MELTING LIKE WAX

ALL MOUNTAINS WILL VANISH IN THE COURSE OF TIME.

Notable Elevations That Are Slowly Crim bling and Becoming Smaller-Awful a ntastrophe That Befell the Village of Elm. Process of Change.

A French professor told the recent scientific congress in Rome that "ail mountains will vanish off the face of the the earth itself will disappear at the cud of time. However, the Frenchman's prophecy is already in course of realization. The Ardennes, the Pyreness and mighty Himalayas, ... if weary of 'rear- crossed his mind. ing their forms sublime" through so many generations, nodded their heads in one place two years ago and hurled smoothing his thin white hair; then, trains of the Hudson River railway weighs only 62 tons. That Asiatic mountain slide, therefore, caused an ava. | have it!' lanche equivalent to the tumble of about 18,000,000 such locomotives off a bridge dent slowness with which a gentle-10,000 feet high. Little wonder that "the noise was terrific" and that "the natives were frightened." Masses of "many blocks of dolomitic limestone, weighing from 30 to 50 tons, were sunt like cannon balls through the air."

In 1881, in the Alps, there was an immense hill fall, caused by its human undermining in order to obtain slate for school use. The mining began in 1868. In 1876 the Plattenberkoph split across its crown, and after progressive enlargements for years, which caused comment of gold. The cold wind refreshed and forebodings, it fell in the year him, and he drank it in like water. named. This catastrophe precipitated about 12,000,000 cubic yards of rock 1,475 feet downward into the valley. The debris ricochetted across the valley from the sight of those blessed fields and rolled 325 feet up the opposite slope, among which you will ramble herewhere it was canted over sideways, and after?" then poured like liquid over a horizontal plane of about 9,700,000 square feet and to a depth of from 85 to 70 feet.

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One-balf of the village of Elm was overwhelmed, and it was so swiftly cleft by the resistless mass that the line was sharply deflued, and one house was out in two. One hundred and fifteen people were buried. One home was left came the answer, 'Sirl' A turn, a on the very verge, of which the doors sigh, a shake—the door was unbolted were open, the fire burned, the table was set, the coffee was hot, but no living soul was left. The head of the peared. household was saved, but his entire family, who were out looking at the mountain fall, were lost. The debris dammed parlor. Do it quietly. up a river, for which a channel was blasted afresh. New soil was carried into the valley, and spread over the ruins Colonel hobbled back. He took his where harvests now smile again, and immense writing desk from its timethe people go about their work as if there were no such thing as an avalauche in this bumbling and crumbling

The process of change in earth levels in all lands is illustrated in your unpaved back yard or village street after heavy rains. Each tiny rivulet no larger than your little finger has its floods, its door. narrower limits where it runs in its square foot of barder soil, and is thereby pinobed sideways, its audden shallowing and widening where the soil is softer, and the panio stricken ants or be draggled beetles are caught in their miniature world and routed as men are on a larger scale. Ten feet square of back yard may illustrate the succession of events which make seas shallower and mountains lower. The surcharged warm cloud gets a chill as it caresses the head of some dignified peak, the sudden condensation upsets the shower out of the atmosphere's myriad cell buckets, and the torrent rushes down the breasts that the surprised soil catches the spirit of panie and forgets to obey gravitation until it finds itself at sea and almost out of sight of shore. That transfer of earth leaves the hills thinner and deposits that which makes the river or bay or sea somewhat less deep. People live in the lowlands near their grain and fruits, and these thrive on the alluvium washed down by torrents and flood. That theft of matter makes the mountains bareheaded and puts the valley under obligation to the storms which feed the crops with plant nutriment stolen from above. Like man, the harvests lift their eyes to the hills, whence their helpcomes. The mountains are being carried into the sea, and man demands tribute

as they pass. The forces of nature and the elements in battle, like the gospel, are levelers. They bring down the mighty and lift up the lowly. One of these days the earth must be resurveyed. The aspirations of the hills will have been reduced; the depths of the rivers, bays and oceans will be less. Men who journey by water in? may return to the plans and proportions that best suited those who built the ark, and they may see that Noah knew something about shipbuilding, notwithstanding our Americans, Auranias and Campanies. David may have had a thought of all this when he said, "The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord." Isalah wrote, "The mountains flowed down at thy presence." Exekiel said, "The mountain shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall. If those Alpine dwellers at Elm read their Bibles, they must have thought of these passages after they recovered from their surprise. - Northwestern Christian Advocate.

