

The Journal.

W. H. C. & Deisinger, Proprietors

B. O. DEISINGER, Associate Editor

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Millheim on the L. C. & S. C. R. P. has a population of 600, is a thriving business center, and controls the trade of an average radius of over eight miles, in which the JOURNAL has a larger circulation than all other county papers combined.

HOW HE WON HER.

The Romance of a Determined Man.

Prof. Die, school-teacher, and a lady whose first name was Huldah, like wise a school-teacher, had kept company in Cincinnati many years. The former got to be fifty years old, and the latter forty-five, and still the courting went on. The parents of the lady began to think of this thing. They were not very young themselves, and when they saw the gray hairs of their daughter, and witnessed the continued interviewing going on between her and the professor, with no satisfactory result, they became indignant. They forbade the professor the house in dignified but firm language, and had it intimated in the proper quarters that Huldah was free. The professor for his part was much puzzled. He had always behaved himself. What could be the matter? He became indignant in turn, and declared that he would see Huldah, and be hanged to the old people. He did see her, and in her own house, too, and she received him with her accustomed sweetness. The old people found it out, and assisted him in the work of absence. He came again, and they shot blank cartridges at him. Still again, and the boys of the neighborhood pounded him with fence rails. Several times more, and finally he carried away with him in his flight a charge of lirdshot.

It was a comfort to him through all this trouble that Huldah loved him. Nothing could change her faithfulness. She went with him over the persecutions of a hollow-hearted world, and vowed that nothing should change her affections. But there was no such thing as privacy in his relations with her. The old people learned of every meeting in time to make trouble. If they didn't the boys did. If the boys didn't somebody else did. It was remarkable. He made appointments that he knew were known only to Huldah and himself; yet they invariably became public. He knew he was not given to sleep-walking or sleep-talking. He asked Huldah if she was thus afflicted, and she demurely said no. It was extraordinary. There was no explanation of the mystery. The only thing certain about it was that it did fair to continue, and there would evidently be no peace for the loving couple in all the world. One day a bright idea struck the professor.

"Am I?" he remarked, thoughtfully caressing his whiskers and wiping his baldness with a handkerchief, "see here Huldah! We must circumvent 'em. I have it. The very idea!"

"Yes, sir," said Huldah, smoothing down her dress and looking respectful and interested.

"There is but one way. We must get married, Huldah."

"O sir!" said Huldah, blushing, and with great apparent surprise.

"There is no other way!" said the professor, smiting one of his thin limbs with great determination. "It must be done. Now I think of it, I wonder I didn't think of it before. It is the only channel through the difficulty. I declare I will not be persecuted in this manner any longer!"

"But sir," said Huldah, with some hesitation, "is not this rather sudden?"

"It is, I admit," returned the professor, frankly. "But consider the difficulty of these meetings, my dear. Reflect how we have been persecuted these—these ten years lack, I think." The professor made a slight calculation and found he had the time about right. "This cannot go on. I cannot do without you, Huldah, and these annoyances would drive me into the grave in ten years more. No, Huldah there is really no other way. It must be done."

"Very well," said Huldah resignedly, and the night of the elopement was immediately selected. The professor by some special interposition on his behalf, got off without being disturbed by the old people or the boys, and went home happier, for some reason, than he had been since a boy. "She is really pretty," he said to himself. I never saw her look so nice as she did to-night, and there was a twinkle in her eye which was surely new to her. I never saw such a twinkle. And I

think she laughed after I came away; I could almost swear it was a laugh. I am certain that it emerged from her room; and it seemed to me that she was jumping up and down, and having a great deal of surreptitious fun about something. Ah, well, she will tell me all about it herself, I dare say."

The elopement was a perfect success. The old people were as sound asleep as if they had entered into the conspiracy themselves. There were no boys around. The carriage made a great deal of noise, and the rope ladder was as awkward and noisy as a brass band, but nobody awoke.

"Fortune favors us, Huldah," said the professor, as they rode away.

"Yes, sir," said Huldah, who was as calm as a June morning, and so happy and good-natured that she almost forgot to be entirely respectful. Some days thereafter the professor proposed a visit to the old people. "As my wife, you will be saved from any annoyance from them," he said, proudly. "Do not be alarmed Huldah. They dare not hurt you. That little ceremony has changed things a good deal, my dear."

"Yes, sir," said Huldah, smiling contentedly, and looking as if her happiness wanted her to smile more. To the professor's unbounded surprise, he was kindly received. The old gentleman shook his hand nearly off, and the old lady had tears in her eyes and kissed him on both cheeks. "This is very odd," remarked the professor, looking from one to another in profound astonishment. "You—you are perhaps not aware that Huldah and I are married?"

"When did this happen?" asked the old gentleman, apparently with some studied curiosity.

"Three nights ago, sir," said the professor, promptly.

"Three nights ago, hey?" roared the old gentleman. "And why didn't it happen ten years ago, you stupid old prostrator?"

The professor was so overcome with astonishment that he seemed to perfectly helpless.

OLD POST OFFICE MYSTERIES.

