

COOS BAY TIMES

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The Coos Bay Times represents a consolidation of the Daily Coast Mail and The Coos Bay Advertiser. The Coast Mail was the first daily established on Coos Bay and The Coos Bay Times is its immediate successor.

Official Paper of Coos County.

MODERN ELOPEMENTS.

YOUNG LOCHINVAR, who is common to all countries, has kept more punctiliously apace with the times than even the highwayman. He flourishes, therefore, today, even as in the age of the palfrey and the nocturnal serenade. It is only a few weeks since a well-known Coos Bay couple made use of an automobile in which to evade stern parents and hurrying to Coquille secured license and minister to make them one. Now comes a similar story of a young Spaniard who last week eloped with the daughter of a proud Castilian residing in Madrid. The couple made a successful get-away under the noses of the young woman's stern father and her jealous fiancé who is rich and old and homely as they always are in the story books. The pair are married now, and, apparently the denouement of the story is to be a happy one.

A century or so ago the young cavalier would have been a brigand, or a multerer, or a wandering troubadour; but the time being the present, he is merely a chauffeur for a wealthy grandee. While he was conveying the old party about Spain in a big car he met his present wife. She was then touring the country with her father and fiancé in the former's machine. The patrician young woman immediately fell in love with the dark and reckless chauffeur, and they shortly made arrangements to elope.

So at night the young man went to the small hostelry where the girl's party had put up. He had no mandolin with him and he did not sing beneath the lady's window. He merely honked his horn outside in the road, and the girl climbed unassisted from her room via the fire escape. Two centuries ago she would have tried to shin down an ivy vine, and probably have broken some bones. Her lover was disguised in a long coat and goggles, his clothes reeked with gasoline and he had a smudge of grease on his face, but he was Lochinvar, just the same—Lochinvar in the same old piece. The investiture, only, was different.

When the youth had escorted his sweetheart to the waiting car which his employer, who was a sentimental old ruffian, had loaned him for the night, he crept into the garage, and stuck his jack knife through the tires of the father's machine. When the latter attempted to follow the fleeing couple, he found that he could not, and cursed in the language which hundreds of other Spanish fathers have employed upon discovering that their saddle horses had been hamstringed by their daughters' abductors.

But the automobile has really become an old factor in elopements. Twenty years from now Lochinvar will carry off his fair one in his flyabout, after having broken the wings of papa's aerial machine.

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TELLS STORY OF ROMANCE

Prof. J. B. Horner Lectures at Albany On Joaquin Miller.

ALBANY, Ore., July 8.—In a stereopticon lecture on Oregon literature delivered by Professor J. B. Horner of the Oregon Agricultural college, before the State Teachers' Association in Albany, Joaquin Miller, Senator E. D. Baker, Frederick H. Balch, Ella Higginson, Edwin Markham, Mrs. E. E. Dye, Homer Davenport and Sam L. Simpson were discussed at length. It was shown that much fine literature and some classics have been written by Oregon men and women. Many romances were also told, one of which touches the life and wife of Joaquin Miller who lived and loved at Canyon City for several years.

"As an author he was known as Giles Gaston, and she as Minnie Myrtle. They were regular contributors to the Eugene Register of which Cincinnati's Heine Miller was editor. An editorial request for the name and address of the talented Minnie Myrtle was followed by the answer that she was Minnie Dyer of Gold Beach. Correspondence became active and he made a visit to her home by the sea. He arrived on Thursday and they were wed on the following Sunday.

"More minutely told it was thus. On Sunday morning the young judge who had been paying his attentions to Miss Minnie and aspired to membership in the Dyer family, appeared on the scene. At the door he was met by Miss Minnie and her new friend, whom she introduced to the judge and took her exit. Whereupon Mr. Miller said: "Judge, I'll have a word with you, sir. Miss Minnie and I are to be married in a few moments, and you are to have the honor of performing the ceremony.

"Marrying another fellow to one's own best girl was a feature of law that the fainting judge could not comprehend. But as soon as he regained his senses sufficiently, he performed the ceremony, which was awkwardly done as it was confessedly embarrassing to the officiating judge.

"Many a heroine has been made great in history by the possession of a small share of her heroic endurance, enduring courage, calm self-possession, loyal heart and creative brain. She was talented, so was he, but they were woefully mismatched. The storm cloud crossed and recrossed their way till adversity cruelly separated their paths for many years. But they were finally reconciled to each other just as he was triumphantly stepping into another chamber of God's beautiful mansion. Her sweet disposition, as well as her poetic talent, was contagious. She produced a marked change in the character and writing of her husband. That delicate and refined love of the truly beautiful nature and warmth of sympathy for the erring and the unfortunate which characterized his writings must be admitted to date from his marriage.

We have seen a composite picture which is composed of the best features of two or more individuals. Many of Joaquin Miller's poems may be considered composite. Joaquin combining the keen conception and fiery dash of the young pioneer, as his earlier writings displayed him with the kindly thought, the gentle touch and delicate coloring inseparable from all which was said and done by his lost wife. This, Joaquin Miller fully realized, for he has said: "That which is best in my works was inspired by her." Though their separation was long, a sorrow to both, and the flowers have blossomed for many years over the grave of the poetess yet in object, aim and desire, they are one today, and the soul of the beautiful bride which the poet wooed and won in the wilds of the Coquille so long ago, still shines in all his lines and brightens all his pages."

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