

THE DREAM OF A MAIDEN VERIFIED.

In a small town of Central France, Charité-sur-Loire, in the department of Nièvre, there lived a young girl of humble rank, the daughter of a baker, but remarkable for her grace and beauty.

The following night she dreamed that there passed before her a young man in a travelling-dress, with spectacles, and wearing a large straw hat, and a voice from within seemed to tell her that he was to be her husband.

Some time afterwards, at a village ball, she recognized the young traveller, just as he had appeared in her dream. She blushed. He was attracted by her appearance, fell in love, as the phrase is, at first sight and after a brief interval they were married.

Her husband is M. Emile de la Bedollière, one of the editors of the Paris journal the *Sigle*, and in a letter to Dr. Macario,

dated Paris, December 13th, 1854, he certifies to the accuracy, in every particular, of the above relation, adding other details. He states that it was at a subscription ball held in August, 1833, at the house of a man named Jacquemart, which he visited in company with his friend, Eugène Lafauré, that he first saw his future wife, Angèle Bobin; that her emotion on seeing him was apparent, and that he ascertained from the lady at whose house the young girl then was, Mdlle. Porcerat by name, that she who afterwards became his wife had given to her teacher, long before his own accidental appearance for the first time at La Charité, an accurate description of his person and dress.

A PATRIARCHAL FAMILY.

We so often have occasion in our "personals" to make mention of people who have reached great age that the following paragraph from Dr. Guthrie's autobiography, just published in London, may be interesting: "One of the most curious cases of old age I ever heard of was told me by Lord Ardmillan, who, to the integrity of a judge and the graces of a genius and the piety of a Christian, adds such a knack for story-telling as makes his society quite delightful. Mr. F. Dunlas, M. P., a friend of his, having heard, when on a visit to Shetland, of a very old man who lived on the main-land, went to see him. On approaching his cottage he saw an aged but hale-looking

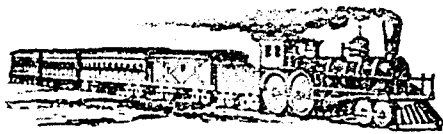
man at work in a field close by, and not doubting but that this was the person he was in search of, made up to him, but had no sooner begun to moralize on topics suitable to old age and the close of life: than the person he addressed turned round on him to say, "It'll be my father ye've come to see; there he is, sitting at the cheek o' the door!" And there, on walking up to the house, he saw a gray-haired, venerable patriarch sitting on a stone by the door, warming his cold blood in the sunshine. On going up to him, and introducing himself as a traveller who had come out of his way to see one who had seen so many years, he was much surprised when this old man, pointing his staff to the door, said, "It'll be my father ye've come to see; he's in the house there!" He entered, and there, in one who, with bleared eyes and furrowed brow, covered over a peat fire, while he stretched out his palsied hands to catch the warmth, and over whose shoulders, bent under the weight of years, fell a few spare silver locks, he saw the very picture of a great old age. He was sure that he had now got hold of the veritable man. Raising his voice, for he found the aged patriarch deaf almost as a door-post, he let him know the purpose of his visit. But what was his astonishment when this withered form by the "chimney neuk," pointing to the door of an inner room, said, "Oh! it'll be my father ye've come to see; he's ben there!" and an old woman who sat by the fire added, "Surely, Sir, ye'll not go till ye've seen, 'the lucky dad?'" And "ben there," to be sure, lying in a "box bed," he found the father of the other three generations, alive indeed, but more like a dried mummy than a living man."

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C. J. BRYDGES, Managing Director.

Montreal, October 6, 1873.

Grand Trunk Railway

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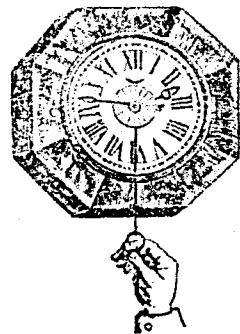
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