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GEO. M. MATHES, Proprietor.

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The Winston Sentinel.

GEO. M. MATHES, Editor.

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LORENA'S LOVER.

HISTORY OF THE SONG THAT CARRIED ALL HEARTS TWENTY YEARS AGO.

Boston Star.

About the year 1858 there appeared in the musical circles of the West a song which for twelve years had a run rarely attained by popular melodies. The music had a peculiar charm, the words were singularly touching, and their length, extending to eight long years, suggested to the reader a story back of them. In fact, the extreme pathos of the words contributed as much, perhaps, as the music to give the composition its wonderful success. It was sung everywhere, in parlors, in concerts, on the street, and in the camps of the contending armies. In the Northern army it was immensely popular, and found its way south through Louisville and Cincinnati, and during the rebellion it was the only piece sung in Southern homes, and, excepting martial airs, about the only one sung in the Confederate camp. Everywhere was "Lorena." A steamer on the Ohio was named Lorena, engines on Western roads, were named Lorena, and a person now sometimes meets in society young ladies named Lorena, called that by mothers twenty years ago. That the song had a story nearly everyone familiar with it supposed, and supposed correctly, and it may not be uninteresting at this late day to give admirers of the famous melody the facts in the love affair.

The author of the words was Rev. H. D. L. Webster. He studied in the Columbus Academical and Collegiate Institute, and was editor of the college paper. In the year 1848, being then twenty-four years of age, and full of poetry and romance, he was enjoying his first pastorate in Zanesville, O. His leading parishioner was a wealthy manufacturer, whose residence was upon one of the many hills which surround that smoky town. The house was about half a mile out, and the eminence upon which it was seated was the one referred to in his song.

"'Twas flowery May,
When up the hill slope we climbed
To watch the dying of the day,
And hear the distant church bells chimed.

There lived in this family a younger sister of his wife, who was the leading singer in the choir. She was nineteen years of age, small of stature, had blue eyes and light brown hair, and was as fair as a lily. She was not only a sweet singer, but she was as full of poetry and romance as her pastor, and they soon became very much attached. Their loving did not, however, "prosper well" for the family were proud and aristocratic, and "had higher notions of the girl's future than to sanction her marriage with a poor preacher." As she was dependent upon them for a home, she was forced to yield to their counsel—Mr. Webster says he now thinks it wise counsel—and they were obliged to give each other up. It was, however, the strong will and the proud spirit of the sister, more than her opposition of the brother-in-law, that separated them, or rather kept Lorena from him.

Lorena seems to have been passive, indecisive in character, and submissive in the hands of her strong-willed sister.

Mr. Webster saw her for the last time at her home, learned of the sister's unconquerable opposition, heard his fate, and took a quiet but painful farewell, very little being said. That night she wrote him a last letter, in which she used the words, so well remembered by those familiar with the song: "If we try we may forget." It was eight years after that he wrote:

"For 'If we try we may forget,'
Were words of thine long years ago.

Yes, these were words of thine, Lorena,
They burn within my memory yet,
They touch some tender cords,
Which thrill and tremble with regret.

There is a future, O! thank God,
Of life this is so small a part.
'Tis dust to dust beneath the sod,
But there, up there, 'tis heart to heart.

The effect of the separation was to crush the young man, and writing to a friend five years ago, twenty-six years after the occurrence, he says: "I doubt if all dark lines are erased from my heart yet."

He resigned his pastorate and sought another field, smothering his pain by hard study and work. And the only sign of that pain the world ever saw was the heart cry in the song of "Lorena." In 1858 he was residing in Racine, Wisconsin, where he met J. P. Webster, the

composer, who, though of the same name, is no relation to him. They soon became very intimate. J. P. Webster was writing song music, and was troubled to find appropriate words. Rev. Mr. Webster told him that he would write a song, and in two days he produced it, entitled "Bertha," a mere fancy name.

When the composer came to set it to music he wanted a name of three syllables, accented on the second, and the author then made up the name of "Lorena."

The young lady's name was not Lorena, however, nor Bertha, but Ella. It is said that she lost her vivacity and sunny, witching ways after they parted, and never regained them, and that she is now a sad, sickly woman, past the prime of life. When last heard from, however, several months ago, she was traveling in Europe. Her proud and haughty sister has long since passed over the river, where "tis heart to heart, instead of dollar to dollar." Her brother-in-law died only a few weeks ago. Mr. Webster, also past the prime of life, is married, and lives in Neenah, Wisconsin, a minister and the editor of a local paper.

