

# Millieum

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NO. 41.

### THEY COME NO MORE.

They come no more!  
The little feet that treaded its morning  
The little feet that treaded its day long  
The little hands that mine so low  
The little lips whose touch was a caress—  
They come no more!  
They come no more!  
The laughing eyes that fondly looked in mine  
The baby ways that round the heart-strings  
twine—  
They come no more!  
The curly head that nestles on my breast;  
All, all has left me for a sweeter rest—  
They come no more!  
They come no more!  
And, yet, to soothe my sorrow and regret,  
The feeling comes my boy is with me yet  
I know that some day, when this life has past  
Loving me still the same with joy at last,  
He'll come once more!

### Who was Right.

Just ten years ago I met the only one I ever loved, and, though the years are adding to each other, I still remember the first time we looked into each other's eyes and clasped the hands that made us friends, and true friends, indeed, for life.

In the city of C—, situated upon the banks of one of Ohio's beautiful blue rivers, there lived a family of wealth and culture. Surrounding as they were by all that could refine and educate a young and gifted mind, Miss Alice Marvenia, their second daughter, grew in girlhood's loveliness and romantic sweetness, and long before the age that fully develops the womanly qualities, she had numerous lovers ready to do her bidding.

Yes, I remember the evening we met. It was at the rink; upon the glistering circle of ice, the light shown down in chaste effulgence and its scintillations were like fine flares fitting in the silver sheen of a summer night. In the gallery the band poured forth its sweetest music, and seemed to bathe all in its soft, voluptuous swell as round and round the skaters quickly passed.

This particular evening had assembled together the youth and beauty of the city. Among the handsome and attractive, Miss Marvenia was the acknowledged belle, attired in a velvet suit trimmed with gray fox fur, a Turkish cap nestled among her nut-brown tresses—she looked a queen indeed. At last the moment arrived when the long wished for introduction took place. It was generally known that we were both anxious to become acquainted, and as I glided into the knot of skaters which were gathered in the furthest corner, perchance to discuss a new figure or quiz some of the awkward skaters, Miss Lulu Allison, a bright and pretty Miss, who had long known our desire for an introduction, seized upon this opportunity to make the needed request.

"Miss Marvenia allow me to introduce to you my friend, Mr. Braleigh. He is a charming skater, and I know you will have a splendid time."

"Miss Marvenia, I am very glad to make your acquaintance, and I hope we will be good friends. Can I express the same sentiments for yourself?"

"Why, certainly, Mr. Braleigh. Do you know that I have noticed you time and time again, and really, this meeting gives me the greatest of pleasure. Won't it be nice if now that we know each other we can have such a gay time together. We shall meet here every evening, and as the band has now commenced playing, I am going to invite you to be my partner. Will you accept?"

"Certainly. Shall we skate backwards or forwards?"

"Oh, no; let us join hands and skate slowly around. Do you know that I so dislike this hurry and rush, as though one's life depended upon going around this circle in a few minutes in a fixed period? I prefer to go slowly; am I not right?"

As this question was asked our eyes met, and it was evident that we were both pleased with each other's society, and I can truly say that the moments passed so quickly and yet so quietly, that it was to me a pleasant dream. My partner's sweet voice charmed me and her innocent questions awakened in my heart feelings of the deepest respect and esteem. Her eyes, dark as the night, sparkled with unusual brilliancy; and as I looked into their liquid depths, I imagined hours of happiness; yes, and days of content that could be passed under their charming influence.

The hour, however, was fast approaching when skates were bundled up and the weary skaters sought their warm firesides. So bidding adieu for a while to the awakened thoughts and feelings which were arising in my mind, I hastened to the room where, around a large stove, the ladies and gentlemen were gathered, talking off their skates. We were greeted upon our arrival in the room by: "Well, indeed! and are you through? we had almost made up our mind that you were going to skate all night."

"Now, Miss Villiers, you know that we had an engagement for this evening."

"Yes, that is right, make an excuse. You can depend upon it, something is wrong."

"Mr. Braleigh, I am not going to speak to you again. No, you can not smooth it over. You promised me a week ago that the first evening the band played you would teach me the new figure. But to see you this evening while you were skating one would naturally suppose you had forgotten everything else in the world except her, and I am certain that if the janitor, would commence turning off the gas you had not been skating there yet."

"Come, now, Miss Villiers, do not be so cruel; you are certainly aware that my acquaintance with Miss Marvenia dates from this evening, and, of course, I desired to get along as far as possible."

"Indeed, I expect you were. I am persuaded that you have gotten along so far that you are already in love with her."

"Not wishing to continue the conversation, and fearing, perhaps, that her remarks might be overheard, I turned aside. Hastening to where she was, I proceeded to unbutton her skates. Thinking me very kindly for so doing, I offered her my company home, which was accepted. After wrapping up snugly we stepped out into the cold air. The moon was shining brightly in the heavens; and as we walked rapidly towards her home, the snow crackled and crackled under our feet, so cold had been the day.

Arriving at last at her home, and with

the promise that I would attend the rink next evening, we parted.

