

MARZIA D'ORDELAFFI...A HISTORICAL SKETCH.

BY ALEXANDER OTT.

Many a lay has been chanted by the wandering minstrels of the middle ages in honor of Marzia, a lady of the family of the Ubaldini, so celebrated for its virtue and noble gestes, the wife of *Francisco d'Ordelloffi*, lord of *Forli*, the only prince in *Romagna* (Italy) who maintained his independence against the tyranny of the papal power.

It was in the commencement of the year 1357, when Marzia, according to the desire of her husband, left her ancestral home to defend Cesena, while *Francisco* occupied the more important position of *Forli*.

With the gay, curvetting pace of gallant cavaliers, progressing to the scene of action, the valiant Marzia, in her casque and cuirass, mounted on a noble steed, and followed by 400 knights in full armor, entered the city of Cesena amidst the flourishes of trumpets and clarions and the exulting cries of the people.

The knights and squires had alighted from their coursers to partake of the proffered hospitalities of the city, and while the troubadours were burning tapers for the success of their right valiant lady, the herald's trumpet-clang summoned all at once the troops from the banqueting halls to the stern duties of war. The army of the enemy, ten times as large as that of the noble Marzia, had appeared to beleaguer the city.

The engines of war were now brought against the fated place, the beautiful houses and palaces were destroyed by the enormous stones which were thrown into the city. And of so appalling a nature were the assaults made by the enemy, that some of Marzia's boldest knights became amazed. At last a few of the terrified burgesses opened a gate to the enemy, in order to save themselves and the city from destruction caused by the torrents of *Greek fire*.

But Marzia, with the courage of a man and the heart of a lion, rode, clad in steel, from rank to rank, from post to post, exhorting her troops and the people to remember the oath of allegiance they had rendered to herself and her liege lord. And in the midst of the din of battle, she was heard to exclaim: "Sirs, be not too sore terrified of the enemy, but trust in God, we shall prosper. But before I surrender to the pope, without seeing honorable terms, I will die in the noble chivalry."

The words of the heroic Marzia roused the valor of the combatants, some of those who had already faint-heartedly alighted from their coursers, vaulted again upon them to achieve feats of glory. Silken banners and streamers were displayed from the battlements, while the emblazoned and ornamental shields were ranged like a bulwark, behind which the knights formed a phalanx to penetrate, if possible, the ranks of the assailants.

While thus the noble Marzia was relying upon her own wisdom and courage, being governor and captain, wearing her cuirass both by night and day, and braving all the dangers and hardships of a fierce and cruel war, she discovered the treachery of her sage counselor *Sgarigino* who intended a secret surrender of the city to the enemy. Indignant at this dastard and intriguing spirit, the valiant lady had his head rolled from the battlements among the besieging enemy.

But although Marzia herself with a sharp sword in her hand fought fiercely and the arrows and cross-bows of her knights and squires made a sad havoc among the assailants, little or no advantage was gained. The siege was now advanced by the papal army with such courage and their engines so dreadfully injured the walls, that the valiant lady was at last compelled to retire to the castle with four hundred soldiers and citizens who had solemnly vowed to remain faithful to death.

The legate commanding the assailing forces was cunning enough to see that in but a very short time the heroic Marzia would have to surrender, unless she preferred being buried with her companions in the ruin of the citadel as the miners who worked slowly but surely, at last so far succeeded in their fatal operations, that the castle almost hung in the air.

Here a ray of hope pierced the dark scenes of a dreadful siege and shone with a bright and benign influence. It was the father of Marzia who, with the tender and devotional feeling of a parent, had ventured forth amidst the seat of war to see whether his heroic daughter would listen to his entreaties and give up a further useless contest. Having been assisted in his passage through the camp of the enemy by the legate himself, he succeeded in entering the fated castle and met his valiant Marzia at the gate surrounded by a number of knights and citizens who were anxious to know the issue of the interview.

Yet to all the entreaties of her parent to surrender, as bravery had accomplished its utmost, and still the besiegers were gradually prevailing, she replied simply and firmly—that her husband had given her a duty to perform and that she must obey without considering the nature of his command or its consequences.

But the people weary of further trials and considering further resistance folly, sided with the father and actually compelled the valiant lady to surrender. Yet so great was the influence which she had even at this critical moment upon the legate, that she succeeded in gaining the most honorable terms, one of which was pardon and liberty to all her faithful companions to return home with their arms and accoutrements.

On opening the gate of the citadel, she disdained from asking any favor for herself, and

the legate unmoved by the chivalric prowess of the noble lady, cast her and her children in prison where she spent the remainder of her days.