The Pension Burden.

The New York Sun says: The fruit of folly is seen in the pension burdens inflicted upon the country by the Arrears act. Commissioner Dudley announces that 28,740 names were added to the pension list during the past fiscal year—sixteen years after the end of the war for which they are pensioned. For the coming year he asks an appropriation of \$100,000,000, with which to pay annual accrued pensions; and, besides this, he asks a deficiency appropriation of \$20,000,000 for this year.

A current annual appropriation of one hundred millions for the item of pensions, in the year 1882, for a war ended in 1865, is startling. There was never half that amount a dozen years ago, when a vastly greater number of persons entitled to a pension were living. As had happened in the universal experience of nations, our pension list was steadily decreasing a few years ago, and the appropriations sufficient to satisfy it had gone down to twenty-nine millions. A scheme of villany was sprung upon Congress by demagogues, and, thanks to its success, the country is now called on to make a prodigious outlay.

No force of invective can denounce this scheme more strongly than the simple figures of what is substantially our new national debt. Fully 40,000 new pension claims will be allowed this year, according to Mr. Dudley, and 60,000 next year; a total of 100,000 new claims, regarding which he tells us that fully two-thirds carry arrears amounting to nearly \$1,500 for each claimant. Nearly twenty-four million dollars were paid out last year as "first payments" to new pensioners; that is, within five millions as much as the previous regular annual payments to all the pensioners of all the wars. The total amount of his annual disbursements ran up from twenty-nine millions to nearly fifty. Mr. Dudley estimates that, in addition to the \$100,000,000 which he is already certain of paying for arrears, he will have to pay \$235,000,000 more, making \$335,000,000. There is no question, judging from Mr. Dudley's general tone, that this is an inside estimate. His predecessor reckoned that other costs, direct and indirect, will carry the aggregate arrears alone to nearly \$600,000,000.

Such is the stupendous scheme of plunder forced upon the people, largely by claim agents and in their interest, and offering temptations to gigantic frauds.

Love Without a Kiss.

The Philadelphia Times says: "Love without a kiss would be like the harp without the hand, the rainbow without its hue, the brook without its color, the tea rose without its odor, poetry without its rhythm, or marriage without love."

Or like soda without sardap, a minstrel show without an end man, a sleigh ride without a girl, a cigar without a light, or like squeezing a glove without a hand in it. There's lots of things that love without a kiss is like, but there's little use in making comparisons, for nobody ever heard of that sort of love.

The English Language of the Future.

A writer in a recent number of the Atlantic Monthly predicts that by the end of the twentieth century the English language will be spoken by eight hundred million people, occupying, besides England proper and its contiguous dependencies, India, South Africa, Australia, North America, islands in every sea and naval stations on every cape. By that time it is thought, so large a proportion of the business of the world will be done by masters of the countries named that, as a mere matter of social and commercial convenience, the whole world will devote itself to learning English. The languages spoken by other civilized races, according to this anticipation, will sink to the character of local dialects, which will gradually lose their distinctive differences and finally disappear altogether. Many barbarous races also would be drawn into the prevailing current, so that—as is now the case all over Europe—then all over the globe the Englishman will be addressed in his own speech. Leaving out of view the comparatively simple uninflected character of English words and the direct constructions of its syntax, which greatly facilitate the acquisition of the English language by foreigners, it is enough to show what advantages tending to this end English speaking people already possess over others in having already engrossed the most fertile unoccupied or weak quarters of the world, and left to the French, Germans and others only those lands least desirable for colonization. To enumerate England's possessions would be a tedious undertaking, scattered as they are at points of advantage throughout the world. It is enough to say that in Asia she controls an area of 1,640,000 square miles, with a population of about 230,000,000 souls; in Africa 250,000 square miles, population 1,700,000; in America 3,700,000 square miles, population 6,000,000; in Europe 121,000 square miles, population 36,000,000—a total area of 8,771,000 square miles, with a population of about 230,000,000. English commerce, ideas, books and tongue profit by this breadth of empire. Our appreciation of the future of the Anglo-Saxon race and English tongue is heightened, however, when we add to the English-speaking area the 3,024,494 square miles of the United States, with their population of 50,152,866 souls. No doubt the period is yet very remote, and may never be reached, when English will become the universal language of mankind. The probability is that many isolated races will never be converted to its use. But when an aggressive, energetic, commercial people, possessing so vast an area into which to develop, is at the same time the wealthiest on the globe and the most enterprising and practical, it is difficult to set limits to its future. The Romans were able to impress their laws and language upon the whole of Europe, and the Anglo-Saxon is the Roman of the modern world. In competition with the races of the continent the English and Americans possess the advantage of beginning with 11,835,494 square miles of the earth's surface and the qualities which first gave them this wide domain.

