

# The Millheim Journal.

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## SLIPPING AWAY.

They are slipping away—those sweet swift years.

Like a leaf on the current east: With never a break in their rapid flow, We watch them as one by one they go Into the beautiful past.

As silent and swift as a weaver's thread Or an arrow's flying gleam; As soft as the languorous breezes bid, That lift the willow's long golden lid, And ripple the glassy stream.

As light as the breath of the thistle down, As fond as a lover's dream; As pure as the flush on the sea-shell's throat, As sweet as the wood-bird's wooing note, So tender and sweet they seem.

One after another we see them pass Down the dim lighted stair; We hear the sound of their steady tread In the steps of the centuries long since dead, As beautiful and as fair.

There are only a few years left to love; Shall we waste them in idle strife? Shall we trample them under our own ruthless feet?

Those beautiful blossoms rare and sweet, By the dusty way of life?

There are only a few sweet years—ah, let No envious taunt be heard: Make life's fair pattern of rare design, And fill up the measure with love's sweet wine, But never an angry word!

## Two Lively Beauts.

"Oh, such a lovely face!" sighed Miss Amelia Hartwell. "Such eyes—such a mustache—really, I couldn't help it. 'Kitty, Oh, I really could not."

"Yes, Amy," but suppose Miss Hess should find it out?" said Kitty.

"Well, well, what could she do about it?" said Amy. "Tell me and get me scolded, and lose her situation. I should tell her about the governess, and I think she'd keep quiet. A girl can't live without any romance in life."

"Only nobody ever introduced you to each other," said Kitty, "and my ma says that you can't tell what any one is if you haven't a proper introduction."

"Yes, and then they introduce you to some stiff old creature, and he pays you a little attention, and you marry. Kitty, I mean to have my fun out. You can tell if you please, but—"

"Oh, Amy," cried Kitty, "I'm no tell-tale. It's only for your good."

Kitty and Amelia were cousins. Kitty fifteen and Amelia seventeen.

Amelia had not as good a disposition as Kitty, and her mother was a mere fashionable woman, who kept the girl as much in the background as possible, lest she should make her look odd. So Amy, as she liked to be called, being really grown, and yet treated like a child at home, took her affairs into her own hands, flirted with all the college boys, wrote notes to them, waved her handkerchief from the upper windows, and behaved disgracefully without any one having an inkling of what was going on but serious little Kitty, who was too honorable to betray her cousin, and too young to know how terrible such conduct really was. School-boys and college students were had enough, but now there had come upon the scene quite a new person, a young man of five and twenty, whom no one knew, but who, having managed to scrape acquaintance with Miss Amy, declared himself an English nobleman, and spoke of great estates, of which, in time, he would be master. Amy swallowed the whole story, and for weeks had taken long walks with him, had accepted a ring, which she dared not wear when at home, and considered herself engaged.

All was going on delightfully, in her opinion, and poor Miss Hess, the governess, was quite hoodwinked. Kitty, trembling little confidante as she was, was quite interested in the affair, but felt herself guilty in keeping the story from her mother. But Amy had no such compunctions.

Now a new scheme was on foot. The lover desired to pay Miss Amy an evening visit, and a time had been selected when mamma and papa were to attend a wedding, and Miss Hess away on a dutiful visit to her old German grand-parents.

"You may call, but you can't stay late, Theodore," Amy had said. "That dragon of a governess, will be at home at half past ten."

And Theodore had protested that he would not stay late.

"I shall bring a friend," he said, "and he can be company for your cousin, since you insist on having her with you. We'll have a lovely evening."

Then he sighed and looked "so lovely," as Amy declared to Kitty, who, flattered by the idea of the friend who was to "be attentive" to herself, felt it time to preach the little sermon above recorded, but without effect. The visit was to be paid, Miss Amy was to receive her admirer, Kitty was with her. Miss Hess had temporarily departed. The carriage had borne mamma and papa to the scene of the wedding festivities. The servants were having a comfortable supper in the kitchen, and the door bell rang.

