

HANNAH JANE.

BY PETROLEUM V. HASSY.

[This poem was printed in this journal several years ago, and is republished by special request.—Ed.]

She isn't half so handsome as when, twenty years ago, At her old home in Pitcon, Parson Avery made us one; The great house crowded full of guests of every degree, The girls all envying Hannah Jane, the boys all envying me.

Her fingers then were taper, and her skin as white as milk; Her brown hair—what a mess it was! and soft and fine as silk; No wind-moyed willow by a brook had ever such a grace, The form of Aphrodite, with a pure Madonna face.

She had but meager schooling; her little notes, to me, Were full of crooked pot-hooks, and the worst orthography; Her "dear" she spelled with double e, and "kiss" with but one s; But when one's crazed with passion, what's a letter more or less?

She blundered in her writing, and she blundered when she spoke, And every rule of syntax that old Murray made she broke; But she was beautiful and fresh, and I—well, I was young; Her form and face o'er-balanced all the blunders of her tongue.

I was but little better. True, I'd longer been at school; My tongue and pen were run, perhaps, a little more by rule; But that was all. The neighbors round, who both of us well knew, Said—which I believed—she was the better of the two.

All's changed: the flight of seventeen's no longer in her eyes; Her way hair is gone—that loss the coiffure's art supplies; Her form is thin and angular; she slightly forward bends; Her fingers, once so shapely, now are stumpy at the ends.

She knows but very little, and in little are we one; The beauty rare, that more than hid that great defect, is gone.

My parents' relations now deride my homely wife, And pity me that I am tied, to such a clod, for life.

I know there is a difference: at reception and levee The brightest, wittiest, and most famed of women smile on me; And everywhere I hold my place among the greatest men, And sometimes sigh, with Whittier's judge, "Alas! it might have been!"

When they all crowd around me, stately dames and brilliant belles, And yield to me the homage that all great success compels, Discussing art and state-craft, and literature as well, From Homer down to Thackeray, and Swedenborg on "Hell."

I can't forget that from these streams my wife has never quaffed, Has never with Ophelia wept, nor with Jack Falstaff laughed; Of authors, actors, artists—why, she hardly knows the names; She slept while I was speaking on the Alabama claims.

I can't forget—Just at this point another form appears— The wife I wedded as she was before my prosperous years; I travel o'er the dreary road we traveled side by side, And wonder what my share would be, if Justice should divide.

She had four hundred dollars left her from the old estate; On that we married, and, thus poorly-armed, faced our fate. I wrestled with my books; her task was harder far than mine— 'Twas how to make two hundred dollars do the work of nine.

At last I was admitted; then I had my legal lore, An office with a stove and desk, of books perhaps a score; She had her beauty and her youth, and some housewifely skill, And love for me and faith in me, and back of that a will.

I had no friends behind me—no influence to aid; I worked and fought for every little inch of ground I made, And how she fought beside me! never woman lived on less; In two long years she never spent a single cent for dress.

Ah! how she cried for joy when my first legal fight was won, When our eclipse passed partly by, and we stood in the sun! The fee was fifty dollars—'twas the work of half a year— First captive, lean and scraggy, of my legal bow and spear.

I well remember, when my coat (the only one I had) Was seedy grown and threadbare, and, in fact, most "shocking bad." The tailor's stern remark when I a modest order made: "Cash is the basis, sir, on which we tailors do our trade."

Her Winter cloak was in his shop by noon that very day; She wrought on hickory shirts at night that tailor's skill to pay; I got a coat, and wore it; but alas! poor Hannah Jane Ne'er went to church or lecture till warm weather came again.

Our second season she refused a cloak of any sort, That I might have a decent suit in which to appear in court; She made her last year's bonnet do, that I might have a hat; Talk of the old-time, flame-enveloped martyrs after that!

No negro ever worked so hard; a servant's pay to save, She made herself most willingly a household drudge and slave. What wonder that she never read a magazine or book, Combining as she did in one, nurse, house-maid, seamstress, cook!

What wonder that the beauty fled that I once so adored! Her beautiful complexion my fierce kitchen fire devoured; Her plump, soft, rounded arm was once too fair to be concealed; Hard work for me that softness into sinewy strength congealed.

I was her altar, and her love the sacrificial flame; Ah! with what pure devotion she to that altar came, And, tearful, flung thereon—alas! I did not know it then— All that she was, and more than that—all that she might have been.

At last I won success. Ah! then our lives were wider parted; I was far up the rising road; she, poor girl! where we started. I had tried my speed and mettle, and gained strength in every race; I was far up the heights of life—she drudging at the base.

She made me take each Fall the stump; she said 't was my career; The wild applause of listening crowds was music to my ear. What stimulus had she to cheer her dreary solitude? For me she lived on gladly in unnatural widowhood.

