

# PERSONALITY OF POET ALMOST OVERSHADOWED WORK OF HIS PEN

### Joaquin Miller, Who Lived Not as Other Men—"Living and Loving and Writing and Re-writing"—Belief in In-dwelling Goodness.

By Marjory Macmureh in the Toronto News.

Joaquin Miller, whose real name was Chichimitza Heine Miller, was a poet whose pen, I have looked upon as overshadowed by his personality. He was extremely picturesque, sometimes not appreciably picturesque. He lived in a little one-roomed hut on green hills overlooking Oakland which is across the bay from San Francisco. He was seventy-two years old when he died and his personality must have been to San Francisco somewhat the same as at this distance it seems to us. Here we know of him only as a poet who chose not to live like other men, dressed oddly, wandered on the hills, stayed in bed most of the day if that was his inclination, welcomed strangers and was a survival of an old picturesque life something like the stories of Bret Harte. San Francisco may have thought Joaquin Miller not altogether presentable, and for this the city may have had some excuse. But it is said that there is no monument to Bret Harte in San Francisco, which proves that it is a city of the future, not of the past. Some ardent young admirers of Joaquin Miller who belonged to a small club in San Francisco invited him a couple of years ago to come to a dinner given in his honor and afterwards to speak to the admiring audience. A report of what he said shows how fortunate they were to hear his message. For once he spoke of how he wrote his poetry. He was supposed not to exercise much care in the way he framed his lines. This, however, was a mistaken idea.

"I suppose," he said to them, "you wonder if I, too, follow rules in my authorship. I do, I too look to poets who have gone before me and from their lines I learn how to make mine live." He said that people who write ought to use simple words and tell those who were listening that it was not words the world wanted, but ideas. The only way to interpret is to experience feeling. Love Nature, Love Life. And turn disappointment into good work. "Some of my best work," he said, "has come from my dead hopes." At the end he told them that living and loving, and writing and re-writing was the whole meaning of life, a saying which fits the best means of almost anyone's life if for writing and re-writing is substituted "working and doing the same work over, over again in a better way." Then he was asked to repeat his famous poem "Columbus" and did so for these young men who had the privilege in this way of hearing the whole conclusion of a man's life. His repetition of this poem was said to be wonderfully responsive, and as he ended those who heard him left not only the mystery that the old poet must disappear within sooner or later, but the mystery that surrounds all life even in its noonday.

"They called! They called! Then spoke the mate—  
"This sea shows its teeth to-night!  
He curls his lip; he lies in wait  
With lifted teeth as if to bite;  
Brave Admiral, say but one good word—  
The words leaped as a leaping sword.  
"Sail on! Sail on! and on!"

A Lion of London.

Joaquin Miller had followed many trades and lived in many countries. He took his name from one of his early writings. When he was a boy he ran away from home, but returned some years later with one hundred dollars for his father and went back to school again. It has often been said of him that he was running away all his life, either from a place, or from conventionality. He liked to be friends with all kinds of people, Indians, gold seekers, or frequenters of fashionable society in London. For

## BOLIVIA AND THE SEA

The alleged warlike preparations of Bolivia have attracted the attention of the world. The belief prevails that Bolivia's purpose is the acquisition of a port on the Pacific, and that war between the two republics is inevitable. It is easy to understand the desire of Bolivia to get back to the sea, but why she should seek to do so at the expense of Peru is not so intelligible. These countries were allies in the war of 1879-84, and Bolivia was not Peru but Chile that then drove Bolivia from the ocean to the eastern side of the Andes. By the treaty of peace in November, 1884, Bolivia ceded her seaboard provinces, Atacama, to Chile, in whose possession it remains under the name of the department of Antofagasta. At the same time Peru had to abandon her coast provinces of Tacna and Arica to Chile, and is unlikely to recover them though a treaty concluded in November last provides that twenty years hence the natives shall decide by vote whether these territories shall belong to Chile or to Peru.