"No matter—I'll go, Bridget," called Amy over the balustrades, to the waitress, who was delighted to run back to her supper and a few friends and cousins who had just dropped in; and the young lady of the house herself admitted her callers.

They entered rather cautiously and with many glances up the stairs, which Amy attributed to fear of her-eruel parents. The young gentleman was attired in the latest style, and wore a large pin and many rings;

## Agriculture in the Holy Land.

A recent writer says nothing can well exceed the desolation of much of the Holy Land. Treeless it is for 20 or 30 miles together. Forests which did exist 30 years ago—for instance, on Mount Carmel and Mount Tabor—fast disappearing; rich plains of the finest garden soil asking to be cultivated. At best but scratched up a few inches deep in patches, with no hedges or boundaries; mountain terraces, naturally or artificially formed, ready to be planted with vines, as the German colony are doing at the foot of Mount Carmel; the villages nothing but mud-huts, dust, dirt and squalor; the inhabitants with scarce clothing enough for decency, their houses open; large tracts without a horse or cow, sheep or dog; no pretense at roads, except from Jaffa to Jerusalem, and this like a cart-road over a ploughed field, the rest at best like sheep-walks on the Downs of Sussex, but for the most part like the dry bed of the most rocky river, where, amid blocks of stone, each makes his way at a foot-pace as best he can, or on smooth, slipping rocks, or over loose stones thrown down from the old walls on either side, which no one offers a finger to remove; nothing upon wheels, not so much as a barrow, to be met with in a ride of over 300 miles. Everything is taxed: every fruit-tree, so none we are aware of; every cow or horse, etc.; every vegetable sown out of a private garden. Every eighth egg is not taxed, but taken by the government. In some places the taxes of the district are sold to the highest bidder. The farmer is unable to sell a measure of his corn till all has been collected into a heap and the tax collector has set his sum upon it, from which there is no appeal. Double taxes are expected this year, because, after three years of scarcity, the harvest promises to be abundant. Nothing like a small farm-house is to be found far or near. If there were, the owner is liable to have soldiers or revenue officers quartered upon him, to be boarded and lodged at his expense. The towns are filthy in the extreme, none more so than Jerusalem itself, where, however, taxes are levied from every house for lighting and cleaning the streets, while a sprained ankle or a splash into a hole of blackest dirt is sure to be the result of a momentary carelessness. Nothing is done for the most or improvement of the people by the government. Not only so, but every officer—and I heard of several made by private individuals, or by companies—is at once refused, unless a bribe be first given to the authorities. This is a picture, I believe, in no way overdrawn of that land which was once "dripping with milk and honey." What might it not become again with fair usage and good government? But there is no hope for Palestine while it remains in the hands of its present rulers. The writer goes on to show that the country is worth little to the Turkish government, the entire revenue drawn from it being less than a million dollars a year under this wretched system of misrule and oppression. He suggests that in the present condition of its finances, the Porte might be glad to "sell out" for twenty or thirty millions of dollars in hard cash; and that an international company for the purchase and government of the country (after the pattern of the East India Company) would find such an investment, even of fifty millions, highly unimpressive in the long run. A re-entire crusade of that sort might accomplish what no military one was ever able to achieve—the rescue of the Holy Land from "the unspcakable Turk," and its restoration to its ancient prosperity.

but his friend was, it is to be confessed, rather shabby, and not over clean.

"Miss Amy," said Theodore, with an air, "this is my friend Adolphus. A fine fellow, but under a cloud just now. His grandfather, the Earl, won't pay his club debts. However, he'll come round after a while. This is Miss Kitty, Dolph."

Dolph made a bow, and backed against the wall.

"Come in," said Amy. "Every one is out. Oh! isn't this lovely?"

"Heavenly!" said Theodore, looking at the bronze ornaments on the mantel and letting his gaze rove to small ornaments.