She couldn't read my speech, but when the papers all agreed 'Twas the best one of the season, these comments she could read;

And with a gush of pride thereat, which I had never felt, She sent them to me in a note, with half the words misspelt.

I to the Legislature went, and said that she should go To see the world with me, and what the world was doing know.

With tearful smile she answered: "No! four dollars is the pay; The Bates House rates for board for one is just that sum per day."

At twenty-eight, the State-house; on the bench at thirty-three; At forty, every gate in life was opened wide to me. I nursed my powers, and grew, and made my point in life; but she— Bearing such pack-horse weary loads, what could a woman be?

What could she be? Oh, shame! I blush to think what she has been— The most unselfish of all wives to the selfishest of men. Yes, plain and homely now she is; she's ignorant, 'tis true; For me she rubbed herself quite out—I represent the two.

Well, I suppose that I might do as other men have done— First break her heart with cold neglect; then shove her out alone. The world would say 'twas well, and more, would give great praise to me For having borne with "such a wife" so uncomplainingly.

And shall I? No! The contract 'twixt Hannah, God, and me, Was not for one or twenty years, but for eternity. No matter what the world may think; I know, down in my heart, That, if either, I'm delinquent; she has bravely done her part.

There's another world beyond this; and, on the final day, Will intellect and learning 'gainst such devotion weigh? When the great one, made of us two, is torn apart again, I'll kick the beam, for God is just, and He knows Hannah Jane.

THE CHILDREN ON ROLLERS.

The New York Sun says the up-town streets and parks are thronged every pleasant afternoon with boys and girls gliding about in every direction on roller skates. Children seem to have been seized by a mania for the sport. Parents are worried and implored until the coveted skates are bought. As soon as school is out, the eager children rush for the skates, and do not take them off until darkness sets in. Velocipedes, tops and skipping-ropes have been almost abandoned for the new favorite. The parks are the best places to see the children enjoying themselves. In Madison Square Park, children of all ages dart here and there, and skim over the smooth asphalt walks. With quick intuition the children have learned how to use the skates skillfully. They go forward or backward, describe curves and angles, with a careless grace. Little tots circle about their nurses or skate together hand in hand. The older girls are full of frolic, and they make the Park ring with their merry laughter. Their eyes are sparkling with excitement and cheeks rosy with the exercise. They appear to enjoy themselves immensely, and they take the greatest satisfaction in being able to skate as well as the boys. Roller skating is a picnic to the boys. They play all kinds of games—tag, prisoner's base, shilly, cat, hide and seek—as well on skates as without them. A boy when fitted out wears a round jacket, a pair of knickerbockers, red stockings, and a round cap. They form in groups, have races, dash up and down the streets, and are skilful enough to avoid running into any one.

The children throng to Central Park after school hours. The nurses carry the skates of the little ones, and no child seems to be too small to skate. They toil up the steep, smooth hills, and then coast down rapidly to the lower ground. The Park policemen look on complacently and talk with the nurses. The rattle of a single pair of skates is like that of a rattlesnake. A favorite spot is the asphalt circle at the Scholar's Gate of Central Park. There are some apprehensions that skating may injure girls, but the statements of physicians do not sustain these fears. Injuries may result from over-exertion or accidents, but otherwise the exercise is decidedly beneficial. Dr. Walter Crosbie says, and many other physicians corroborate his remarks: "It is a revelation to pass by Madison Square Park. Two years ago the daughters of wealthy families walked about with their maids for exercise. They were thin, pale, and sickly, and would never think of running. Now they are to be seen rushing about on the skates and enjoying a healthful exercise which they would not otherwise obtain. There is no reason why a girl should be injured more than a boy. My own children, boys and girls, use the skates, and I have observed only good effects."

WHAT A VOLCANO CAN DO.