Well, I can remember my lonely walk back that evening; how, as if a new life had come to my young heart—was it love? Could it be that in such a short period I could feel the passionate thrillings of love's sweetest depths. As I lay in my bed that night I felt as though my fate had been sealed. I loved her, and I looked forward to the day when I could call her mine. I knew it would be a struggle to possess her; but who could doubt his weakness when love has made him blind? Evening after evening we spent at the rink. We were the happiest of all present, the observed of all observers. It soon became the talk "that when we were together no other society was needed." We found so many ways to entertain each other. It was simply an obsession for any one to tarry with us. Week followed week, and the months of winter gradually warmed into spring. The buds upon the trees were putting forth their tiny green heads, and over the grey and dreary meadows the blue grass spread itself and seemed like the magnificence of the beautiful sky. With the return of spring and its bright and sunny days, our love grew stronger. Trusting in each other our life was one of complete happiness.

Can I doubt the strength of confiding hearts? We had said they cannot be true? Who could believe that treachery could enter into and take possession of an honest and true heart, and break the silver chords of constancy? For it is constancy, strengthened by love, that binds the hearts and holds together the future happiness of man and wife. It is said that youthful love does not last—its fields, so brightly arched and easily forgot. Let but a few months of separation exist and all will soon be forgotten. The sweet smile of the one so ardently admired will become as a mockery of by-gone days. The ringing laugh that sounded like the notes of a song, will grow fainter and fainter as the weeks grow longer and longer. The gifts which were so kind and tenderly given soon lose their favorite place in the room, and in their stead perchance souvenirs from others are placed. Be that as it may, a separation soon took place.

I was appressed of the fact one evening as we were sitting in the parlor playing cards. It was settled that Alice was to leave the following Monday for Philadelphia, to attend a private boarding school, to be gone one year, and as we turned from the card table to the piano, I asked her to play Millard's "Waiting," a favorite song of ours, which she did with considerable feeling. Our conversation then naturally turned upon the subject of her going away.

"Harry, I am so sorry that I have to leave you," she said, "and would you believe it, my sobs cannot write to you, or you to me, during the whole year that I am away."

"And you are willing to accede to this," "Indeed, I am not; but how can I help it?"

"Can't you arrange to go the way you desire? You can't go to secret."

"Oh, Harry! And would you have me do this? It seems so wicked, and if I were to be found out, then what?"

"Then what! Have you not told me that you loved me; and do you think that in the time of trouble I should desert you?"

"What, you desert me? Oh, no; I could not believe that, but then I feel as though I must obey. The time will be short. Only one year, and then I will be home again. Please wait." As I took my hat to leave she passed into the hallway and after promising to be at the train on the day of her departure, I left.

Monday, 12 o'clock at noon, found me at the depot stepping into the cars. Looking hurriedly over the seats I saw Alice and her father in the farther end. With a gasp she ran to her face she welcomed me, and as I handed her a bouquet of flowers to be a companion during her travels, she thanked me most cordially. Our conversation was soon brought to a close by the engine bell which was a signal for departure. Bidding her good-bye, I hastened to the platform. As the train drew out we waved each other a last farewell.

A year had now almost passed away and I looked anxiously forward to the day. Aye, I longed for the hour, when we should meet again.

Frequently I had heard from her, through friends here, and the messages were always of the best wishes for my welfare, and expressed sentiments of deep regard.

Each thought expressed in my behalf kindled anew the passion of my soul. It would not be long, I thought, when we shall see each other again.

The time now quickly passed away, and the morning of her return had come—she was home.

I called at noon, but was greeted upon my arrival with the startling news, "Miss Marvenia was sick and it would be impossible for me to see her."

"Impossible to see her!" I exclaimed; "why, is she so seriously sick?"

"Well, I think so," said the servant, "but if you will step into the parlor, Mr. Braleigh, I will call her mother; she pr it will be better for you to see her."

Stepping into the parlor I awaited her coming, which was not long. After the customary formalities, I inquired very earnestly after the health of Miss Marvenia.

"Mr. Braleigh, I am very sorry to say that my daughter is ill and unable to see you at present. It may be a week or even three or four weeks before I can permit you to call. You will, of course, consider that I have my daughter's welfare at heart, and you will please act upon the suggestion."

"Mrs. Marvenia, you astonish me; is it possible that your daughter is so very sick that I cannot welcome her home?"

"Yes, it is true."

"What could you really mean; was she sick? What could have made Mrs. Marvenia act so towards me? True, she never suspected our love as I had supposed. What right had she to know of it? Could it be possible that Alice had told her, and now she was seeking to sever the warm tie which was binding us so firmly together?"

As I wandered onward, all this passed through my mind. I was convinced myself that something had evidently chilled the feelings of Alice's mother towards me. What it was, I knew not. But I resolved to find it out.