"So you are alone, eh? How delicious! I say, this is a fine place. Not so fine as we are used to at home, but pretty good for America. Your father must be well off, Miss Amy?"

"Yes," said Amy, "I believe he is."

"Lots of silver, and all that?" said the nobleman. "You ought to see the plate at—"

"—at the castle."

"Yes," said Amy. "The silver is all up stairs now, though. Ma locks it up when she goes out. There's a great closet between the rooms above. She keeps her jewelry there. It is quite a nice place, for burglars wouldn't be apt to find the door if they didn't know it. It slides in, you know. Pa says it is better than a safe."

"Why, it must be," said Theodore; "how ingenious! There, at down, and let us chat; or suppose you play for us."

"I'd rather talk," said Amy, sentimentally.

Meanwhile Kitty was growing very miserable. The person introduced as Adolphus was awkward and said little. He was not handsome like Theodore, and he smelt of tobacco and whisky. His grandfather, the Earl, must have been angry with him for some time, she thought. She began to wish that something would happen to break up the party, that they would at least go. Neither of them were gentlemen, she felt assured. They stared around them oddly. Theodore arose and dropped the silk curtains over the windows. The men exchanged glances. Could not Amy see that something was wrong?

At that moment Theodore pushed the door into the hall quite shut, and returned to Amy's side. As he did so he put his hand into his pocket and took out a sponge.

"Curious, isn't it?" he said. "I think a sponge is such a curious object. See the little cells."

"I've got one, too," said Adolphus, huskily. "Have you ever seen such a big one?"

"It is large," said Amy.

Kitty, who had been expecting some love-making, and was disappointed, only curled her lip; but the next moment both girls sat staring speechlessly at each other, each with a great sponge thrust into their mouths.

"Tie her to a chair, Dolph," cried Theodore, rapidly binding Amy's arms and ankles with a cord he took from his pocket.

"Now, young ladies, you are not going to be hurt. We'll just help ourselves to the pretty things of value that can be carried off easy, and get the silver out of the sliding-closet above, and be off. Don't try to scream—you can't. And don't kick—you'll only hurt yourselves. Day-day."

Away they went up the softly-carpeted staircase. Amy heard the sound of opening drawers and doors overhead. Kitty thought she even heard the clink of silver. But they could neither move nor cry out. In a few moments the two thieves accomplished their purpose and descended the stairs again, each with a bundle on his back.

"Good evening, young ladies," said Theodore. "We're sorry we must go, but pa might come home unexpectedly. By-by."

They were off. The door clanged shut. The servants at their little supper knew nothing, and the two girls both nearly suffocated. Their slender wrists, cut by the cords that bound them, remained fastened to their chairs.

Glad were they when the good-humored voice of Miss Hess was heard bidding some one good night on the doorstep, and when, bustling into the house, she threw up her hands with exclamations of horror, called for help, and as soon as possible dragged the sponges from the mouths, cut the cords that bound them, and asked for the terrible story, which, with many tears and sobs, Amy told truthfully.

There had been a heavy robbery—money, silver and jewelry were gone. Vainly papa strode the floor, scolding his daughter and bewailing his "ducats."

"I never thought English noblemen could do such things," sighed Amy. "No body could think that, papa."

"English noblemen!" laughed the detective, who had appeared upon the scene.

"They were two English thieves, Miss, and this is their regular dodge—making love to young ladies and then getting let in. It has to be the servants in England, but the American young ladies are such flirts, and so easily taken in, they've changed their plans."

"I, at least, will not be so easily taken in again, and I shall flirt no more," said Amy.

She kept her word.

—In 1880 Corn and wheat exported, \$288,037,000; beef and pork, exported, \$127,943,242; cotton in bales, exported, \$212,000,000; gold and silver, product of 1880, \$80,000,000; tobacco and its manufacture, exported, \$18,422,273; petroleum, exported, for fiscal year, \$36,308,825.

The mattock will make a deeper hole in the ground than lightning.