Like the countess *Jane of Montfort* of the 14th century, and the *Maid of Orleans* of a later period, the fortitude with which Marzia sustained even the most overwhelming reverses of fortune, imparted an intrepidity and elevation to her character approaching to sublimity.

*The so-called "Greek fire" is described by the historians of the middle ages as having the appearance of a large tun; its tail as being of the length of a long spear, and its noise as resembling thunder. It was used first by the Greeks about 1000 years after Christ.

A Dog Express.

Daniel Henshaw, Esq., recently read a very interesting paper on "Statistics and Anecdotes of Travels," before the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, which has since been printed. He states that before the establishment of stage lines, people were sometimes greatly perplexed by means of transmitting messages and letters of importance. On one such occasion, the following very ingenious and extraordinary mode was adopted with entire success:

A family living over fifty miles from Boston, who had removed from there a few years before, taking with them their favorite dog, Rover, had several times made their annual visit there, always accompanied by the same faithful animal. The necessity of sending a letter to Boston had now become urgent in the extreme, and indispensably necessary; yet there seemed no possible way of transmitting it but by procuring some one to go on express, which, at that time, was next to impossible. While they were deeply perplexed in contriving ways and means, some one said, perhaps more in jest than in earnest, "send Rover."

Now Rover had proved himself on many occasions intelligent and faithful beyond others of his race, and the idea took at once. It was decided at any rate to try the experiment of sending Rover as bearer of despatches, provided he could be induced to undertake so arduous and hazardous a mission.

The letter was accordingly prepared, and while they were fastening it around his neck, the old dog would roll up his eyes in deep thought, as if pondering on the magnitude and responsibility of his charge, while he seemed to say, "I understand the business perfectly, but dislike the undertaking, and must beg to be excused." And when the crisis came, he did beg and plead most piteously. But, after pointing to the east, the command was peremptory—"go"—and away he went in good earnest, not on the old circuitous traveled road, but on a bee line, across lots, determined to make short work of it, and probably not stopping for rest or refreshment till he had reached his place of destination, which was a little before daylight the next morning.

There were two houses in Boston, not far apart, where the old dog felt equally at home. He gave notice at the first by howling and scratching at the door; but the family, not understanding the purport of so unseasonable a call, refused to respond, and he soon repaired to the other, where the surprise and astonishment at seeing the old dog with his message was indescribable.

He was welcomed and greeted with as much joy and gladness as if he had been an old, intimate friend, just returned from a long and dangerous sea voyage. He was, indeed, an old friend, the representative of long-absent friends, at a distance, and bringing glad tidings from afar. The fame of this achievement soon spread among the friends and through the neighborhood, and Rover became the lion of the day.

This is believed to be the only instance where a quadruped has ever acted as bearer of dispatches, or post, for carrying letters alone, and so great a distance.

A NEW HORSE SHOE.—A gentleman of Philadelphia has just completed a valuable improvement in horse shoes, which, it is said, enables horses to travel over paved streets without injury, and as easily as on farms or common roads. A thin plate of steel or iron is constructed to fit the hoofs, and then the ordinary shoe. Between this plate and the shoe a strip of gum elastic or other equivalent substance is placed, and the three securely riveted together. To allow of the fastening of the plate to the hoof, and to give the gutta percha elasticity, without loosening the nails in the hoof, pieces are taken from the side of the lower shoe, which permits the heads of the nails to push up to the plate and thereby hold it securely to the hoof, while the shoe and gum are held to the plate by the rivets put in before nailing it to the hoof. The plates, when made, will last for years, as they never touch the ground, and those using them upon their horses, can, by having duplicate plates, always have shoes ready for their horses, which can be put on in a few minutes. The advantages of the shoes are, that the gum between the plates will absorb all the vibration caused by the shoe striking the stones; hence there will be no jar to the horse's legs, thereby preventing all injury.

—A Richmond paper gives an account of the death of a resident of that city from joy. He had succeeded after a long litigation in the courts in recovering \$1,100 from a debtor, which so elated him that on its reception he was seized with apoplexy, and he died in less than a day.

How to Clean Teeth.

Dr. S. S. Blodgett thus discourages the prevalent use of pulverized charcoal and other preparations called "tooth powders" and prescribes a very simple and efficacious substitute, which we can recommend, from experience:

There is, in my opinion, no dentrifice used so baneful in its use as charcoal. I doubt if there is a dentist, with a fair practice of ten years, but has seen worse effects from the use of acids. I have had in my own practice to insert three entire set of teeth, where the gums were destroyed, in two of these cases the gums are permanently discolored, so there is no mistake in its agency.