A story that reads like a medieval romance comes from New York. In refitting the old post office buildings, the carpenters have discovered that the upper floors are double, and so arranged that detectives can watch the operations of those in the different rooms, who suppose themselves to be alone. The whole building was furnished with secret passages, sliding panels, hidden trapdoors and mysterious chambers, of whose existence the post officials had no knowledge with the exception of the post master and assistant. When the workmen had removed the flooring it was seen that the concealed space was from four to four and one-half feet deep, affording ample room for men to move about. Passages led entirely around the building. At very short intervals were found small circular holes in which were inverted lenses. Through these a view of the room below was obtained. Back of and above these lenses were reflectors which brought before the eyes of the observer the utmost recesses of the post office. If a detective saw any stealing or any improper action committed by a clerk or a person not employed in the office, the speaking tube at his side conveyed a warning at once to the attic room, and the guilty person was met at the door, or tapped on the shoulder in the interior of the office by another detective. The aperture through which the detective overlooks the rooms in most cases so small as hardly to be visible from the apartments below. Some of them, however, look boldly down from the eaves, but as the planks in which they are seen were obtained from very old timber the holes would readily be taken for knots. The maxim of the post master was, "The detectives and assistants watch the post master keeps an eye on the detectives and assistants, and the Lord will watch the post master."

Rapid Locomotive Building.

On November 14, in the Michigan Central Railroad shops, at Jackson, Michigan, two gangs of workmen, numbering fourteen men each, attempted to put two locomotives together in the shortest time yet made. The Detroit Free Press says: "The jacks were applied, the huge boilers were raised and bolted on their frames, then they were placed on their wheels with all possible expedition, while simultaneously work was progressing on every portion of the machines, which were rapidly assuming perfect form. Water was let into the boilers, and even while men were working at the grates the fires were kindled, and the 'infants' began to warm up for their work. At last one of them is ready along the track until she stops beneath the one designed for her, which hangs above her. "Lower away, cast off your tackle, go ahead," and the yard engine pulls her out of the house and to another shop for completion, her constructors working as she moves and busy hands being employed in

fastening the bolts which hold the smokestack in its place. A few moments more and the last screw is turned, the last bolt is fastened, the engineer stands in his place, and in just two hours and fifty minutes from the time the signal to commence was given the throttle is pulled, and the first of the twins moves off completed, followed a moment later by her mate.

All the pieces of machinery connected with the locomotive had been finished and ready for use beforehand, but none had been fitted. On the same day the two new engines made trips of seventy-six miles each and worked nicely.

The Blessings of Steam Power.

The aggregate steam-power in use in the world is at present three and one-half millions horse-power employed in stationary engines, and ten millions horse-power in locomotive engines. This force is maintained without the consumption of animal food, except by the miners who dig the coals, and the force maintained in their muscles is to the force generated by the product of their labor about 1 to 1000. This steam-power is equal to the working force of 25 millions of horses, and one horse consumes three times as much food as one man. The steam-power, therefore, is equivalent to the saving of food for 75 millions of human beings. Further, three power-looms, attended by one man, produce 78 pieces of cotton fabric, against four pieces produced by one hand-loom, worked by one man in the year 1800. A carpenter planing machine does the work of twenty men.

Tired People.

The world is full of tired people; merchants tired of business; farmers tired of raising crops; mechanics tired of building houses; housekeepers tired of preparing food; operatives tired of the rushing wheels. Pass along the road or street and see how very tired three-fourths of the people look. How shall they get rested? Some say, "By fewer hours of work." But some of them have no work at all. Others might prescribe easy sofas and more arm-chairs and soft beds. But some of the people who have the weariest look have plenty of good furniture and luxurious upholstery. Now we offer a pillow not cushioned with gobelin tapestry, nor stuffed with the down of angels' wings. But a man who puts his head on it gets rid of his cares and anxieties. It is a pillow stuffed with promises. "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Cast thy burden on the Lord and he will sustain thee." We have friends, who, put under their head at night a pillow of hopes; but they never tried the better pillow filled with the myth and phantasmagoria from the Lord's garden. Men and women tired out with the world, try it!

ONE TIMBER.—No thinking man can pass through the country and see every here and there a beautiful grove of forest trees cut down, without feeling that just in proportion as the trees are cut down in that proportion is the country injured. The absence of trees or shades causes the springs and wells to go dry, the earth becomes parched for want of rain and shade, and vegetation is ruined and stunted. Cannot a stop be put to it, should not our Legislature enact some law that would compel each farmer to have at least five acres of woodland to every hundred acres of his farm? We think it would be well to put a stop to this wholesale destruction of the beautiful and highly useful woods.—Ex.

A BRIGHT STORY is told of the accomplished wife—now dead—of General Hooker. When she was the admired Miss Groesbeck of Cincinnati, she was once at an evening party when a fashionable young dandy was asked if he would like to be presented to her. "Oh, yes," he said, languidly, "trot her out."

The lady overheard the remark, and when he was presented she adjusted her eyeglasses and deliberately and slowly scanned his clothing from boot to collar. The survey finished, she waived her hand and carelessly said: "Trot him back, I have seen all there is of him."

BRANDY AND A BIG RATTLE-SNAKE.—James Mitchell, Fred Divins, Johnnie Woodward of Butler, Ga., went out squirrel hunting last Saturday. Mr. Mitchell got into a rattlesnake's nest, and was bitten four times before he could extricate himself. There was a flask of brandy in the party, and after drinking the contents he says he felt no inconvenience from it. Mr. Woodward, while attempting to shoot the snake, accidentally shot Mr. Divins in the left arm just below the elbow. The snake was killed, and measured fifteen feet long, with twenty-one rattles and a button.—Butler Herald.

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A FORTUNE.

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