danforms as the regulars were to get out of

when there was a wild shout from the tavern. He gianced back. The men were and the second to be Franklyn's intenern. He gianced back. The men were an officer in the signal corps, that he might withnington can go, and take notice of what

in her hands and trembled. Conley swung a rifle above his head, then brought the weapon to his shoulder and fired recklessly after the ice boat, bullet sang less than a foot above Frank

"Are they coming?" cried Rose. "They'll never follow us upon the ice."

them stranded, or the horses might even crowd of men around the door and within It cut off a big curve in the river ten miles

But the Ice Wraith gathered speed. With the wind directly astern, the ice began fairly to "squeal" beneath the heavy runners. The powdered ice flew about them in a cloud and the huge sail tugged as though trying to drag the mast from its socket. Franklyn was determined not to reef the sail unless actually obliged to and as he tacked the Ice Wraith flew about, balanced upon her starboard runners. Rose screamed and clung to his arm, but the engineer, glancing back, saw the horses pounding along the river road and rejoiced that they were gaining upon their pursuers.

The race was young, however. When the fee Wraith went to the eastward the wind fusion. was not so fair and Franklyn was obliged to tack twice before rounding the point. the engineer half feared to find them upon | will ever come back this 'ere way, eh?" the ice below awaiting their coming. But they were not in sight.

shore. He did not fancy stopping any bullets from the bushes along the river bank. They were now quite half way to the pulp mill landing. He looked at his watch and old associations." saw with delight that, unless delayed, they would be in time for the afternoon train. Far below him he saw the open water a the mouth of Upper creek and remembered that he would have to steer to the west side to avoid the treacherous spot. He gazed keenly at the woods there, but nothing at first saw to alarm him.

ike a great bird. They had the wind at their backs again. But suddenly, while they were still two or three miles from the chasm in the ice, man with a gun broke through the bushes on the west shore of the river and ran out

He allowed the Ice Wraith to run gradually over toward that side. The boat flew

he Falls, a friend of Hi's. He'll do it in started slowly. There was a light but fair did not move. They were well out upon the signal corps. He were the whole cutfit, wind, and as soon as they were out from ice and no same man would run too close boots, spurs and all, notwithstanding the under the land the huge sail would feel it. to the mouth of Upper creek. The ice yacht heat. He was the official censor of the Franklyn was scarcely scated at the tiller was simply gathering headway for a long downtown cable offices for a few glorious

"You'll see me day after tomorrow," de-clared the engineer, and a moment later the

But after he had talked with a lawyer he began to believe that an "elopement" would began to believe that an "elopement" would be a thought on a pivot. She soared up like a patriothe buttons and flags and the children erament's head to send Communder Told Franklyn's mind if Bannock and Hi Conley which stood before the tavern, and the whole row strip of black ice with the wind ex- a daughter of the regiment in a Bowery been busy for ten years past in investigat-

in its very daring there was success.

Looking back the navigator saw their pursucrs tumble hurriedly into the sleigh, but they were fairly out-distanced. In a few minutes the Ice Wraith rounded the last the stream and safely made the pulp mill landing. Franklyn had to almost carry Rose to the rallway station, but once seated in the cars she recovered from her fright. The train rolled out of the town before the sweating horses of their pursuers reached the landing.

"O' course, Mr. Franklyn, if we'd knowed you fancied the gal, you could have had Their pursuers had passed them ere this and her for th' arskin'. I don't reckon Rose "I don't believe she will," replied Franklyn, sternly, for the memory of those blue over him very strongly for the moment. "My wife's experience with you wasn't pleasant enough for her to want to renew

Themselves Than the Regulars. In the unwritten code of army and navy officers sarterical ethics play an important part. The regulations of both branches of the service, says the New York Sun, define the uniforms to be worn with so much exactness that any tailor may make them, and custom has defined the occasions on which officers should wear citizen's clothes. It is customary, for instance, for naval officers who go ashore when not on official business upon the ice. Franklyn knew it was Hi Con- to don their plain clothes. Much the same