Curious Habits.

Great men fall into curious habits, which they find it impossible to conquer. Augusta Hare, one of the ripest scholars in the English pulpit, and a refined gentleman, when he had entered a train of hard thinking, would spin around on his heel a few seconds and then resume work again.

Neander, the famous church historian, could not lecture to his students unless he had a goose quill to put to pieces as he talked, and it was necessary to supply a second quill when the first was completely stripped.

William Wilberforce became so absorbed in conversation in evening parties as wholly to forget himself. He would lift himself from his chair in his earnestness, more forward a little and gradually approach perilously near to the floor. But in families where he was loved it was the custom to station one of the older children behind his chair to move it forward as he moved and guard him against peril. Some who afterward became leaders in English society retained amongst the pleasantest memories of childhood the recollection of the services rendered to this brilliant and eloquent converser.

An eye-opener.—When a girl who has encouraged a young man for about two years suddenly tells him that she can never be more than a sister to him he can for the first time see the freckles on her nose.

The Growth of the Gun.

Forest and Stream.

Hunting for game was first practiced with bow and arrow only, until in the sixteenth century the Spaniards contrived the arquebus or match-lock. Here the match was fitted to a "serpentin" or cock hung upon a pivot, and brought into contact with the priming by a working substantially the same as that of the modern hammer and trigger. This was further improved by the German invention of a steel wheel with serrated edge, fitted to a spring and made to revolve rapidly, the edge coming in contact with a piece of pyrites, and by this friction, producing the sparks to ignite the priming. The use of the wheel-lock for sporting purposes was very general in the middle of the sixteenth century, and for a long time it was not improved upon.

But necessity is the mother of invention. A band of Dutch chicken-stealers, or of Spanish marauders—it is disputed which—being too poor to provide themselves with the high-priced wheel-lock, and afraid to use the match-lock, because it light revealed their whereabouts to the minions of the law, abstained from their practice long enough to devise a weapon better adapted to the needs of the roost-robbers. The result was the flint-lock, and the pot hunting fraternity scored a long credit mark.

The flint lock reached its perfection in the hands of what king of gun-makers? Joseph Manton, in the early part of the present century, and it gave way only to a worthy superior in the modern gun exploded by percussion. The discovery of fulminating powders and their application to gunnery mark a most important epoch in the manufacture and employment of fire-arms. The charge in the gun was at first placed above the fulminating powder, which was ignited by the concussion of an iron plunger struck by a cock. Then this plunger was dispensed with, and the fulminate was simply placed in the flash-pan. The successive steps are familiar to almost all gunners; the priming was placed between two bits of paper, and called percussion pellets; the fulminate was affixed to the breech by the newly invented cartridge, and fired by a penetrating needle; and then the copper cap, and then the culminating improvement of the cartridge, containing both the charge and the priming, and ignited at first by the pin, and afterward rim fire and central fire principle.

A writer in the Providence Journal who has delved in Congressional history to good purpose, finds that of the nearly 5,000 representatives who have been honored with election to the popular branch of the National Legislature from the organization of the Government to March 3, 1881, but eight have served for twenty successive years and upward. Thomas Newton represented the Norfolk (Va.) District for fourteen years, or twenty-eight successive years, coming in with the first administration of Thomas Jefferson, 1801. Louis Williams was a member of the House from North Carolina for nearly twenty-seven successive years. He was first elected in 1815 and served continuously until his death, February 23, 1842. Nathaniel Mazon was a member from North Carolina for twenty-four successive years, serving from 1791 continuously until 1815, when he was transferred to the Senate. Charles Feuston Mercer represented the Fairfax (Va.) District for nearly twenty-three years, beginning with Monroe's first administration in 1817. He served continuously till December, 1839, when he resigned his seat. William McCoy was a Representative from the Rockbridge (Va.) District from 1811 to 1833. The Ashabula (Ohio) District was represented for twenty successive years by Joshua R. Giddings, from December 28, 1835, to March 3, 1859. John W. Taylor was a member from the Saratoga (N. Y.) District for twenty years, coming in with the second administration of Madison, 1813. The Barnstable (Mass.) District kept John Reed in the House for twenty-four years. Three of the eight, it will be observed, were from Virginia and two from North Carolina.

