

"POET OF SIERRAS"

Mme. Davis,

Famous Old Joaquin Miller Busy Compiling His Works.

Patriarch Explains Why He Has Refused Tempting Offers to Lecture—Lives on Mountain Top Overlooking "Frisco Bay."

San Francisco.—Sitting on the doorstep of his cabin home, The Hites, 2,000 feet up in the mountains behind Oakland, Joaquin Miller, "the Poet of the Sierras," explained the other day why he had refused an offer to tour the United States and England as a lecturer.

It was neither because the patriarch poet is averse to revisiting the scenes of his first triumphs as an exponent of the native wonders of the country to the west of the Rockies, nor because a money inducement was lacking. The nature lover won't come down out of his mountain home until he has finished his work of compiling a combination autobiography, history and all his poems he believes are worth perpetuating. There are to be six volumes, and proofs of the first volume have just been delivered to the author.

For many years, how many no one on the mountain side or in Oakland is able to say, Joaquin Miller has made his headquarters on the big sweeping table land on the very top of the mountain overlooking San Francisco bay, and as far back as the oldest inhabitant's memory goes he has always supported one or more youthful, aspiring artists and poets. To house these protégés the poet has built from time to time replicas of his own cabin, until to-day there are a dozen little, odd-shaped buildings, each one containing only one room and all with high peaked roofs and stained glass windows.

On one of the two peaks rising above the table land, 1,000 acres in extent, and all of it the property of the venerable poet, is a great stone monument, erected by Joaquin Miller himself, and marking, so he declares with apparent sincerity, "the grave of Moses."

"If Moses isn't buried here, where is he buried?" is the poet's never-fail-



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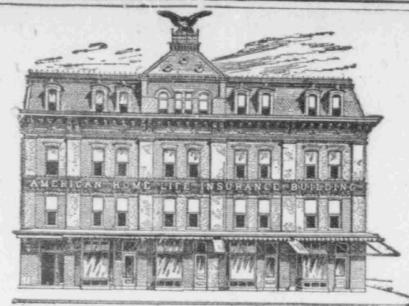
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VICTIM TELLS HOW LOCKJAW FELT

Doctor was Worried When His Face Began to Stiffen—Fought Disease St. Louis.—Dr. F. W. Grundmann of Washington avenue, who was pronounced out of danger from lockjaw, after suffering for almost three weeks, described how he felt during his illness. "In diagnosing my own symptoms a week after the germs of tetanus had entered my blood, I thought I had the disease, but I was not sure," said Dr. Grundmann. "One day, as I was stepping off a street car, it started prematurely and threw me on my knee on the street. A hole was ripped in my trousers, and a gash cut in the flesh of my knee, into which earth from the street was ground. "It gave me no trouble, pained me very little and I gave it no further thought. About a week later I found that I had fever and that the muscles of my neck pained me and were constricted. Next I observed spasmodic jerking of the limbs. These I knew to be premonitory symptoms of lockjaw. "I was alarmed, naturally, but thought perhaps I might be mistaken, so I visited a physician and told him how I felt. He did not think seriously of the matter, and I believed I might have been mistaken, but nevertheless I was worried, and when that night the symptoms grew more pronounced and became more perceptible I watched them all the more closely. "That night I got a real shock. I observed a growing rigidity of the muscles of the jaws. If it kept on they would become locked beyond all hope of unlocking them. "In one day I had 6,000 units, about a fluid ounce, of the serum injected. My jaws continued slowly to grow more rigid, but we fought the disease with the serum until at last we saw that we had the disease going the other way, and we fought it out. "The germs of tetanus may be in any manner of dirt. If you have a wound in your finger and go out into the garden and stick it into the fresh earth you stand a chance of getting lockjaw."

ing query of all who suggest that the idea is absurd. On to other peak is the cemetery in which are buried the poet's mother, his daughter, several old friends of the days '49, whose dying wish was that the lie in the little brush-pile plowatched over by Joaquin Miller. Ah in the cemetery are many cats and dogs. Towering beside the cemetery, and a landmark that can be seen 20 miles Y down in the valley, is the great funeral pyre of rough stone Joaquin Miller fashioned with his own hand. It is hollow and the top is covered with iron grill work. Inside this how space is piled several cords of soaked wood. At his death the poet's body will be placed on top of the pile and the ashes that remain will be cattered to the four winds." In dedicating his autobiography to the memory of his parents, Joaquin Miller asks permission to introduce himself, "for it fully seems to me that from the d I was suddenly discovered and lated out in London I have been an entire stranger in my own land; he land I have loved, lived for, ttled for from the first. As for that red-shirted and hairy man bying my name abroad, and 'standi before kings,' I never saw him, ver heard of him until on return to my own country I found that s unpleasant and entirely impossible ure ever attended and even over shadowed my most earnest work." So much doubt has sh ed Joaquin Miller's parentage that own statement of his early history as peculiar interest. "My cradle wa covered wagon, pointed west," he writes. "I was born in a covered on, I am told, at or about the time crossed the line dividing Indiana and Ohio, wherein my mother was in. My mother's people were Dut out Germans, as has been so often id, and they were the oldest Dutch e land. My grandfather Miller, a Scotch stock, from Kentucky, fell Fort Meigs on the Maumee river have read he was an officer, but and believe he was of the ranks ease let the dead patriot escape the re- cution of idiots seeking an any."

If Fight Must Be Made Garibaldi: A bold onset is the battle.