Softening the Expression "See here, Jones, I never thought you were a liar, but I overheard you tell Miss Gordon last night that her face was a perfect dream. What d'ye say that for?"

"Well, say, she's a perfect nightmare. isn't she?' "You're telling the truth now."

"Well, that's what I told her, only I softened the expression a little."-

New York Recorder.

LOBETTO, OF THE CHOICE.

An Interesting Story for Both Old and Yaung.

Written by George E. Miles.

IN FOUR PARTS. PARTL CHAPTER IL

'One year!' muttered the Colonel earth in course of time." We do not to himself, after Mrs. Cleveland had doubt it, for it is divinely foretold that retired, drawing his capacious armchair closer to the fire as he spoke. His tears had dried, his face had cleared up, and presently his eye the mountains of Provence are going to began to twinkle with a sly expression peices by degrees in our own age. The as if some bright idea had suddenly

'One year, ch?' he repeated audibly, into the valleys below a mass of debris emptying the mug of ale mechanicalwhich was estimated at 800,000,000 ly, he threw his feet heavily upon the tons. The largest iccompative on the fast tender, rubbed his hands until they tingled, and chuckled-'I have it! I

The Colonel rose with that confiman of the old school leaves the table, in the inspiration of the morock were hurled a mile away, and ment, to bring forth with his own hand his best bottle for his best friend. He opened the front door cantiously and stepped tiptoe on the portico. He paused a moment, it was a clear winter night, the frost had polished the stars and their rays surrounded them like long eyelashen

> 'Oh! my dear little pet,' he thought. they shall never coop you up here

Then for the first time, feeling that it was freezing hard, he crept on tiptos to the door of a small room opening on the porch.

'Charley!' he whispered shrilly through the keyhole. In an instant and the little fellow's curly head ap-

Charley! dress warm—saddle Fleetly for yourself, and come to the

The sagacious boy nodded, and the honored green bag, unlocked it sarefully, and selecting a quill, mended a pen with infinite pains.

Charley re-appeared before the old gentleman had finished writing, and without saying a word, stood by the

'Get closer to the fire, my boycloser-warm up well,' ejaculated the Colonel, looking to see that his commands were obeyed.

'There!' he continued, describing a flourish after his name, folded the letter and sealed it.

'Are you warm Charley?' 'Yes sir.'

'Where's your great coat-ch? and comforter-eh? Get them, you inconsiderate rescal! Do you think I want to freeze you on Fleetly's back. and limbs of the mountains so swiftly to be a Christmas snow-man for the children of the neighborhood?

Charley retired, and the Colonel directed the letter. Now, you're all right-no, stopl your ear's out. and he fixed the comfort carefully, even tenderly, around the boys' neck and head. 'Take this letter to the post office, it must go at five by the morning's mail. Be sure you drop it into the box and not the gutter, and

mind you, Charley—not a word!' With a bow and a smile the trusty messenger departed. When he had gone, the Colonel again ensconced himself in his chair, and contrary to custom, lit another cigar and replenished his mug. But he only drank half. He sat there until Charley returned after performing his task in half an hour.

'Well-timed my boy! Is the letter

A nod.

The horse attended to? Another nod.

Keep close to the fire then, and drink this; drink, I say! it won't burt you, said the Colonel, slapping him on the back.

In a few minutes more they were both abed; but long after Charley was snoring, the Colonel kept tossing on his pillow, repeating-

'My sister, we are playing a long game of chess, and I have just made the first move!'

What the move was will soon

If any are interested in the game let them follow; if placing the pieces has not been tedious, the moves perchance may please, or, what is more, instruct.

It may be supposed that the Colonel was a Protestant; he was not, however. He was a Catholic, at least

The Catholic Church in the United State

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tions of indifferentism; in short, he was utterly de-catholicised, and nothing more nor less than a thoroughbred man of the world—living for time and not for eternity, loving his neighbor as the world understands it, but neglecting his God.