## Explorer of the Seas, Captain Cook.

Lord did not find the Gallipagos Islands so much to his mind as did an Irishman, who let his ship depart without him, and set up his rest on one of these volcanic islets; dwelling there for seven years in a hole of his own building, living upon tortoises, seals and fish, washed down with rum obtained from ships in exchange for the potatoes and pumpkins he busied himself in raising.

In 1818, an American sailor was taken off a desolate rock in the South Seas by a boat's crew belonging to H. M. S. Queen Charlotte, whose attention had been drawn to the spot by the smoke of a seaweed fire. It was a hard, three years before, been left there with three companions, all of whom had quickly succumbed, while he had lived on, sustaining life by feeding upon the flesh of birds and drinking their blood.

The find of the Queen Charlotte's men was not so surprising as that of the Finnish seaman Pickman, when, in 1816 his ship grounded near a small island-rock between Scotland and Ireland. Some of his men going in search of eggs, came upon a black hairy creature, who by signs entreated them to come to close acquaintance and finding the strange object to be really a man, they took him on board with them to tell the skipper his story. It was a melancholy one. He and two others, occupants of the passage boat between England and Ireland, had been captured and afterwards cast off by a French privateer. Having nothing eatable save a little sugar with them, one of the three soon died of starvation, the others lived to be driven on the island, where they built a hut out of what was left of the boat, and for six weeks lived upon the sea-mews, sea-dogs, eggs and water. Then the partners in misfortune parted company, one of them disappearing, leaving his former friend in utter ignorance of his fate; he could only surmise that he had fallen into the sea while searching for eggs. Months passed, and the poor fellow lost all hope of deliverance. Winter came and found him clothesless. Compelled to keep within the hut for days together, he only kept starvation at bay by catching sea-mews, as hungry as himself, by baited sticks thrust through the openings in the holes' walls. So he kept himself alive, until the accidental advent of the London-bound Finnish timber-ship released him from his dreary duration.

It might be supposed that a castaway would receive a brother unfortunate with open arms. It was not so with Pedro Serrano, when he caught sight of a man floating towards the island still bearing his name, of which he had been undisturbed lord for nearly forty years. He jumped to the conclusion that Satan had found him at last; while the newcomer was not a whit less horrified at seeing a creature as naked as Adam before the fall, with a beard reaching to his waist, and a body covered with bristles. When both had recovered from their fright, Serrano, awakening to the duties of hospitality, placed the best food his limited larder afforded before his uninvited guest. For a little while the pair lived amicably together, but only for a little while. Then they dissolved partnership, and avoided each other; becoming reconciled again to embark as friends on board a ship attracted to the island by their signal fire. Pedro reached Spain, was presented to Charles the Fifth, pensioned by that monarch, and passed the remainder of his days in ease and comfort at Paesama; his companion, less fortunate, died on the voyage.

## Esquimaux Carpentry.

The builder selects snow of the proper consistency by sounding a drift with a cane made for the purpose of reindeer horn, straightened by steaming, and worked down to about half an inch in diameter, with a file of walrus tusk or the tooth of a bear at the bottom. By thrusting this into the snow he can tell whether the layers deposited by successive winds are separated by bands of soft snow, which would cause the blocks to break. When the snow is selected he digs a pit to the depth of eighteen inches or two feet, or about the length of the snow block. He then steps into the pit and proceeds to cut out the blocks by first cutting down at the ends of the pit and then at the bottom afterwards, cutting a little channel about an inch or two deep, making the thickness of the proposed block. Now comes the part requiring practice to accomplish successfully. The expert will, with a few thrusts of his knife in just the right places, split off the snowblock and lift it carefully out to await removal to its position on the wall. The tyro will almost inevitably break the block into two or three pieces, utterly unfit for the use of the builder. When two men are having an igloo one cuts the blocks and the other erects the wall. When sufficient blocks have been cut out to commence work with the builder marks with his eye or perhaps draws a line with his knife describing the circumference of the building, usually a circle about ten or twelve feet in diameter. The first row of blocks is then arranged, the blocks placed so as to incline inward, and being against each other at the ends, thus affording mutual support. When this row is completed the builder cuts away the first and second blocks, slanting in from the ground upward, so that the second tier, resting upon the first row, can be continued on and around spirally, and by gradually increasing the inward slant a perfect dome is constructed of such strength that the builder can lie flat upon the outside while chinking the interstices between the blocks. The chinking is, however, usually done by women and children as the building progresses, and additional precautions secured from the winds in very cold weather by banking up with a large snow shovel, the snow at the base often being piled to the depth of three or four feet. This makes the igloo, perfectly impervious to the weather. When the house is completed the builders are walled in. Then a small hole about two feet square is cut in the wall on the side away from where the entrance is to be located and is used to pass in the lamps and bedding. It is then walled up and the regular door cut about two feet high and niched at the top. It would not be bad luck to carry the bedding into the igloo by the same door it would be taken out. Before the door is opened the bed is constructed of snow-blocks, and made from one to three or four feet high, and occupies three-fourths of the entire space. The higher the bed and the lower the door the warmer the igloo will be.