ley. He was followed by two or three others | code of dress prevails in the army, and no and then a sleigh drawn by two horses was regular army officer under normal condidriven out upon the river also. They were tions would appear in the streets in uniform. When an order was issued at Wash-All the men had guns or sled stakes and ington during the war commanding all staff he horses were headed down the river in officers to wear their uniforms while on readiness to race with the iceboat, if, by duty there was a great shaking out of moth any possibility, Franklyn got by unscathed, balls and a lot of grumbling. This order For a few moments Franklyn did not meant the purchase of new uniforms by shift the tiller an atom. The Ice Wraith many of them, and while they complied was headed directly for the group upon the with the letter of the command they took

reckless and half-drunken fellows would! It was noticeable during the summer and

SPRING COSTUME OF BLUE NUN'S VEILING FROM HARPER'S BAZAR

creamy yellow hue. The skirt represents the new simulated overdress design.

The upper part has a center seam, both back and front, but may be made, if de-

sired, with the back seam upon a fold of the goods and the opening in front. The

back opening will usually be found preferable. Trimming of any preferred variety

may garnish the front seam. In the present instance soutache braid ornaments are

the medium selected. The upper skirt ends where the ordinary tunic would end and

here a circular ruffle is applied under the edge of the upper skirt. This skirt may

be made over a model skirt or may be worn with drop skirt. The bodice, modeled

upon lining pattern of a model waist, fits perfectly to the form. The lower part

is covered with the foulard and forms a cuirasse, above which are four folds of the

same material. The bolero is slashed into square scollops in the front and cutlined

with soutache. The fastening of the bodice is at the left shoulder and left side

seam under the arm. In making a bolero it should be borne in mind that these

dainty little ornamental jackets are always left free from the under arm walst

seams and are only joined to the waist at the shoulder. This is done in order that

the bolero may be slightly stretched over the under bodice and a better fit thereby

may be secured. The proper cut of the costume can be obtained only by use of the

wide will be required and five yards of taffeta nineteen inches wide, or four yards of

To make this garment in medium size seven yards of material forty-five inches

cut paper patterns published by Harper's Bazar, where the costume appears.

foulard twenty-zeven inches wide for the folds about the bodice.

The costume is made of Pastel blue veiling in combination with foulard of a

ing, noon and night was the appearance of within easy tifle range of the edge of the less military in their dress. Papa's unlike folks who five along us borders to safe ice. There was little danger of his form was concealed under a military coat as vague, scarce and unveliable Monkeys. nissing a shot this time.

The came aboard, but it was very evident orchids and gay birds come from that rethat he was no slouch of a fighting man.

Sign. scarce and unrediable Monkeys.

Sign. also blockle this and evershoes.

melodrama. It was a surprise to the other

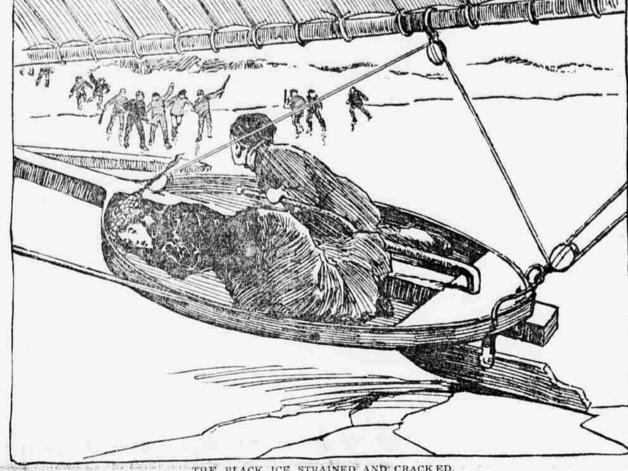
be in uniform."

haps they are afraid I will tell somebody." Franklyn's invitation, and not a soul was certainly use their guns and not only his fall, however, that the volunteer officers | they passed the word about and the man

