

# A ROUMANIAN LEGEND

The Tragedy From Which Sprang Manoll's Well.

## A WEIRD TALE OF OLDEN DAYS

Neither Fate Nor Flood Nor Hurricane Could Keep the Faithful Anniker From the Man She Loved and From Her Horrible Doom.

Tradition is not history, but it serves to fill in the gaps left by the chroniclers of olden time and throws a light—sometimes a lurid one—upon the manners and customs of bygone ages. A dark deed cruel enough to be remembered even in a cruel age is repeated from father to son, each generation adding its touch of superstitious marvel to the story till it grows into the fairy tale of today, mythical, yet not without a kernel of truth.

Among the picturesque pansantry of Roumania lingers many a weird tale of olden days. One such legend is related concerning an ancient monastery, the remains of which are still to be seen on a wooded hillside. Beneath the weird walls lie nine great lumps of granite, and among these rocks rises a spring of clear water, called by the peasants "Manoll's well" and believed by them to have a strange and wonderful origin.

Once upon a time, we are told, a Roumanian noble named Negen was a captive in the hands of Selim, the sultan of Turkey. During his exile Negen employed his time in studying architecture, and, possessing considerable talent, he undertook to superintend the building of a celebrated mosque. Charmed by the beauty of the building, the sultan granted Prince Negen his liberty and permission to carry back to his native land certain costly materials similar to those used in beautifying the mosque.

Accompanied by nine skilled masons, Negen returned to Roumania, resolved to immortalize his name by building there a religious house such as had never before been seen.

The site chosen, the builders set to work under his orders, but their labor was in vain, for every night evil spirits pulled down what had been erected during the day.

One night Manoll, the chief of the builders, had a strange dream. A mysterious voice warned him that the building they had undertaken would never be reared unless they built into the walls the living form of the first woman who appeared at break of day.

On awaking from sleep Manoll told his comrades of this vision, and together they made a solemn vow to sacrifice thus the first woman, maid or matron, who appeared the next morning.

With the first streak of dawn Manoll mounted the scaffolding and scanned the surrounding hills with pallid, anxious face. Alas, who is it he sees in the distance? His own fair young wife, bringing food and wine for her lord.

Then Manoll threw himself upon his knees and besought heaven to send a flood to prevent her from coming, and at once the rain poured down, and the river rose so that a waste of water covered the valley. But the young wife waded through the water, and Manoll, in despair, beheld her still approaching.

Again he prayed, and a fierce hurricane swept over the mountains, leveling trees and hurling rocks in the way. Yet on she came. Anniker had a brave spirit, and neither flood nor tempest would keep her from the man she loved.

joyfully the masons received her, but Manoll's face was pale and stricken with anguish.

They led the young wife to a niche in the newly built wall and told her to stand there for a joke, while they pretended to build her in. At first she laughed merrily and entered into the jest, but her smiles vanished as quickly as the wall rose from ankle to knee and from knee to waist. Poor Anniker's entreaties and cries did not move the hearts of the stern builders, and soon her voice was heard no more.

The prophetic vision proved true. The building suffered no more from invisible foes and when complete satisfied the pride of Negen's heart. Manoll alone took no pleasure in the edifice which had cost him so dear.

It was finished, and the masons prepared to return to their own country. Negen, however, determined that they should never return. The design which they had worked out so admirably was the creature of his brain, the darling of his heart; it should never be reproduced. So he invited them all to the roof for the last time. Then, treacherously removing the ladders, he left them there to die.

The masons devised various means for reaching the earth, but they were all killed in the attempt to escape and were changed by fairies into the great blocks of stone which remain to this day in proof of the tragic event.

Manoll alone made no effort to save himself and joined in none of the contrivances prepared by his comrades. He heard only Anniker's voice calling to him—"Manoll, Manoll!" Following the mystic voice, he sprang from the parapet, falling lifeless upon the earth, and the tears welling up from his broken heart became a fountain, ever clear, cool and fresh, and to this day it is known as Manoll's well.—London Family Herald.

Every base occupation makes one sharp in its practice and dull in every other.—Sir Philip Sidney.

All of the local news is in the Press

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Umatilla County.

In the matter of the estate of William Willaby, deceased: Notice is hereby given to all persons whom it may concern that W. P. Willaby and A. J. Willaby have qualified as executors of the last will and testament of William Willaby, deceased, and that letters testamentary have been issued to them. All persons having claims against the said estate are required to present them duly verified as by law required to the said executors at the office of their attorneys, Peterson & Wilson, at Pendleton, Oregon, or Athena, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, which will appear in the Athena Press on Friday, the first day of April A. D., 1910, and will be published each week for four successive weeks, the last publication appearing on Friday, the 29th day of April, A. D., 1910.