## Ethel and Mortimer.

Very near us in the steamer Bristol, on the sound sat two people. He wore the face of a man who shaves three times a day, and that while necktie had never seen, the starlight before. There was pearl powder on the shoulder of his coat and a tender, dreamy look in her lovely eyes. They sat and looked up at the stars and they didn't care for any solitary thing, any nearer to this earth. "Mortimer," she murmured softly, "Mortimer," his name appeared to be Mortimer, though I couldn't learn whether it was his front name or his after name, "Mortimer, dear," she said, "if we could only live apart from this busy and sordid, unsympathetic world, in one of your glittering orbs of golden radiance, living apart from all else, only for each other, forgetting the base things of earthly life, the coarse greed of the world and its animal instincts, that would be our heaven, would it not, dear?"

And Mortimer, he said that it would.

"There, heart of my own," he said, and his voice trembled with earnestness, "my own darling Ethel, through all the soft radiance of the day and all the shimmering tenderness of night, our lives would pass away in an exalted atmosphere above the base born wants of earthly mortals and far beyond the chattering crowd that lives but for to-day, our lives, refined beyond the common ken—"

And just then the man with the goatee came out. Mortimer, he made a grab at Ethel's hand and a plunge for the cabin door. Ethel just gathered her skirts with her other hand, jumped clear over the back of her chair and after him, and away they went clattering down the cabin, up a chair, ran into a good, sweet old Quaker lady and banged a bad word out of her before she had time to stop it, down the stairs they rushed, collared a couple of chairs at the nearest table, fed a waiter, and opened the action without skimming. I am a man of coarse mould and an earth-born appetite myself, and I wouldn't live in a star so long as I could find a good hotel in America, but long before I could get seats at the table for my family, Mortimer and Ethel had eaten two blue-fish, a little rare beef-steak, some corn bread, a plate of hot cakes, two boiled eggs, and a bunch of onions, and the waiter had gone out to toast them some cheese. We have during our wanderings, met several people who wanted to live in a star, where earth-born people with animal appetites couldn't trouble them, and we always found the safest place for an earth-born man when the star-born soul started for the dinner table, was behind a rock. Distrust the aspiring mortal who lives in a plane so elevated that he requires the use of a telescope when he wants to look down at the rest of us. And if he ever wants board at your humble table charge him \$15 a week and feed him lots of soup or you'll lose money on him.

