

A MOSS ROSE.

Was it a Ghost?

A correspondent sends us the following, which he assures us is a true story.

"The writer of this brief article is personally cognizant of the fact that the celebrated Jules Janin has borne the highest testimony to the artistic discrimination, philosophical attainments, and general education of a certain German lady now residing in this city."

"About eight years ago, her native city, about eight years ago, she became the intimate friend and companion of a certain Miss Alice G. a very beautiful young girl, who, among her other accomplishments, was noted for her music and embroidery."

"During the progress of this delightful bouquet, and whenever the fair embroiderer set down to it, she invariably began to sing some portion of that unrivaled cavatina, 'Robert toi que j'aime'—a circumstance to which her attention had been called frequently, but which she as constantly treated with a light-hearted laugh."

"From the moment of her landing here, and up to the very last day, before she departed, she corresponded regularly with her friend, who, although no longer a girl, was still unmarried, notwithstanding the ripeness and fascination of her beauty."

"In this way time stole steadily on, until the night of the 31st of December last, when this frame was again brought from its hiding place, and shown to a lady and gentleman who happened to drop in on its owner."

"How long she had remained in this state of unconsciousness she was unable to say; but when she again became aware of her existence, she was both surprised and alarmed to discover that the apartment in which the embroidery frame stood was filled with a pale, greenish light, and more inexplicable still, it was occupied by some one who was humming an air that was familiar to her."

"It was that of Alice! and the song was, 'Robert toi que j'aime!' Slowly but surely a great fear overshadowed her, until she was totally paralyzed. In vain she attempted to cry out! She could neither speak nor move, so completely was she overpowered; and had not a merciful unconsciousness again taken possession of her, she entertains the idea that her life would have been forfeit."

"It was long after daylight before the spell which had seized upon her was broken; and when, after a hasty toilet, she appeared in the breakfast-room, her pale and agitated countenance bespoke at once that she was ill at ease."

not to be convinced that the very singular affair is incapable of being explained on natural principles.—N. Y. Evening Post.

Venetian Glass Factories.

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

"A recent visit to Salvati's glass factories on the Grand Canal, Venice, and in the island of Murano, will furnish some interesting notes. The commissions which have lately come under his eye are numerous, and for the Khedive are being made Oriental lamps after the pattern of the ancient lamp in the Slade collection at the British Museum."

"The chief difficulty in the reproduction has arisen in the furnace; a considerable percentage come out cracked or distorted in form. Messrs. Salvati are also still occupied upon the restoration of the mosaics in St. Mark's; but the Government is tardy in the supply of funds, and so these restorations, like other public works in Italy, suffer from starvation and delay."

"The number of tints in use at the Pope's factory is estimated at 10,000, while the number at Salvati's is put down at 2,000. These statements are not so important as they appear, inasmuch as the possible modifications in the intensity of existing colors have scarcely any limit but in the economy of manufacture; it was easy to multiply tints to infinity."

"The materials, however, already at command, it seems possible to gain whatever effect may be desired. The gold tesserae, which, after the ancient method, are protected by a film of glass, we observe are modulated in tones, varying from bright yellow as of gold in shine, to deep brown as of copper in shade; thus gold backgrounds and gilt draperies admit of modulations, as in the brilliant but well-toned harmonies of the finest examples at Torcello and Ravenna. Silver is more difficult of management than gold, and consequently more costly. The price of a finished mosaic varies, according to the delicacy of manipulation, from £1 to £5 per square foot; the last is about the rate paid for the Munich windows put up in St. Paul's, and even that price is less than the cost of the frescoes in the Houses of Parliament."

"The Italians are born with a facility of hand which, in the manipulation of molten glass, gives them an advantage over other peoples; but in the fallen state of the country their natural talents have lacked training. The men employed by Salvati are encouraged to attend the drawing classes in the adjacent Accademia della Belle Arte. They are directed also to study classic forms, Greek vases, and the best examples of Hellenic ornament."

"There is mention in history of a cloak of the effects of the Duke of Anjou, in 1360 or 1368, a diamond cut into the form of a shield is amongst the list of valuables. It was not, however, until the time of a clever lapidary of the fifteenth century, that a glimpse was obtained of the real magnificence of the diamond as an article of ornament, but it was reserved for Louis Van Berghem, forty years later, to discover the method of cutting the diamond into regular facets, thus revealing the jewel in its full beauty."

"The operation may more properly be described as grinding than cutting. The stone is applied to the surface of a flat iron plate, covered with oil and diamond dust, and rotating with great velocity. The extreme nicety required in diamond-cutting may be imagined when it is remembered that multitudes of these gems are so small that it takes one thousand to weigh a single carat."

"The origin of the carat—four grains Troy weight—is from the Arabic word 'Khar', the name of the seed of a pod-bearing plant."

These seeds are uniformly of the same gravity, and were used for weighing against gold-dust. The weight was adopted in Hindostan, and thence all over the world."

