

One morning grandfather was busily at work in his store. It was a pleasant summer morning, the birds were singing, the children were passing down the sunny street to the school, where the bell was ringing cheerily. Glancing up from his work, grandfather saw a buggy approaching, with two merry girls laughing and talking on the seat. They stopped in front of the store, and recognizing the girl who drove, grandfather went out to give her a pair of new shoes that he had made for her. The other girl was a stranger to him, but as he went back to the store, he thought that she was the prettiest he had ever seen. Another thought, crossed his mind, a quick, unbidden thought, how strange it would be if he should ever marry that girl. I do not know if he dwelt longer on that pleasant thought, but it was to be so, for the girl was grandmother. It was no wonder either that he fell in love with her, for grandmother was a very pretty girl, and that morning I fancy looked her best, for she was dressed to be bride's maid at a wedding that took place two miles out in the country. The girls drove away, and went to the wedding, where they had such a merry time that they forgot all about the shoes, and grandfather. It was a merry old-time wedding, with plenty of feasting and dancing, and all the fun and frolic that young people were allowed at that time. Some time later grandmother and grandfather met at an old-fashioned apple-butter boiling, and later still at choir practice at the Lutheran church where they both attended, tho grandmother was a Methodist. They were both good singers, and when grandmother did not have to attend her own church, she sang at the Lutheran choir. From that time on, they met frequently, and ere long were engaged.

On the sixth of February, 1849, they were married. It was an old-time winter day, with a heavy whirling snow-storm, that fell in big, soft flakes all day. It was very cold, and the stoves were kept roaring hot with sticks of cordwood. In the evening, the wedding party assembled, and they were married by Rev. Rugan, the pastor of the second Lutheran church of Greensburg. Their own home was not large enough to accommodate all the party, as there were over thirty couples there, and as Grandfather Kiel had had charge of the court-house for so long, and they lived next door, they set the long tables in one of the court rooms. The supper was a fine one, prepared by an old Welsh woman who was a very fine cook. There was cold sliced turkey, and the bread was sliced so thin that it was buttered before being cut, and then rolled up into little rolls to be eaten. Of course there were many things besides, with all kinds of big and little cakes, but grandmother remembered these things particularly.

Grandmother was dressed in a fine white Swiss dress, with low neck, and fine linen lace around the edge of the neck. She wore a light single strand of gold chain. The sleeves were full, coming to the elbow, and looped up at the shoulder with a little white artificial flower, upon white satin ribbon.