Professor Hutchinson, in one of his lectures, mentions a very interesting fact in Berlin. Among Roman Catholics, who prohibit marriages between persons who are near blood relatives, the proportion of deaf mutes is 1 to 3,000; among Protestants, who view such marriages as permissible, the proportion is 1 to 2,000; while among the Jews, who encourage intermarriage with blood relations the deaf mutes are as 1 in 400.

The Growth of Methodism in North Carolina.

Rev. J. B. Carpenter, financial secretary of the late Methodist conference at Durham, made his report in regard to the growth of that denomination in our State, from which we make some abstracts.

Local preachers, 247; increase, 8. White members, 67,903; increase, 551. Colored members, 325; increase, 7. Infants baptized, 2,032; increase, 24. Adults baptized, 2,055; decrease, 173. Number of Sunday schools, 764; increase 21. Number of officers and teachers, 4,780; increase, 20. Number of scholars, 39,903; increase, 2,042. Number of volumes in library, 30,420; decrease, 20. Value of volumes, \$6,373; decrease, \$1,123. Number of parsonages, 77; decrease, 1. Value of parsonages, \$57,375; decrease, \$3,145. Number of churches, 816; increase, 20. Value of churches, \$780,925; increase, \$715.

"My darling, have you thought of the happy summer that our lives will be when we are joined to be one for better or worse?"

"Oh, yes, John, I've thought of it!"

"And have you thought of the bright home that we will build on the foundation of our affection, and which will be painted with the dying flashes of the sun and finished with the silver and gold that makes the night of heaven beautiful?"

"Oh, yes, John, I've thought of it!"

"Have you thought of the years that will cross the sea of time, white capped but blue with promises yet to come?"

"Sure's you're born, John, I've thought of it!"

"And have you thought—have you—have you—"

"Oh! yes, John, I've thought of it more than all the rest, and John let's name it after you!"

A Revenue Romance.

A Winston correspondent of the Greensboro Tribune says: Not long since W. A. Shouse was a happy distiller and Thos. M. Brower his joyful storekeeper in Surry county, N. C. But now the glad Shouse is disconsolate in jail and his once gay storekeeper is off on a tramp. It happened thuswise; Shouse and Brower concluded to steal their whisky, about thirty-five barrels out of their warehouse, and did it. Too soon for them came along Deputy Collector Brynnum who discovered the loss and in a little while found it buried on Brower's land.

The evidence was conclusive. Result: Shouse jail—Brower bond. It yearly takes 200,000 acres of forest to supply cross-ties for the railroads of the United States. It takes 15,000,000 ties to supply the demand, for which on an average the contractors get thirty-five cent apiece, making the aggregate \$5,250,000. In building a new road the contractors figure on 2,700 ties to the mile, while it takes 300 ties to the mile to keep a constructed road in repair. The average of a good piece of lumber land is 200 trees to the acre and twelve ties to the tree. White or burr oak is considered the best timber for the purpose, although cherry, maple ash, and eye locust have been used. The business gives employment to an army of choppers, who are paid ten cents apiece for each tie. A single man has been known to get out thirty-five ties in a day, yet the average is only ten, while an expert will probably get out twenty.

Having done your duty, press forward to higher and better duties. Do not stop and look around to see who approves or who disapproves. You will learn soon enough what the world thinks of your actions, and if you have done your duty you should not desire to change.

Mutton is considered the cheapest mutton a farmer can raise. The fleece from a sheep of good breed will pay for its keeping. The profit derived from the lambs, the manure and the riddance of destructive weeds in pastures, of which the sheep are well-known foes, all add to the profits of sheep-raising.