"The rage for the possession of these precious stones so much increased after the revelation of their extreme beauty by Van Berghem, that Paris alone, in the time of the Cardinal Mazarin—who was a great diamond fancier—supported seventy-five diamond cutters. In England also were several renowned lapidaries, whose work was so perfect that even now the diamonds called 'Old English' are much prized. The art, however, in this country has declined."

"In the Middle Ages extravagant use was made of diamonds as well as of other precious stones. The descriptions of some of the state dresses worn in those days appear almost fabulous. Take the dress worn by Queen Mary on the occasion of her marriage with Philip the Second of Spain, for instance. It was made in the French style."

Table with 3 columns: Description, Amount, and Total. Includes 'ASSETS OF THE COMPANY' and 'LIABILITIES'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'Real Estate', 'Stock', 'Cash in Bank', and 'Cash in Drawer'.

DIRECTORS: Thomas C. Hand, Samuel E. Stokes, John C. Davis, William G. Boulton, Edmund A. Snyder, Theophilus Paulding, James Frazer, Henry S. W. Whittington, Henry C. Dallett, Jr., James C. Hand, William C. Ludwig, Joseph H. Seal, Hugh Gray, John D. Taylor, Henry S. W. Whittington, William C. Houston.

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA. INCORPORATED 18th CHARTER PERPETUAL. CAPITAL \$500,000. ASSETS \$1,350,000. Losses paid since organization \$1,200,000.

STATEMENT OF THE ASSETS. First Mortgages on Real Estate \$780,407.00. United States Government and Bonds \$1,120,000.00.

ASBURY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. No. 805 BROADWAY, corner of Eleventh Street, New York.

GREAT WESTERN Mutual Life Insurance Co. OF NEW YORK. EDWIN E. SIMPSON, MANAGER.

EMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE CO. LONDON. ESTABLISHED 1803. Paid-up Capital and Accumulated Funds \$8,000,000 IN GOLD.

1829.—CHARTER PERPETUAL. Franklin Fire Insurance Company OF PHILADELPHIA. Office, No. 435 and 437 CHESTNUT ST. Assets Jan. 1, '69, \$2,677,372 1/3.

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FAME INSURANCE COMPANY. INCORPORATED 1866. CHARTER PERPETUAL. CAPITAL \$200,000. FIRE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY.

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THE ENTERPRISE INSURANCE CO. OF PHILADELPHIA. OFFICE, No. 435 and 437 CHESTNUT ST.

EDUCATIONAL. HARVARD UNIVERSITY. Second Term 1869-70 begins 21st February, 1870.

H. Y. LAUDERBACH'S CLASSICAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND COMMERCIAL ACADEMY.

AMERICAN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC. No. 1024 WALNUT and No. 885 NORTH BROAD ST.

MISS SUSAN GALTON BEGS TO ANNOUNCE that she will give instruction in SINGING AND PIANO.

THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR OF THE STEVENS DALE INSTITUTE, a select family boarding school, opens, South Amboy, N. J., on 1st FEBRUARY 1870.

H. D. GREGORY, A. M., CLASSICAL AND ENGLISH SCHOOL. No. 1106 MARKET STREET.

PATENT NON-CONDUCTOR CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, ETC. JAMES & HUBER, Successors to JAMES & LEE.

PROPOSALS FOR STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS. POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, January 10, 1870.

Sealed Proposals will be received until 3 P. M. on the 1st day of MARCH, 1870, for furnishing the "Stamped Envelopes" and "Newspaper Wrappers" of four years, commencing 1st July, 1870, viz.:

No. 1. Note size, 3 1/2 by 4 1/2 inches, of white paper. No. 2. Ordinary letter size, 3 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches, of white, buff, canary, or cream-colored paper, in such proportion as may be required.

No. 3. Full letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 4. Full letter size, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 5. Extra letter size (ungummed on flap, for circulars), 6 1/2 by 9 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 6. Extra letter size, 3 1/2 by 4 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 4, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 7. Official size, 3 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 8. Extra official size, 4 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

No. 9. Full letter size, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches, of same colors as No. 2, and under a like condition as to the proportion of each.

DR. M. KLINE CAN CURE CUTANEOUS Eruptions, Marks on the Skin, Ulcers in the Throat, Mouth, and Nose, Itch, and Scald, and every other skin disease, by a new and infallible Remedy.

SHIPPING. LORILLARD STEAMSHIP LINK FOR NEW YORK. RUNNING REGULARLY EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY, AT NOON, would call attention of shippers to this SPECIAL NOTICE.

FOR LIVERPOOL AND GUILDFORD.—Immans Lines of Mail Steamers will be sent on as follows: City of Halifax, Liverpool, Feb. 16, at 1 A. M.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE. THE GENERAL TRANSMITTAL COMPANY'S MAIL STEAMSHIPS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.

PHILADELPHIA, RICHMOND, AND NORFOLK STEAMSHIP LINE. INCREASED FACILITIES AND REDUCED RATES.

FROM CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, THE SOUTH, WEST, AND FLORIDA PORTS. PROMETHIUS, Captain GRAY.

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NEW EXPRESS LINE TO ALBANY, CANTON, AND WASHINGTON, D. C. VIA CHEESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANALS.