HAPPY LOVE.

While they sat before the fire,
Nothing more did he desire,
Than to get a little nigher,
If he could;
And his heart beat high and higher,
And her look grew shy and shyer,
When he sidled up close by her,
As he should.

Then he ventured to inquire
If her sister, Jane Maniar,
And her mother and her sire,
Were quite well?
And from time to time he'd eye her,
And his bashfulness was dire,
For a spell.

Then his husky throat grew dryer,
When he told her that the 'Squire
To him elf would gladly tie her
If she would;
Might he now ask her sire?
And he thought he would expire,
When she said, to his desire,
That he could!

A Midnight Adventure.

It was a stormy night. Fierce thunder clouds hung overhead, full of incessant fire, blazing out into long streams on the midnight sky; radiant in eccentric picturing, gloomy and grand, as is ever a war of the elements. Far to the east the horizon hung clear and bright as a silver line, but to the west there sprung and flashed, as to the music of a restless dance, the play of the summer lightnings. Beautiful and vivid in gleams of fire the electric currents glowed like animated things, sometimes leaping to the zenith, and then sinking down with a sort of caress to the ruffled waters, as if hushing the moan of the miniature sea. But in the southeast, away from the airy strife, higher and wider was a semi-circle of blue; it rose to the arch of the bow-like sky, vailing the moon that peeped from rifts of clouds. Motionless, like the scared face of a lady, it hung between the storm and the bright sky in the east. Like Artemus watching the battle of the Titians, looked the moon in this revel of the lightnings, and the gleam of the billows flashing in flame. The tremulous waters gave out a moan like a spirit in distress, and the heart felt chill as the ear took in the mournful sound. The storm rose fiercer, and the lightnings flashed in desolation. Vivid and red they shot up in the sky, and the wind rose up and lashed the billows to the foam—a foam that sparkled and shimmered in the red light of the sky like molten gold.

Few were abroad that night. A single yacht was out on the bay a mile from shore It was anchored there, and the dark hull rose and fell with the heave of the water. Suddenly a fluttering ripple appeared on the bay. It gathered strength as it came, and rushed into billows that ran with the speed of the wind. It struck the small, dark boat, that careened to its force like a reed bent to the blast.

Just then a man and woman appeared on the deck, the one trembling and frightened, the other dark and stern. Their forms could be seen in the light of the sky, in the gleaming of the lightning.

From the verandah of the hotel two man sat and watched them. Despite the wind and the breath of the tempest that rushed in their face, their eyes were bent on the vessel that rocked and shivered in the throes of the waves.

"What will he do?" said one of the men—the largest and youngest of the two.

"Wait and see," was the calm reply. "He may murder her. I believe he will. What object could he have in anchoring the vessel there but an evil one?"

His companion did not seem to hear him, so earnestly was he looking toward the miniature craft that seemed to be the sport of the elements that raged around it. Suddenly he turned his head, and exclaimed:

"Have the men got the boats ready? Quick, there is no time to lose!" and the two men rushed out of the house and down to the beach.

At sunset the yacht had left the pier ostensibly for a sail of a few hours. It bore two persons—a man and a woman. They were both young and compartive strangers. Two weeks before they had come here. Strange that almost from the day of their arrival they had fallen under the suspicion and surveilance of the police. Some said the lady was insane, and the man wished to get rid of her. But how this was known it would be impossible to say. They knew no one, formed no acquaintances, and lived secluded. Yet it is true all their movements were watched, and the two detectives that sat upon the gallery that night were always near them.

The yacht had been purchased by a man a week before. He had been warned not to go out that night. A storm was brewing, they told him, and he would be unable to manage his vessel. He laughed at this, and said there was no danger.

The detectives said nothing, but watched carefully. For an hour or two he sailed around in sight, but the storm began to rise, the vessel lay to, and the anchor dropped outside.

What could it mean!

He had plenty of time to reach the shore in safety. What motive had he to risk the frail vessel out in the storm?

Reaching the small boat they had in readiness the detectives jumped in and ordered the men to pull to the yacht. They had nearly reached it when a wild scream broke out upon the air. It was the cry of a woman in mortal agony. At that moment the flash of lightning revealed the form of a female struggling in the water and a man bending over the railing of the yacht watching her calmly.

The next moment the anchor was weighed, the sail was set, and the vessel rushed by them on its way to land.

A few vigorous strokes brought them up to the spot where the woman was seen. A moment after she lay in the bottom of the boat, wet and drenched and apparently lifeless.

The man had already rushed to the hotel and told his story. His wife had fallen overboard and was drowned. He appeared to be wild with grief—reproaching himself for going out on the lake, and then crying as if his heart would break. His counterfeit anguish would have imposed upon any one who had not seen his treachery.

The man brought the woman back, but took her to another hotel, where steps were taken to revive her. After this she was taken back to the city. In the meantime one of the detectives was quietly watching the man whose anguish appeared so excessive. Several times the stranger eyed the officer suspiciously; but recollecting himself, a new outburst of grief excited the compassion of the crowd. The scene went on till morning, and as the day advanced the man's frenzy toned down. It was then the officer advanced to him and took him into custody.

"Arrest me, sir! Arrest me for what?"

For attempting to drown your wife."

"Attempting!"

"Yes, attempting. You did not succeed. She has been rescued."

The man stared at him from eyes that grew wild with fright, and a deathly palor crept into his face. His lips worked as if with a spasm, and he murmured, between his shut teeth, the simple word: "Rescued!"

"Yes, rescued."

"Then, I'm lost!" and the cool, calculating villain stood convicted by his own confession.

It is useless to trace his after fate. He was tried and condemned—the would-be assassin of his wife.

When "The School for Scandal" was first acted, Mr. Cumberland was asked to give his opinion of it. "I am astonished," said he, "that the town can be so completely mistaken as to think there is either wit or humor in this comedy. I went to see it, and it made me as grave as a judge." This singular opinion was reported to Sheridan. "Mr. Cumberland," said he, "is very ungrateful, for when I went to see his tragedy of the 'Carmelite,' I did nothing but laugh from the beginning to the end."

New Market Theater.

On Monday, August 21st, the famous Hattie Moore Comic English Opera Company will commence an engagement at New Market Theater, Portland, which promises to be the operatic event of the season. There are 28 artists in the combination, and all of the best operas will be given in a thoroughly artistic manner. Manager Stechhan is bound to have the best attractions that can be obtained. After the close of the Portland season the company will travel the entire circuit controlled by Mr. Stechhan.

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Explained at foot of this column

Portland Business Directory!

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Also Dr. J. M. F. Browne, Prof. of Physiology med dep't. Willamette University.

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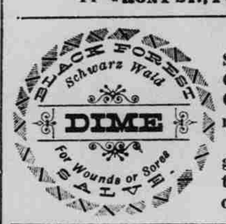

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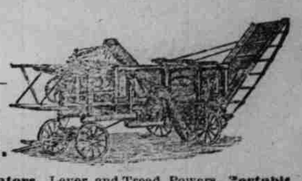

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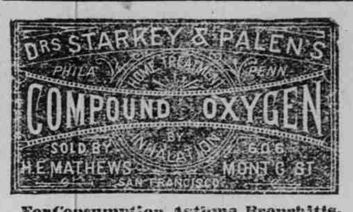

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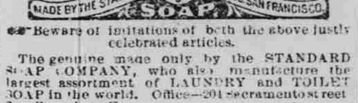

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