Agnes was up with the sun and at mass. Her heart bounded gladly and fervently as she walked home with the bloom of health, youth and piety on her cheeks. Summer never seemed fairer than that winter morning, and the sun on the snow-clad hill tops told of brightness beyond the grave. No birds were singing. but melody was all around her no flowers were blowing, but the air was fragrance, for her God was in her bosom, and her mother leaned on her

Breakfast and the Colonel were waiting for them at Loretto. The Colonel was a scrupulous observer of all the habits which backelorship invents and cherishes. One of them was to kiss his niece before coffee every morning, when he had the chance. But this time his embrace this is my very good friend Mr. was more affectionate than it had ever been, and Agnes observed it.

Christmas was drawing near. Confectioners' windows in the village were already bespangled with visions, that riveted the eyes and moistened the mouths of troops of eager boys. who knew that the harvest of the year -the annual feast was coming. Agnes too looked forward to it as a season of joy unbounded; for her gift was to be the divine child himself, who sanctified the day,

Three days after the Colonel had written, an answer came. It was brief and satisfactory:

My Dearold Uncle.

'Expect this evening yours, "ELLEN ALMY."

Bless her bright young soul, exclaimed the Colonel, pressing the paper to his heart. Let's the queen that will win this game!"

That day was the longest the Colonel had ever spent; it seemed to him as though evening would never come. He examined his tackle, his guns, his razors, he whistled he sang, read, wrote, walked, rede; but do what he would the hours were ages. By a strong effort, he man-

he had been a Catholic; but that was aged to conceal his anxiety from his pressure of his to long ago, when his mother lived. By sister and niece; still they might have changed, her distributed neglecting his religious duties for noticed that he started at the sound and size there are for ty years, he had imbibed all the of every sleigh-bell, and that he took courses mask. prejudices of society, all the errors a particular piessure in standing at of humanitarianism—all the suggest the window. He was singularly soust raising her head in cal too, and there was scarce one shoulder, that you had great the ballad of the olden time from which be a sweet section. the Colonel did not borrow a pigrase in the course of the day.

Ellen. 'Why, there's a sleigh at our gate,' exclaimed Agnes, rising and going to

the window. opening the door.

Agnes followed him out on the porch. Who are they Aggle your eves

are better than mine? Strangers to me, a lady and gentleman.

Presently they heard a sweet, clear voice— Ves this is the piece. I remanufact it now. Help me out. Mr.
Melville, these country winds have the project of the project of the piece.

Quite starded my limbs, and I'm. quite starched, my limbs, and I'm stiff as your cravat.

'My Let. I do verily believel brief. the Colonel, rushing to meet her, as she leaped lightly from the sleigh. Let. Lel, is not this you?

George Melville, a young gentleman Ellen, of course, was the who can catch a trout, shoot a par- break it. tridge play all fours, and line di-

Mrs. Dieveland rose in amsourcent from school, as \$15 ke at this abrubt entry and Elles on strates of such langual ioning her surprise, tool of her bonnet, throw back her golden curie, this and before she use and still kneeling and laughing, ssid:

long look-don't you know me? "Eller Alley! exclaimed Mrs. Cleveland, embracing her he she tools one are of his -the day; In Colonel cutered, followed by Agues in the creek and seems of units

wards Agnes, and selsing her by the gress drying off in the sublicities hand, led her as close to the lamp on A smalle played over Apacel duck the table as she could get. There as she answered. I have not targetten she stood, evenue her from head to saything lillenfoot so comically, that Aguss could Lell I tall you! orise has see not keep from smiling. You know we were calling and

whom I played, and quarreled and said you'd marry a soldier made up ten years ago! Do you re- Imember me, Agnes?' And the ex-

They joid me black eyes, rosy plants and How-but I little expected to the Evening came at last, and with it such an absolute beguing,

Come Ellen, no fathery he interposed Mrs. Cieweland. Eller with a look of most gravity and displeasure, walked aloudy are to diet 'Who can it be? said the Colonel, sunt, and looking representably late her eyes, replieds

Mades, you do no great in well in the first place, was named in not Miles - the verse of the same of the s

the leaped lightly from the sleigh. thewed, you may him sad so and the old station 'Lel, Lel, is not this you?'

'All that's left of me, uncle, and took her at her word.

There must allow the first state of

· My gurdness Mr. 3 vinely. Take care how you hug manufactured it is the state of the partor and three herself on her knees before the fire.

THE LESS CONTRACTOR Charley apprecial and will his LOSE, STREET CONTRACT STREET Now, Auni Mary, take a good. Ellen sak meet to A

and George-Melville: Story for the fall we had stoled plate to the

'So this is my little cousin, with the future that morning, and year

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