

A ROYAL PROGRESS.

When spring, like Raleigh, flung his cloak For her small foot's light treading...

A MAN FROM OHIO.

Mr. Longley's mistake, the mistake of his life, grew out of his first mistake, which was in ever coming to California.

He used to go over to the telegraph office where Carpenter was, and there, on a pile of blue butter boxes, air his mind pretty freely concerning "these infernal greasers."

One of the first things he did had gained him the ill will of all the loungers in the crooked little street. Benito, 4 years old, came running to him.

The Spanish mamma is an excellent matchmaker, and very seldom has any old maids on her hands.

He was from Ohio and brought his own code of ethics and etiquette, which these greasers were obliged to trim to—not he to fit to theirs.

"Have you asked her mother?" inquired the cautious Carpenter. "I don't intend to," replied Mr. Longley.

"You'll get yourself in trouble sure," Carpenter warned. "If you're not sandbagged at the baile or assassinated before the baile—mark my words—they'll rope you into marrying the girl."

Mr. Longley slapped himself on his chest and gave his friend to understand that he had not journeyed all the way from Ohio to have his life cut off in its flower and prime by the hand of an assassin.

Lured by the sound of viol, flute and bassoon, or, to be exact, accordion, two guitars and a fiddle, Carpenter stole away from the office to peep in at the Thanksgiving ball.

Longley caught sight of Carpenter and came hurrying out. "You see I brought her," he said.

"And her mother?" asked Carpenter. "Mother nothing! You want to hear how I did it?" and Longley unfolded a tale that made Carpenter gasp.

"Well, my son, if you really did this—persuaded that foolish girl to climb out of the window and go with you unknown to her mother—I don't know but what you deserve your fate.

Longley waved the advice lightly from him and hurried back to Julia.

The next time the friends met was at Longley's wedding, four weeks after the Thanksgiving ball.

ing Julia in her window, one of the iron bars of which Longley had managed to remove. Longley suspected Julia's cousin, Jose Erron, who had shown unutterable hatred for the young eastern man.

For three weeks Longley lay in the Estudillos' adobe suffering from concussion of the brain. Part of the time he was unconscious. He had strange dreams. The bare little chamber was a prison cell, and Julia was his jailer.

When he got the kinks straightened out in his head, he found that they had finished calling the banas for him and Julia, and that they were preparing for the wedding to take place as soon as he could stand.

The thing was monstrous, without doubt, but what could be done? Carpenter was the only one who would even try to interfere, and he could do nothing. Julia clothed herself in stupidity, and against that impenetrable armor Carpenter battered in vain.

The marriage could not take place in the church, as Longley was not a Catholic. The priest did not approve and remonstrated with Senora Estudillo in regard to this impious alliance with a heretic.

Carpenter, with a grim line round his mouth, wondered as he stood watching the priest's genuflections if Longley was recalling any of his somewhat intemperate remarks about priests and greasers.

Longley never did get to looking "right part"—he began work too soon. He worked early and he worked late, for were there not 19 blood relatives and 28 collaterals, also the blood relatives of the collaterals, and all big eaters?

A dozen or so would come down from Tassajara, another dozen from Tres Pinos, and there "visit" three or four weeks at Longley's in the most perfect amity.

They had parties every Sunday night, and to the strains of an accordion and three or four guitars they would fairly dance the lint out of the floor and walls.

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