The effect of charcoal is purely mechanical, it is as sharp as diamond dust, and the finer the worse in its effects. Being perfectly insoluble in the fluids of the mouth, it insinuates itself between the neck of the tooth and the gum, producing ulceration, recession, and finally loss of the tooth itself. Next to charcoal, in their bad effects upon the teeth, are the various kinds of bores and earths, under different high sounding names, and popular as tooth powders.

I would have my patients use no kind of power upon the teeth oftener than two or three times a month; then I would have them use the brush, but take some finely prepared chalk, and a stick of red cedar, orange, or hickory (we should say soft white pine) about four inches long, wedge shape, and from one-eighth to one quarter inch wide, with this polish the enamel, being careful not to irritate or injure the gums.

The great dentrifice that should be used at all times, and under all circumstances, is soap. Its alkaline properties serve to neutralize the acids contained in the fluids of the mouth, and its cleansing properties will correct the breath, and remove offensive odor sooner than any article we have ever seen tried. I have seen the best effects from its use in tenderness and inflammation of the gums, denoting acrid secretions, and have never known it to fail in its results.

Symbolism and Art.

The earliest architecture with which we are acquainted is that of tombs and temples; and the earliest sculptures and paintings are found associated with them.

Thus art, taking its origin from a sacred source, and having an especial reference to sacred things, partook of their representative character, and became essentially symbolical.

Symbolical representations of things sacred were coeval with religion itself as a system of doctrine appealing to sense, and have accompanied its transition to ourselves from the earliest known period of monumental history.

Egyptian tombs and steles exhibit religious symbols still in use among Christians. Similar forms with corresponding meanings, though under different names, are found among the Indians, and are seen on the monuments of the Assyrians, the Etruscans and Greeks.

The Hebrews borrowed much of their early religious symbolism from the Egyptians, their later from the Babylonians, and through them this symbolical imagery, both verbal and objective, have descended to ourselves.

The Egyptian priests were great proficient in symbolism, and so were the Chaldeans, and so were Moses and the Prophets, and the Jewish doctors generally, and so were many of the early fathers of the Church—especially the Greek fathers.

Philo of Alexandria was very learned in symbolism, and the Evangelist, St. John, has made much use of it.

The early Christian architects, sculptors and painters, drank deep of symbolical lore and reproduced it in their works.

Their successors, Nicola, Pisano and his pupils, artists in Italy and Germany, the Van Eycks, Albert Durer and his followers, and the great masters of the Italian schools down to the time of Raffaele and Titian inclusive, were all, more or less influenced by symbolism and its principles. There are certain associations of ideas, and conceived correspondencies between things intellectual, or pertaining to the inner life, the life of the soul, and objective existencies in nature of which mankind have in all ages perceived the relation, and felt the analogy. This, in fact, is the origin of Symbolism, and in this is the secret of its agreement among nations.

GRAND CATHOLIC COUNCIL IN ROME.—The *Metropolitan Record*, organ of Archbishop Hughes, says:

Our advices from the Eternal City, brought out by the Persia, inform us of the conception in the capital of the Christian world of one of the grandest and most elevated political ideas of the nineteenth century. Some members of the sacred college have proposed to the Pope the subject of the assemblage in Rome of distinguished delegates, administrative or deputized, from every Catholic power in the world. This body, when organized, is to constitute a commission of inquiry into the actual condition of temporal affairs in the states of the church, and, having collected a calm and unprejudiced statement on every topic, draw up a report suggesting to his Holiness what amount of popular reform is really required and should be granted, as well as what portion or portions of the demands of his subjects should be refused. It is said that the suggestion has afforded much pleasure to the mind of the Holy Father.

Gave Him the Sack.

A green awkward girl, the daughter of wealthy parents in Arkansas, having come to a young dentist, named Brown, conceived a notion that his shortest road to fortune would be to marry her. But then she was the laughing-stock of the whole seminary, because so gaunt, masculine, and ungenteel in her dress, and Brown felt that it would require all his nerve to stand the ridicule of several young lady pupils, with whom he had flirted until he was satisfied they had no money nor expectations of any. However, he should speedily obtain influence enough over the girl to enable him to become, in a measure, her adviser in the matter of costume, manner, &c. The foremost thought, was to amend her long, lank form, by the aid of crinoline, which she had never worn, and his flattery had no sooner secured him a confidential place in her good graces, before he ventured to make her a present of a patent skirt or sack, together with a hint to fix up pretty handsomely for a ball to which he had invited her.