## Something for Railway Travelers.

Recent decisions of state supreme courts contain some points of interest to railway travelers and others. A railway company is liable for injury to a person traveling on a "shipper's pass," although such pass stipulates that the company shall not be liable for injuries done to the person using it. The evidence of a person injured as to the amount of damages sustained by him is clearly incompetent. He may describe his injuries, but it is for a jury to determine the question of damages. A rule prohibiting passengers from riding on the platform of a railway car is a reasonable regulation; and one who violates it without some reasonable excuse of necessity, cannot be held to be liable from negligence if the act contributes to his injury. An individual is not a passenger after he has left a moving train and is not entitled to the protection of the railway company. When one buys a ticket of a railroad corporation he is ordinarily a passenger of the corporation for the time when he reasonably and properly starts from the ticket office or waiting room to the station to take his seat in the car of the train, until he has reached the station to which he is entitled to be carried, and has had an opportunity by safe and convenient means to leave the train at the station. It is the duty of the corporation to furnish all the means and necessary employes to guard passengers against all injuries which human foresight may prevent. A passenger leaving a moving train ceases to be a passenger, and to have the rights of a passenger, while he leaves it when at full speed between stations, or has been carried past the platform of the station. He must wait until the train comes to a full stop. A custom in the management of a depot yard of a railroad company that is switching cars therein it is not the company's duty to have a brakeman or other persons on each car or group of cars, separately in motion, to give warning to men at work in the yard, but that the men in such cases must look out for themselves, would not relieve a brakeman actually in charge of a moving car, who should see it approaching a workman upon the track, from the duty of stopping or warning him of its approach; and, therefore, the company would not be relieved from liability to such workman for any injury thus caused.

## A Novel Solution.

One of the most interesting objects offered to public inspection at the Sydney International Exhibition was a dwelling house exclusively made of paper, and furnished throughout with articles manufactured from the same material. Walls, roof, flooring, and stair-cases alike consisted of carton-pier, the carpets and curtains, bedsteads, lamps, sheets and counterpanes, towels, bed-jackets, bath, kitchen utensils, etc., were one and all preparations of paper mache, as were the very stoves used for heating the rooms, in which large fires were kept burning daily throughout the duration of the exhibition. Several banquets were given in the paper house by its owners to the commissioners, members of the press and foreigners of distinction. All the plates and dishes, knives and forks, bottles and drinking vessels, used at the entertainments were fabricated entirely and solely of paper. Should these paper buildings come into vogue they may be expected to superannuate some striking changes in the rates of fire insurance, at present calculated upon a basis of bricks and mortar.

## A Pacific Coast Bandit.

Not long ago Governor Perkins, of California, issued a warrant upon a requisition from the Government of Lower California, for the arrest of Clodomiro Cota, and his incarceration upon the Mexican man-of-war Democrats, to await departure for Mexico. Cota was once an ambitious man of great influence in Lower California, and has had an adventurous career. He is a nephew of General Emanuel Marks, of the Mexican army, is about 50 years of age, tall and well built and of handsome and intelligent appearance. His career as a bandit is perhaps due mainly to circumstances which defeated his ambitious projects in affairs of State. He aspired to be Governor of California, which he proposed to govern as a province of his own. With this scheme in view he was a faithful follower of Lerdo and an uncompromising enemy of Diaz. Upon the accession of the latter to the Presidency of the Republic he lost most of his followers and all hopes of success as a revolutionist. He refused to surrender, however, and became an outlaw. From this it was but a step to the life of a bandit, and he became a terror to the merchants and peaceable and wealthy people all over Lower California. He frequently kidnaped wealthy persons and held them for ransom, after the manner of the Italian brigands, and pillaged a great many small towns along the coast, retreating to the mountains when the opposition became too strong for him. His band, which six years ago numbered about 200 men, by losses in his various predatory incursions and desertions became reduced, until about a month and a half ago, he disbanded this remnant and with two of his trusty lieutenants fled to San Francisco. A published sensational story which charges him with stealing and carrying away a wealthy Spanish lady to the mountains is said by well-informed men to be untrue. His operations have been directed principally against the wealthy and he has many friends among the poor people. Although he made a great deal of money in his raids he always scattered it with a lavish hand and among the criminal classes was the beau ideal of a bandit chief. However, the reigning powers in Mexico and the business portion of the States are very bitter against him. People who are familiar with his standing in Lower California express the opinion that if he reaches there he will