EXPLORING THE AMAZON. United States trusbeat Navigating the

Great River. Commander Todd of the gunboat Wilclan waters, has been assigned a job that ought to be almost as interesting as fight-

ing the feasibility and proabable cost of a fore carrying their own plans into effect, road. They meant to overtake him at the He started for Bannock's the following landing or head him off before he reached steady hand on the tiller and a sudden light that papa was a staff officer with 'U. S. The distance is about 10,700 miles, of in his eyes. It was a desperate chance, but | V." on the collar of his coat and, moreover, which nearly 5,000 is covered by raticoads that he belonged to a state regiment which already built. The commission has spent was not in service at that time. He and | nearly \$300,000 in its researches, of which Wraith seemed to outspeed bullets for the his family were off on a two weeks' vaca | the United States provided \$245,000, Beaut \$30,000, and the other South American re-One night last week an officer in uniform publics the rart. It first met in Wachingappeared in the balcony of a Broadway ton in December, 1890, when it organized theater. His seat was well around the end | three survey parties-one under Captain E. of the balcony, and as he stirred around a Z. Steever to survey south from Mexico; good deal he attracted no little attention one under Mr. William F. Shunk to sunvey from the people in the or hestra chairs. | north from Quito, and one under Mr. J. "Pil bet a supper for the crowd," said imbrie Miller to survey south from Quite man who had seen service and who was to Lake Titacaca in Bolivia. The surveys moved by the sight of the man in uni- were finished about three years ago. Now at the theater, "I'll bet a supper for the results tinve been worked out and the the crowd that that fellow up there is a report sumptuously published. The verdict colunteer. If he were a regular he wouldn't is that the road is perfectly feasible, and that the readbed for the main line, Includ-Several people around him heard this offer ing masonry, grading and bridges (but not o bet, and when at the end of the next act | rails) would cost about \$175,000,000. The the officer decended from the baleony to most expensive and difficult section of the ook up a friend in the orchestra circle they proposed line would be in Columbia, Ecuaraned their necks to see what his uniform | dor and Peru, where the road skirts the was. When the wise ones saw that he was | Andes for 3,600 miles at an estimate cost of surgeon and that he was a "U. S. V." | \$125,000,000.



THE BLACK ICE STRAINED AND CRACKED.

took dinner at Bannock's house. Abe Ban- her eyes, nock was rather a hard citizen, even for the backwoods of Maine, and the men who fre- question?" she asked bitterly, quented the place were, many of them, worse than the proprietor. Abe sold liquor more than suspected of aiding in smuggling | makes me wonder."

enterprises. Franklyn was never molested, however. old fellow was known to be, it is doubtful am not forced to this awful thing?" if he would have countenanced any scheme of outright robbery. Besides, Franklyn had

Another member of the tavern keeper's made a good impression was Rose, the someone in here." daughter of Abe's half-brother. She had been left to her uncle's care when her breathless with rage. father died less than a year before. When Franklyn had surveyed his father's purchases. Rose had not been at the tavern, but from Mrs. Abe he gained all the facts in the case

she was brought up on milk and water!"

dently frightened her. She was very pretty, now and half fainting. "He said he would with a pink and white prettiness, and she kill me if I told anybody." looked like a fragile doll beside her aunt or among the rude fellows who congregated at scarcely tasted. "If you will let me help ing; her brown hair clustered about her place," he said, white brow, upon which the blue veins showed plainly, and her blue eyes were as like a shudder, if her eyes would have the same innocence for very long.

First out of pity the young fellow became dian?" friendly with old Abe's niece. He saw at once that she was glad to talk with him because he belonged to that outside world of which she once had been a part. He found her very intelligent, showing the marks of tered Franklyn. There was the sound of a careful home training and some education. gruff voice in the outer room; he recognized The more Franklyn saw of her the more deeply he felt the misfortune of her position. He sounded Abe once regarding her, but very carefully, and learned that the old man gineer. "Til make my plans, see a lawyer take satisfaction in keeping Rose in her unsavory surroundings.

"She's a-wantin' ter go Bangor way an' teach skule," said the tavern keeper. "But she's wuth too much ter me here. The boys like to see her 'round-an'-an' it draws

But Franklyn learned quite by accident who came frequently to the tavern and Mrs. spoke to him. Abe one day let drop something which assured the engineer that Abe intended Rose felt a sudden tide of passion rise within him in love with her. as he thought of the poor girl sacrificed to this scoundrel.

marry him?" he demanded of the old a little.

tayern keeper's wife, bridling up a little, soon."
"She ain't no better blood in her veins than "Why?"

beat at Bannock's little landing and usually an instant there was a flash of anger in "What must you think of me to ask that

Franklyn hastened to make peace. "Pardon me, Rose. But when a girl so to the surrounding lumber crews and was tamely abides by such a thing as this it

