

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REFERENCE SERIES

HARD WINTERS IN IDAHO

Number 213

Eagle Rock Register, January 28, 1888 (page 4, column 2):

[d.q. from Oxford Enterprise] This has been the coldest spell Maladians ever experienced. Thermometers less than twelve feet long are absolutely worthless as indicators of the temperature. The water in wells 14 feet deep has been frozen solid. Coal oil is sold by the yard, beer by the foot, and the hottest kind of rot-gut whiskey by the stick. It is said that in St. John a kerosene lamp was frozen while burning, and that not only the lamp was frozen and the oil was solidified, but the flame was frozen stiff and was just as natural as a petrified pig. . . Should anybody doubt this statement, we respectfully ask them to come in before spring and examine the record. We have the very words in which this statement was made to us, in solid chunks of ice.

Idaho Daily Statesman, January 15, 1888 (page 3, column 1):

[d.q.] The unusual cold snap of the past two weeks has been very severe on jack rabbits, and we learn that hundreds of them have frozen and starved to death. After all, cold weather has its compensation.

Idaho Daily Statesman, January 17, 1888 (page 3, column 1):

[d.q.] Water pipes have become frozen and burst in various parts of the town. "You will have to take a dry polish this morning," said Squeers, the Yorkshire schoolmaster, to Nicholas Nicholby when he found the spring frozen, and we imagine quite a number of our citizens took the same view of affairs yesterday morning.

[d.q. direct quote]

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