Cotopaxi, in 1738, threw its fiery rockets 3,000 feet above its crater, while in 1754 the blazing mass, struggling for an outlet, roared so that its awful voice was heard at a distance of more than 600 miles. In 1787 the crater of Tunguragua, one of the great peaks of the Andes, flung out torrents of mud, which dammed up the rivers, opened new lakes, and, in valleys 1000 feet wide, made deposits 600 feet deep. The stream from Vesuvius, which, in 1737, passed through Torre del Greco, contained 33,000,000 cubic feet of solid matter, and in 1793, when Torre del Greco was destroyed a second time, the mass of lava amounted to 45,000,000 cubic feet. In 1790, Etna poured forth a flood which covered 84 square miles of surface, and measured nearly 1,000,000,000 cubic feet. On this occasion, the sand and scoria formed the Monte Rosina, near Nicolosa, a cone of two miles in circumference, and 4000 feet high. The stream thrown out by Etna in 1810 was in motion at the rate of a yard a day for nine months after the eruption; and it is on record that the lava of the same mountain, after a terrible eruption, was not thoroughly cool and consolidated for ten years after that event. In the eruption of Vesuvius, A. D. 79, the scoria and ashes vomited forth far exceeded the entire bulk of the mountain; while in 1860, Etna disgorged more than twenty times its own mass. Vesuvius has sent its ashes as far as Constantinople, Syria and Egypt; it hurled stones eight pounds in weight to Pompeii, a distance of six miles, while similar masses were tossed up 2,000 feet above the summit. Cotopaxi has projected a block of 100 cubic yards in volume a distance of nine miles; and Sumbawwa, in 1815, during the most terrible eruption on record, sent its ashes as far as Java, a distance of 300 miles of surface, and out of a population of 12,000 souls, only twenty escaped.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS THAT, by virtue of a decree and order of sale given and made by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Multnomah County, on the 12th day of March, 1881, in a certain suit wherein William Gray was Plaintiff and Patrick Holland and Margaret Holland were Defendants, whereby the said Defendant, Patrick Holland, was decreed to pay unto said William Gray the sum of Nineteen Hundred Dollars (\$1900) Gold-Coin, and interest thereon at one per cent a month after said date, and Thirty-six and 50-100 Dollars (\$36.50) costs and disbursements, and that the parcels of land hereinafter described be sold to pay said debt and costs, as by said decree may more fully appear, which decree was duly enrolled and docketed in said County on said 12th day of March, 1881, and order of sale and execution thereon was duly attested by the Clerk, and under the seal of said Circuit Court, dated the 18th day of March, 1881. Now, by virtue of said decree, order of sale and execution, I will sell at public auction at the Court House door in the City of Portland in said County, on the 23rd day of April, 1881, at 10 o'clock A. M., the real property in said decree and order of sale described, being Lots numbered Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7) and Eight (8) in Block numbered Eighteen (18) in the City of East Portland, County of Multnomah State of Oregon, together with all the estate, right, title and interest which said Patrick Holland and Margaret Holland had in or to said real property on the 10th day of September, 1872, or have since acquired therein, to pay said debt, costs, disbursements and accruing costs, said property having been in the hands of said Patrick Holland, order of sale and execution on the 22d day of March, 1881. JOSEPH BUCHTEL, Sheriff of Multnomah County, Oregon. Portland, March 22, 1881. ma23 6t

SUMMONS.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON for the County of Multnomah.—In equity.—Moses C. Hicks, Plaintiff, vs. Elah Hicks and Mary Hicks (his wife), Sydnah Hodgson and Thomas Hodgson (her husband), and Ellsworth Hicks, Defendants.—Suit for partition of land and accounts.—To the above-named Elah Hicks, Mary Hicks, Sydnah Hodgson and Thomas Hodgson and Ellsworth Hicks, Defendants: In the name of the State of Oregon, you and each of you are hereby notified that the above-named Plaintiff has filed his complaint against you in the above-entitled Circuit Court, and as relief prays an account for taxes paid and expenses incurred by Plaintiff for the benefit of the Defendants concerning the land described in the complaint, and contribution and reimbursement from the Defendants amounting to \$25, and for a partition of the land mentioned, which is situated in Multnomah County, Oregon, known as the north half of the Laban Hicks Donation Land Claim, and also as the north half of the northeast one-fourth of Sec. 17, T. 1 N., R. 3 E., and for a sale thereof if partition by metes and bounds be impracticable, and for costs as may appear by said complaint, and that the above-named Court on the 11th day of March, 1881, made an order directing publication of summons in this cause. You and each of you are therefore summoned and required to be and appear in the above-entitled Court on the first day of the next term thereof, which will begin on the first Monday of May, 1881, and answer the above-described complaint in this suit; or if you fail to appear and answer, the Plaintiff will take a decree for the relief prayed for. SHATTUCK & KILLIN, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Portland, March 12, 1881. ma17 6t

CITATION.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON for Multnomah County.—In the matter of the Estate of Charles E. Calef, deceased.—To Allen Calef, Almira Calef, and Harriet A. Towler: In the name of the State of Oregon, by order of the above-entitled Court, made this 17th day of March, 1881, you and each of you are hereby cited to be and appear before said Court in the Court-room thereof, on Monday, the 21st day of May, A. D. 1881, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. of that day, then and there to show cause, if any there be, why the petition of Harriet A. Towler, filed in said Court on said 17th day of March, 1881, praying for an order of said Court directing the execution of the last will and testament of said Charles E. Calef, deceased, to pay an allowance out of the income of the estate of said Allen Calef and Almira Calef, minors, for their support and education, of the sum of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per month for said Allen Calef and Almira Calef, should not be granted as prayed for. Witness the Hon. S. W. Rice, Judge of said [SEAL] Court, the 17th day of March, 1881. Attest: A. E. BORTHWICK, Clerk. Portland, March 12, 1881. ma17 6t

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