"Abides!" She repeated the word with a world of passion in her voice, yet still He only had the money for one crew when speaking under her breath. "Do you suphe reached Abe's and, as reckless as the pose for an instant, Mr. Franklyn, that I

"Why don't you leave, then?" She looked down upon him for an instant gained a friend at court in the person of with that hard light of anger still in her Abe's wife, a coarse, masculine woman, who eyes. Suddenly she unfastened the print could use a gun, or paddle a canoe, or wield gown she were at the throat, and, turning an axe-yes, or drink as much liquor and her back to him, stripped the light dress hold up her end of a battle with the best down over her shoulder. The tender desh man who ever came to Bannock's. But she was crossed and recrossed with great blue was a woman for all that, and Franklyn's welts. Franklyn leaped up with a passiongallantry and his infectious good nature won ate outh, but the girl flew at him and pressed her hand over his lips.

"Hush! Hush! For God's sake! I ought family upon whom the civil engineer had not to have shown you. You will bring Franklyn was forced back into his chair

"Who-who did that?" he demanded.

"Uncle. But Hi Conley held me." Franklyn's face was deadly white, "What was it for?'

"Because I tried to run away. It was The woman seemed to dimly realize that day before yesterday." She had fastened the place was not fit for the girl, but she her dress again and was sobbing softly. confided to the young man that her husband "Uncle would let me have no money to go had declared that "What was good enough away and I tried to walk. They caught me for him was good enough for Bill's gal-ef after I had gone nearly twenty miles-I had almost reached Emsden. They brought me When there was much company Rose had | back and-and Uncle Abe did that with his to assist at waiting on the guests and their riding whip. I-I cannot stand such treatcoarse jests and attempts at gallantry evi- ment; I am a coward," she was trembling

the tavern. Her form was small but pleas- you. I swear you shall get away from this you kill yourself?

"I am afraid of Uncle Abe and Hi." "I'll get you away if there were a dozen clear and pure as a child's. But Franklyn Uncle Abes and Conleys. There are legal could not help wondering, with something means-even in a community like this-to force them to give you up. I suppose, though, that your uncle is your legal guar-

> Rose nodded. "And how old are you?"

"And to be tied to that scoundrel!" mutit as Conley's. Hose shrank away, the ter-

ror coming back into her eyes. "Keep up your heart," whispered the en and tell you what steps to take when I come back the next time." Then he lounged out into the barroom, paid his score to Abe. nodded to Conley and set out for the lumber

camp. When he got back to Bannock's it was nearly dark. He saw Rose nowhere about the house, although he loitered a moment that Abe Bannock had something else in his mind. There was a fellow, Hi Conley, a little figure crept out of the bushes and a little figure crept out of the bushes and

"Is it you, Rose?" "Yes," she whispered. He could scarcely thing will do. I will go out after I have for him. The latter was supposed to be a see her face, but the fact that she stood so guide in the season, but his frequent trips near him thrilled him strangely. He had to and from "the line" pointed to his con- begun by pitying the gir), but he found himnection with the "free-traders." Franklyn self wondering if he should end by falling the boys.

"I'll do what I can for you before I come up next time." he said, and he spoke more and we'll get away in my ice boat-there's "Do you mean to say Abe will make her coldly than he intended. She shrank back

"I-I only wanted to tell you that-that 'Ho! she might do worse," returned the if you can bring me any help it must be very or horseback. Wrap yourself up warmly.

my Abe has. I reckon she'll git used to it. "Because uncle and Hi are determined he joined her at the river's edge. Every-She'll like Hi well enough after she's fast that the the matter shall end quickly. Per- body had filed into the little barroom at

"Hallo, Mr. Franklyn!" exclaimed the tavern keeper. "Might-hic!-y-glad ter see ye. Ye're in good season." "What's up?" demanded the engineer

carelessly, but his heart beat faster. "Weddin'," said Abe with satisfaction. "M' niece's goin' ter be married. Justice'll be-hic!-here shortly."

