

"FRED TRULLINGER, THE MAN"

"After graduation from Monmouth in 1893, my purpose in life was two-fold. I wished to establish myself in an occupation or business which would sustain a family. I wished also to marry a certain young lady I had admired since childhood; her name, Grace Fox.

Grace was only five years old when I saw her on the train, traveling from Forest Grove to North Yamhill, Oregon. She, with her small brother, Chester, her father, John Fox, her aunt and uncle, the Honorable Mr. & Mrs. Lee Laughlin and friends, had attended the funeral of the lovely Frances Stewart Fox, the beloved wife of John Fox and mother to five-year old Grace and three-year old Chester Fox.

Such a beautiful child was Grace Fox. A soft, white complexion, green eyes and long, dark brown curls flowing softly over her shoulders. Frederick LeRoy was only seven years old when he first looked upon this child of five. He ran to his mother and told her about the pretty little girl he had discovered.

As Frederick passed from boyhood into manhood, he retained this memory of the little girl on the train. In 1900, at the mature age of twenty-six years, he proposed marriage to Grace. She accepted with the promise that he get the consent of her father, John Fox, of Astoria, Oregon. He wrote a very persuasive letter. In part, he said:

'I truly love your daughter, and while I am a very poor boy, as to money, I have very good prospects coming up.' His reply was, 'If you marry my daughter, you have very good prospects.' John Fox gave his consent and they were married on November 29, 1900, at the home of the Honorable Mrs. Lee Laughlin in North Yamhill, Oregon."