Dated this 1st day of April, A. D., 1910.

W. P. Willaby and A. J. Willaby, Executors.  
Peterson & Wilson, Attorneys.

### Saved From Awful Peril.

"I never felt so near my grave," writes Lewis Chamblin of Manchester Ohio, "as when a frightful cough and lung trouble pulled me down to 115 pounds in spite of many remedies and the best doctors. And I am alive to day is due solely to Dr. King's New Discovery, which completely cured me. Now I weigh 160 pounds and can work hard. It also cured my four children of croup." Infallible for coughs and colds, its most certain remedy for lagrippe asthma, desperate lung trouble and all bronchial affections, 50c and \$1. A trial bottle free. Guaranteed by all druggists.

### President Helps Orphans.

Hundreds of orphans have been helped by the president of the Industrial and Orphan's Home at Mason, Ga., who writes: "We have used Electric Bitters in this institution for nine years. It has proved a most excellent medicine for stomach, liver and kidney troubles. We regard it as one of the best family medicines on earth." It invigorates all vital organs, purifies the blood, aids digestion, creates appetite. To strengthen and build up pale, thin, weak children or rundown people it has no equal. Best for female complaints. Only 50c. at all druggists.

The Athena Land company have a splendid bargain to offer in a handsome 7-room house, plastered throughout, wired for electric lights, desirable location in Athena, two lots, barn and outbuilding, for \$1,200.

### OLD ENGLISH HUMOR.

A SPRIG OF SHILLALAH.  
A fellow on the quay, thinking to quiz a poor Irishman, asked him, "How do the potatoes eat now, Pat?" The Irish lad, who happened to have a shillalah in his hand, answered cleverly: "Oh, they eat very well, my jowel! Would you like to taste the stalk?" And, knocking the inquirer down, he coolly walked off.

Probably it was a good thing he knocked him down first.

Turning to the middle of the book—there are 400 pages—Joe breaks into verse:

ON THE LATIN GERUNDS.  
When Dido mourned, Aeneas would not come,  
She wept in silence and was Di-Do-Dumb.  
Classic?  
Here's—

A BAD END.  
It was told of Jekyll that one of his friends, a brewer, had been drowned in his own vat. "Ah," he exclaimed, "floating in his own watery bier!"  
Right off the bat that.

There's little Johnny also. He drops in during jest:

THE SEASON-INGS.  
"Come here, Johnny, and tell me what the four seasons are."  
Young Frodigg—Pepper, salt, mustard and vinegar.

Here's a little shot at politics and the peer system:

EPIGRAM.  
(On Alderman Woods being afraid to place himself to even the principles he has always professed.)  
Sure in the house he'll do but little good  
Who lets "I dare not" wait upon "I, Wood" (it would).

Oh, listen! Talk about your originality:

A SHORT JOURNEY.  
"Zounds, fellow!" exclaimed a choleric old gentleman to a very phlegmatic matter of fact person, "I shall go out of my wits!"  
"Well, you won't have far to go," said the phlegmatic man.

Yes, and here's a small ebullition from a dramatist:

OLD FRIENDS.  
Coleman, the dramatist, was asked if he knew Theodore Hook. "Yes," replied the wit. "Hook and eye are old associates."  
Hook was not present at the time.

The courts also come through with a few gems:

NEW RELATIONSHIP.  
A stranger to law courts, hearing a judge call a sergeant "brother," expressed his surprise. "Oh," said one of the bystanders, "they are brothers—brothers in law."

And speaking of repartee:  
A SHUFFLING ANSWER.  
Two Oxonians dining together, one of them noticed a grease spot on the neck-cloth of his companion and said, "I see you are a Grecian."  
"Pooh!" said the other. "That is far-fetched."

"No, indeed," said the wit; "I made it on the spot."  
Right back at him, you observe.

Of course there are some better ones, but there are also some that are worse. Taken as a whole, they don't add any laurels to the English reputation for humor nor detract any from the opinion of Mark Twain.—Kansas City Times.

Emperors and cobblers are alike, and the same reason that makes us wrangle with a neighbor causes a war between princes.—Montaigne.

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### Here's a Snap.

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### Won't Need a Crutch.

When Editor J. P. Sossman, of Cornelius, N. C., bruised his leg badly, it started an ugly sore. Many salves and ointments proved worthless. Then Backlen's Arnica Salva healed it thoroughly. Nothing is so prompt and sure for Ulcers, boils, burns, bruises, cuts, corns, sores, pimples, eczema or piles. 25 cents at all druggists.



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