The night arrived, the party assembled, and the Arkansas damsel made her grand entree from the ladies dressing room amid a titter of laughter from the school girls and village belles. The hoop sack was shockingly out of shape; projecting in front like the spouting horn at Nahant; but that was nothing to the expose it made of her somewhat incongruous black hose, the facinations of which were materially augmented by the yellow rosettes on her white satin slippers (mem's size) encasing her delicate feet. To complete Brown's horror, her flaxen hair and freckled face, were "set off" with a profusion of green and yellow bow knots of formidable size, intended to do execution as beau-catchers. Mad, almost beyond control, the disappointed dentist went through the first dance with her, taking little or no pains to conceal his disgust, and then hurried away to the whist room to escape the sarcastic compliments and ridicule of his old flames. The unfortunate partner, who was clear grit, was deeply incensed when informed of his abandonment, and some of the sympathisers advised her to "give him the sack," i. e. dismiss him at once. "I'll be dod-rotted if I don't do it afore the hull crowd," she replied, in a boiling passion, and made straight for the dressing-room, followed by a bevy of laughing girls. She soon emerged with the hoop skirt in her hand, and throwing it at Brown's feet, she exclaimed: "Thar, you mean, good-for-nothing shaker of old snags! Take your old sack, and wear it yourself and ef I ketch you speaking to me again, I'll lick you like blazes, within an inch o' your life; you'd better believe it!"

Roars of laughter followed this spirited conduct, and the tooth-puller was fain to make his escape. The next day he left the village, and has not returned to it. The Arkansas girl became a pet, and finally made a very respectable appearance in society.

Save your Paper Rags.

The inhabitants of Utah are requested to gather up and save their worn out wagon covers, and every description of cotton and linen rags for paper making, and deliver them, from time to time, to the Bishops of the several Wards, or the "News" and "Mountaineer" Offices or their agents, for which, when clean, they will be allowed five cents a pound. The rags can be sufficiently cleansed in pure water, without soap.

It is expected that, in a few months, all who wish can receive paper in exchange for rags.

9-11 EDWARD HUNTER, Presiding Bishop.

Hall's Sarsaparilla Yellow Dock and Iodide of Potass is prepared from the finest red Jamaica Sarsaparilla and English Iodide of Potass—admirable as a restorative and purifier of the blood, it cleanses the system of all morbid and impure matter—removes pimples, boils and eruptions from the skin—cures rheumatism and pains of all kinds—All who can afford should use it, as it tends to give them strength and prolong life. Sold by Druggists generally, at \$1.00 per bottle.

R. HALL & CO.,

Proprietors, Wholesale Druggists, 143 and 145 8-6m. Clay street San Francisco.

EXCHANGE!!

WE HAVE A HERD OF STOCK, consisting of several hundred head of Milch Cows and Calves, Heifers, two year olds, Mules, California Mares, &c., which we wish to EXCHANGE for GOOD WORK CATTLE.

For particulars apply at our office in the Salt Lake House. MILLER, RUSSELL & CO. G. S. L. City, July 23, 1860. 214

STOLEN,

FROM the field of Mr. Thomas Chapman, of North Ogden, a three-year old COLT, light iron gray, white stripe down the face, white round the hoof of hind right foot, and also on the right thigh. Whoever will give information of the said colt shall be suitably rewarded by THOMAS CHAPMAN. 214f July 20th, 1860.

ROLLS, ROLLS, ROLLS!

THE Undersigned wishes to inform the public that, OWING TO CARDING MUCH FASTER than we anticipated, we are far in advance of our promises. Therefore we would be glad if those who have Wool at the mill would come and get their rolls soon.

Those from a distance can get their rolls to take back with them.

Machine at Farmington, near E. Smith & Co's new douring mill. WM. H. WALKER.

P.S.—ROLLS for SALE, at residence, G. S. L. City, 16th Ward. [214] W. H. W.

TERRITORIAL AND COUNTY TAXES, 1860. THE Citizens of Great Salt Lake County are hereby notified that the Territorial and County Taxes for the current year are now due, and payment required to be made forthwith at the office of the collector in the Court House, in G. S. L. City; at which place the collector or his representative will be in attendance daily, during business hours, for the purpose of receiving said taxes, until the first day of September next, on which date ten per cent. will be added according to law on all taxes then unpaid.

R. T. BURTON,

Assessor and Collector, G. S. L. County. G. S. L. City, July 18, 1860. 214f