

THE OLD MAN'S SMILE

The Old Man on the Mountain was a gigantic rocky resemblance of a human face high in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Its legend was popularized in the 1800s by Nathaniel Hawthorn's story, THE GREAT STONE FACE. This natural phenomenon remained a prominent New England tourist attraction until it collapsed from the side of Cannon Mountain during a period of heavy rains on May 3, 2003.

The Great Stone Face was an awesome sight
That the valley viewed with intense delight;
For a legend claimed that their greatest son
Would reflect the smile of the granite one.

Now the rumors spread every little while,
That a man was found with the mountain's smile;
But a scrutiny of his secret ways
Showed he couldn't stand up to the mountain's gaze.

Then the anxious crowd chose an earnest man
Who was born and raised where the rumors ran;
But his humble heart felt their choice was wrong
And he hoped a better would come along.

Generations came, generations went,
With the gifted souls that the good Lord sent;
And the greatest ones were the most aware
That the Ikon's gaze never rested there.

So the search went on through the weary years,
Till the weathered eyes seemed to fill with tears;
And the granite lips broke into a frown
As the Great Stone Face came tumbling down.

For its stony gaze couldn't change a man
Like repentant faith in the Savior can;
He reforms each soul that accepts His grace,
And engraves His features upon his face.

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory.

2 Corinthians 3:18

Bud Morris

12/29/06

www.BudMorris.net