It was fully three weeks before I had an opportunity to see her. During this time I understood that she had been kept closely confined. Why, I could not discover. When she passed along in her carriage she looked so sad and pale my heart sank with

in me. Her large black eyes, which were wont to look so bright, now had a wistful look; some one thing seemed absorbing her mind. There was no evidence of physical disability. She had not noticed me, for I stood under the shade trees by the sidewalk, and as I stepped from under their concealing branches I resolved to know the cause of her sorrow. Hastening to her home I arrived there just as she stepped from the carriage to the door. We met. Trembling with excitement, she welcomed me, and invited me to a seat in the parlor. Drawing a chair to her side, I inquired the cause of such a change in her face—why so sad and despondent. With considerable hesitation she finally said:

"Oh, Mr. Braleigh, I cannot, cannot tell you. You do not know what a change I have experienced."

"A change, Alice? What do you mean?"

"Harry, I thought I loved you, but within the last few weeks I know that it cannot be so."

"Cannot be so, Alice? Why, what can be the matter?"

As I asked this question I looked into her face with straining eyes, as if to read her inmost thoughts. I knew and felt she could not, did not feel what she was saying.

"It is nothing, Harry."

"Your mother? Speak then, Alice, and let me know all," I said calmly and with deliberation.

"Mother says she hates you and will not permit you again to see me. Why, I do not know. She will not explain. Some one, no doubt, who is an enemy to you, has told her bitter falsehoods concerning yourself."

"And do you believe them?" I said, trembling with excitement and indignation.

"Believe them, Harry?" she replied. As she spoke her manner was sufficient to convince me she did not. "Believe them, Harry? No; and no most emphatically; and if you say the word, I will be yours and only yours till death."

Kind reader, what would you have done under the circumstances? Here was a young and beautiful girl, whom I had loved most passionately, willing to leave home and all to be my wife—reared in luxury and refinement, to go to a home, Heaven only knows where, for I was poor; but to thank God! no one could point the finger upon me at any period in my life, and single deviation from the right course had been made. She, as I have said was willing to be a partner of my joys and sorrows. On the other hand, a proud and fastidious mother, who was anxious that her daughter should occupy a higher position in life than the one which I could command. She was eager to have her daughter sacrifice all the fine and noble instincts of womanly love to gratify a vain and ambitious fancy. I took her hand in mine, and with the words scarcely audible to myself, told her how I had loved her, but to the honor of her parents she would not say so.

And they talked the tale of frogs, and the number thereof was two hundred and three-score and nine. And the people laughed and clapped their hands and made merry.

But the fishermen were wroth without cause.

And it was so that yet other lads came by ones and twos and threes. And they brought with them each his full tale of frogs, so that the lake had never been Lake.

And they counted each boy his frogs, and he said: "Pay me what thou wroest. Is not there the frogs thou hast commanded?"

And they paid them, and entreated them that they would cast the frogs into the lake.

But the lads said: "Not so. The frogs are thine; do with them as thou mayest please."

And all the country round about the lake was filled with frogs, for it was so that they escaped from the earthen vessels and the fruit cans and sardine boxes and baskets and the empty beer bottles and the gunny bags, and spread themselves abroad over the land. And they lifted up their voices and made great lamentation so that no man slept that night.

And the people at the windows and at the gates and said with a loud voice, "Blastie," which by interpretation is "frogs."

And when the morrow was come, the fishermen went forth to fish, and they took with them, as was their need, twenty-five frogs. And they used four of them.

But they had paid for three hundred and eighty-seven.

Wives of the Presidents.

James Parton tells us that Martha Washington was a plump, pretty, sprightly little woman in her youth, but settled down into a plain domestic wife, who looked sharply upon her servants. She was far from an educated woman, and though she kept her own accounts, was a very poor speller. Parton quotes Mrs. Bremer, the authoress, who relates a "curtain lecture" of the great man by Martha, which she overheard in the sleeping-room. Martha was angry, and scolded a long time. "The General listened and said till she was done, and then mildly closed the scene with 'Now, good night to you, my dear.' General Washington was very rich, Mrs. Washington was very rich, and her three children by her first husband were heirs to great wealth. Washington's mother was a plain, illiterate, energetic, strong-willed lady, who preferred her own broad acres, and declined to go and live with her great son. "I thank you, George," she said, "but I desire to be independent." And when General Lafayette called, she was at work in her garden, with her old sun-bonnet on; so she came to him, saying: "I cannot pay you so poor a compliment, Marquis, as to say change my dress." Thomas Jefferson, like Washington, married a widow, Mrs. Maria Skelton, who had considerable property; but that did not save her great husband; he died deeply in debt, owing to his slavish devotion to his country. She was a lady of extraordinary beauty of face and form, and singularly competent to adorn and conduct a great household. A little above the medium height, fair complexion, eyes large, dark and expressive, auburn hair, and a daring horsewoman, and full of talent. She played, danced, and sung well, and had literary tastes. When Jefferson courted her he was twenty-eight, and she nineteen. He played the violin and sung well, as she had money then, and a high position, he distanced all rivals. They had a great wedding. She had an immense responsibility managing her husband's great estate, had six children, of whom only two survived, and died before he rose to his great renown, mourned by him to the last. He remained a widower forty-four years, down to his death. Of course she never saw him in the White House. Dolly Payne was a Quaker, and a widow when she married James Madison, and the daughter of a Virginia planter, born in North Carolina. Her father and mother set their slaves free and moved to Philadelphia, and there Dolly

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