Before Bolivia declared war on Chile, in April, 1879, she had her own Pacific port of Cobija, which was the chief mart for her foreign trade, and she also largely used the Peruvian port of Arica, a little farther up the coast. Both ports have been in the hands of Chile for thirty years, and she has drawn great revenues from the mineral wealth of the adjoining territories, yet it cannot fairly be said that Bolivian trade has been obstructed, much less reduced, by any Chilean regulations. The fact is that Chile has done much to facilitate the war by building a railway from her port of Antofagasta to the Bolivian city of Oruro, a distance of 573 miles, with a branch to the Huanchaca mines, which are the richest in Bolivia.

Within the last few years, under a treaty concluded in 1905, Chile has built a more direct line, running from her port of Arica to Lo Pza, the Bolivian capital, the distance being 577 miles. Peru also has helped Bolivia in the matter of seaborne trade. There is communication by rail and trans-

# PRETTY TYPIST QUEEN OF BEAUTY IN PARIS MID-LENTEN CARNIVAL

### Chosen by Fellow Working Girls is Presented With Diamond Bracelet by Madame Poincare.

Paris, Feb. 27.—Germaine Bregnot, queen of this year's mid-Lenten carnival, a typist in a city office, chosen for the honor by her fellows, working girls, owing to her beauty, was received in company with her maids in honor at the Palace of the Elysee today by Mme. Poincare, wife of President Poincare, who presented her with a diamond bracelet.

Mlle Bregnot had previously passed in procession through the principal streets amid the plaudits of thousands of people who took advantage of the general holiday to engage in lively can-can, lasting until late in the evening.

A large number of arrests of pick-pockets were made by the police, who under the direction of the prefect of police, Louis Lereine, took stern precautions to suppress rowdiness.

# MRS. PANKHURST WILL BE TRIED IN APRIL

London, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Pankhurst, militant suffragette, will be tried in Old Bailey in April, instead of at the Surrey Assizes in June or July, as would have been the case in the ordinary course. The authorities made this concession on her promising good behaviour.

The suffragette journal states that Sylvia Pankhurst is seriously ill in Holloway jail as the result of hunger strike and forcible feeding.

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# OIL AND BROMOIL PROCESS ADVANCE IN PHOTOGRAPHY

### English Exhibition Also Shows an Original Photo-Mechanical Process Which May Stop All Steel and Copper Plate Printing by Banks.

Manchester, Eng., Feb. 28.—The northern photographic exhibition is an international exhibition held alternately in the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool and the City Art Gallery, Manchester. The recent show was a remarkable collection of pictorial and expert work. The judges had placed before them for selection to form the present exhibition about 2,000 exhibits from which a very strong and careful selection was made. Holland, Germany, Belgium, Italy, France, Vienna, Canada and the United States of America are represented by their best work.

In the present exhibition the greatest advance shown is undoubtedly due to the introduction of what is known as the "oil and bromoil" process, a process which gives to the photographic artist a great power of control over his picture. To a great extent he can make wonderful changes in the lights and shades of his pictures that were previously possible. This process has been strongly brought to the front in England by S. L. Coulthart, F. R. P. S., honorable secretary of the exhibition.

The most recent advancements of the photography in color were shown in the scientific section. A. E. Bawtree, a bank note expert and fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, showed one of the most interesting inventions that has been on view in the city. It consists of an original photo-mechanical process, enabling steel and copper plate engravings to be reproduced in facsimile with the utmost ease. The process consists of two entirely novel operations:

- 1.—Instead of making the printing transparency by means of lens and sensitive plate, the actual pigment of the engraving is transferred to glass, with neither the loss nor gain of a particle. This yields a transparency incomparably superior to the best that can be obtained by the purely photographic manner. After serving its purpose as a transparency, the pigment is again put on to paper.
- 2.—Printing from this transparency on an engraved plate on copper or steel by a method which retains the full value of the most delicate hair lines of the original, without exaggerating the depth of the heavier work, thus preserving absolutely mechanically the tone values of the original.

A special warning is attached to the appliances required, tender the abandonment of steel and copper plate printing for such documents absolutely imperative in the immediate future or wholesale forgery will result. The process eliminates all security hitherto given to plate printed work by color grounds, however printed.

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