

A Lyric of the Umpqua

Let others sing of city life, Where unrelenting care and strife Man's destiny fulfill, Where Mammon hoards his golden store, And selfish greed still gathers more, Inequality.

whose services as a violinist were always in demand at the country dances, and G. W. Cruser, who was a justice of peace, all lived further up the Swale.

Just over a range of hills to the north is located Driver valley, Samuel Driver who finally became blind, with his family made their home at the upper end, while his brother, I. D. Driver, and family lived near the lower end.

In my "Indian War Reminiscences," as copied in the PLAINDEALER from the Daily Eugene Guard, some weeks ago, the writer said he was not aware that at that early period of our history, that there was "a thrashing machine from the Mississippi river to the Pacific coast," and while writing to the good people of Douglas county, I am going to call on my old time friends, Mr. and Mrs. C. Cokeran, whose cozy home is in this same Driver valley, for it was Mrs. C. who recently in your column corrected the statement as to the thrashing machine question.

How Jack Proposed. "It's no use," said Jack, throwing himself into my most comfortable easy chair, and looking the picture of misery. "It's not a bit of use!" "What isn't it?" I asked. "Trying to propose to her," replied Jack.

It is not necessary to tell the old citizens of the "hilly valley of the Umpqua," as one writer once termed it, was composed of two counties, the north end from the summit of the Calapooia mountain to the Galapooia creek, being Umpqua county, the southern part Douglas county.

The principal attorneys at that time were Stephen Chadwick, afterwards secretary of state and acting governor, Riley E. Stanton, later judge of judicial district, and P. P. Prim and others.

HOW JACK PROPOSED

"It's no use," said Jack, throwing himself into my most comfortable easy chair, and looking the picture of misery. "It's not a bit of use!" "What isn't it?" I asked. "Trying to propose to her," replied Jack.

"Why isn't it?" "Because I can't!" moaned—or, rather howled—the poor boy, savagely kicking my waste paper basket over. "Why can't you?" "Because I haven't enough pluck."

"All right, old man, all right," I said soothingly. "Nobody wants you." "The fact is," said Jack, sitting down again and assuming a sepulchral tone, "if I don't bring it off, I'll—I'll—"

This was being legal with a vengeance. Here was my dear chum—six months since the brightest, happiest, merriest fellow in London—deeply in love with a young person called Cissy (I don't to this day know her other name, Jack never mentioned it), and in the depths of despair because he couldn't "bring it off."

I thought I'd try the cynical, man of the world method and scoff him out of his foolishness, so I said: "Fancy being knocked over in this way by a paling girl, a weak, silly creature, who isn't even a new woman!"

Jack was all on fire in a moment. "She's not a weak, puling, silly creature, and she is a new woman," he shouted, forgetting for the moment that it is not altogether a desirable thing to be in love with that feminine novelty. "So now!"

"So now," I said, "Why is it that people always end up defiances of this kind with those mystic words, 'So now.' Why is it?" "Jack," I said, "write to her."

"Splendid idea!" said Jack, who had been thinking of different ways of proposing for six months and now hailed that of doing it by post as an entirely new and original idea. "Here goes, and thanks awfully, old chap, for giv'ng me the tip."

Setting quite a quire of note paper Jack scribbled and tore up about a dozen proposals in writing. Then he trod round, almost crying, and said that he couldn't do it that way, and he would h't, and he'd hang himself, and perhaps then she'd be sorry, and—and—and—why was he born?

"My dear boy," I said, laying my hand on his shoulder in the most fatherly way imaginable, "let's talk over the matter quietly. Now, suppose I propose for you?"

"Yes," was the reply. "Well, I am going to Chicago, too. Let me see your ticket?" The traveling man handed him the ticket. The tramp glanced over it. "Yes," he said, "that is just like mine, I wonder if that agent gave me the right change. I gave him \$20. Here he turned the cardboard over, and wrote the figures on the back of it. 'My ticket should have cost me the same as yours' (writing \$6.50 and the other figures under it), 'and I should have received back \$13.50' (performing the operation of subtraction). 'Yes,' he continued, as he handed back the ticket and turned away; 'I guess that's all right.'

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Pioneer History. EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 6, 1899. SENIOR PLAINDEALER: Perhaps most of our readers who may have read the "Pioneer History," in the PLAINDEALER of the 4th, may have concluded the writer is rather slow in passing over the ground he faintly endeavors to describe; but please bear in mind that that was a slow case compared with the present. Old teams were in use then, both on the roads and in the fields. "Uncle Sam" was a young man then, but now he is nearing man's allotted time, "three-score and ten."

Proceeding east, up Canas Swale, the next home of that John Sutherland, Sr., the wealthiest man in that part of Douglas county. It is said that he presented each of his daughters, on their wedding day, with one thousand dollars, and his sons each secured a donation of land. Many a time has the writer said the old gentleman's "old grey mare" with a white blaze for a saddle.

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