Franklyn kept a strong hand upon his emotions and waited. "It's a great day, sir. Hope ye'll jine us. Thar's the happy bridegroom over yander,' and the tipsy tavern keeper pointed to the figure of Hi Conley lolling upon a dirty table across the room. At his words Hi arose unsteadily and looked at Franklyn with an ugly light in his eyes. He was not as drunk as Abe, but he was the more

dangerous "Yes, sir! I'm the bridegroom. An' l eckon I kin look out for my wife, too. I want all you fellers to take notice," he said, waving his hand to the crowd at the bar. 'Anybody that gits ter shinnying 'round my wife'll git inter trouble. That goes!" "Oh, you're all right, Hi," responded Franklyn with a laugh. But he desired with a mighty desire to seize the fellow by the throat and choke the breath out of his

cowardly body. Mrs. Abe followed the engineer into the lining room for a moment.

"I reckon you kin have some dinner, sir," she said. "But Rose'll haf ter wait on yer. 'Twon't take her long an' 'twon't hurt her s'long's she's actin' so offish." went to the foot of the stairs and shouted: 'Rose! You Rose! Come down yere. Here's Mr. Franklyn to be waited on." In a moment the girl's white face appeared at the door.

"Thank God! thank God!" she whispered, tremblingly. "I had given up hope. I sat there waiting to hear the-the justice come, with this by me," she drew out from under her skirt a sharpbladed knife. "I thought it was he when you came, and—and—" —
"Great heavens!" gasped Franklyn, "would

She drew herself up to her full height and she seemed suddenly taller than ever before, "Do you think for a moment I would marry that wretch? Better death a thousand times. Although I am a coward and fear bodily punishment, the knife was at my breast when auna called me."

She flung it down upon the table and Franklyn selzed the weapon as though he feared she would do herself harm with it, even now. "Now what do you want me to do?" she asked. Evidently the idea that he might fall to protect and save her had never dis-

tell her he was as yet powerless. "I saw the lawyer," he said, feebly. 'And is he here?" she asked eagerly. will take me away?'

tubed the girl's mind. Franklyn could not

"He cannot until he gets an order from Then how will he stop the marriage

"He can't," returned Franklyn, with a

sudden burst of desperation. "He can't save you; but I can, and I'll do it!" "Yes, Mr. Franklyn, I never doubted you," she said, with a blush, and in some surprise at his vehemence.

"Quick, now! Do just as I tell you," he "Serve me some dinner here-anyeaten and tell Abe that I will be back from "You must slip out the back way and get

down to the river unseen. I'll join you there

nothing on the river can stop her once she

gets going. With five minutes' start I don't believe they can overtake us, either on skates Now bring me in something to eat." She obeyed to the letter. In ten minutes

him before he decided upon any plan. The forms for their plain clothes.

ger. She had crouched down in the yacht them. One of the sights downtown morn Rose darted out of the bushes and he most of the time. ow."

Suddenly Franklyn tacked and took a a young man, hitherto unknown to fame,
"But there's a justice of the peace up at push leaped in himself. The Ice Wraith short leg to the castward. The men below in his uniform of a volunteer officer of the

> She bowled along, close-hauled, with a til he was mustered out. During the fall zon above Manuros, which is 850 miles up cloud of ice particles dancing in her wake, one of the coast line boats which left this giream. The Wilmington draws wight feet Nearer and nearer she drew to that nars port for the south carried among its past ton imbes, and it is thought that she can rower strip of safe ice. The chasm at the sengers a very imposing looking family. It go 1,000 or 1,000 miles farther. The upper mouth of the creek was skimmed over with consisted of papa, mamma and several half- Amazon is not absolutely unexplored, but thin and treacherous ice. Hi Conley stood grown children. All of them were more or information about the district traversed and

missing a shot this time.

Conley's rifle cracked valuely. The Ice moment. Like an arrow from the bow she tion and he elected to wear his uniform. shot down to the chasm. The black ice strained and cracked. Franklyn could feel When he arrived at the tavern he saw at beat the ice yacht in the race. The road it bend beneath their weight. And then, the yacht leaped the chasm and sped out upon the frozen river beyond!

It was several years before Franklyn ventured into the region again. Hi Conley was then serving a term in the state prison. Abe Bannock met Franklyn with some con-

He kept the Ice Wraith near the east welts upon Rose's pretty shoulders came

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ice, and half a mile or more ran out behind | every opportunity to exchange their uni-



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