me short whenever I try to talk with

and three hours later Mansfield was

who thronged about him with their

sweetest smiles, while his thoughts

were forever drifting away to a fair,

two days have passed. I would die be-

her as a rival."

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The past retracing: Thy native valley's stream, Thy love embracing. No sound shall mar thy sleep No fear perplex thee; Angels their viglis keep, Thy God protects ther Peace, peace! forget, forgive, And be forgiven, That all who love and live May wake in heaven.

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SELECT STORY.

WINNING THE PRIZE. BY CLYDE RAYMOND.

"I shall go to the country well arm-

that we shall be deadly rivals, for of sweetest day dreams.

Several times in the first two or three weeks following their arrival,

esting inquiry to make Mrs. Harding silvery-threated birds. she added, turning, with one of her charming smiles, to Mrs. Harding's grass directly in his path.

With a graceful apology he stopped

"Oh, I shall be happy enough, never fear, said the latter, returning the smile with one equally as bright over her lapful of laces. "I shall not be burdened with society cares and conquests, you know, so when Mrs. Harding does-'t need me I shall be out gathering wild flowers and exploring nature's

ikes of her paid companion were sev eral degrees beneath her notice. When "the season" was fairly inau-

gurated it found the young widow and er party delightfully established in one of the quietest of the fashionable watering places, if there is such a thing as a place being quiet after Fashion nas once found it out. It is doubtful however, if Mrs. Hard-

ng would have chosen it as the favored spot wherein to display her ravishng new toilettes had it not been for Hugh Mansfield's presence there. For the face of all possible rivalry. And it soon began to look as if she

ad not made a vain boast. Lou Harding, if not a beauty, was quite after Leslie's name. pretty enough to turn a young man's head, and her black eyes, fine figure and coquettish airs were really bewildering in the array of charming tennis suits, dainty be-ribboned morning gowns and exquisite ball dresses that lisplayed them to the best advantage. And so Hugh Mansfield evidently hought. At least he paid her many

flattering attentions, and the pretty widow's heart beat high with hope. "Didn't I tell you I meant to win he great prize?" she retorted, with a riumphant snap in her black eyes, as her upon getting the lion's share of the young millionaire's attentions. "When a young widow enters the field of conquest, you poor girls might as well give up the struggle first as last," she added, with a complacent

laugh. "Especially when she has the ducats with which to back up her other fascinations," laughed Fannie, with a saucy

"Well as I never entered the lists against you, I can afford to let you field isn't the only conquest-But here the young lady checked

herself abruptly, biting her saucy red lip, while a sudden vivid color flushed her pretty cheeks. "Oh, you may as well spare your

cretion, for since you can't have first choice-catch of the season you know -why, Captain Carroll is certainly a splendid substitute." "I'd advise you not to 'count your A good many night's rest by not having Dr. Hand's Colic Cure, for it gives baby comfort and ed sparkle in her pleasant brown eyes. sleep without stupefying or in- "Now, Miss Leslie here has never a word to say on the subject, yet it wouldn't surprise me at all if the big fish were to land himself in her modest

> marriageable girls who are just dying "Miss Remington!" Weir, with an abrupt, startled move-ment, lifted her head from the book she been going on, as usual, regardless of duties which keep me quite busily ocer presence.

n the rich widow's creed to treat her aired dependents as if they were

there was a proudly reproachful look in the large, deep gray eyes that shot such a swift glance toward the speaker, and a hot wave of crimson dyed Leslie's fair face to the very roots of the right tawns half.

he rich, tawny hair.

Fannie laughed merrily in answer, while Mrs. Harding shot a look at the lovely companion from her bright eyes with a puzzled frown on his handsome, with a puzzled frown on his handsome, with a puzzled frown on his handsome. he rich, tawny hair. —an insolent look of mingled amusedark face. Why does she do it, I'd like to know? Is it pride, or —what? ment and disdain.
"What an idea! You do take up

No other wom in ever tried, or cared, with such ridicalous notions, Fanny," she remarked with her ever-ready shrug to keep me at such an icy distance, I'm sure. But she is so different from all and short, derisive laugh, that was meant to crush in the bud any similar glance from those deep, cool gray eyes, "notions" that might possibly exist in Leslie's mind.

The short, derisive laugh, that was the others, in every way! Just a glance from those deep, cool gray eyes, and then she is gone. Ah! my fair, proud Leslie!" Leslie's mind.

The girl, however, did not deign to

The girl, however, did not deign to notice the intended slur. She simply for a time, half hoping she might resaid, with an appealing glance that turn. But she was not visible again; said, with an appealing glance that went straight to Fannie's kind heart: "I trust you will leave my name out of such discussions hereafter, Miss smiling and uttering his meaningless compliments to the fashionable women Remineton."

And then, in her proud, quiet way, she rose and left the room with an air of graceful dignity that a queen might proud face with gray eyes that seemed to be gazing upon him with their mock-ing light from the far-off, frozen pinhave envied. Ten minutes later with her large

white Swiss-covered hat shading her flushed cheeks, and her book in her hand, she was pacing slowly up and down the beach; but her mind and heart were too full of excited thought flashed into her glittering black eyes. ed for conquest, that't certain," laugh-ed Lou Harding, a rich young widow, tossing a pile of dainty laces into the flashed into her glittering black eyes.
"I'll have to get rid of that girl, I lap of her paid companion with the injunction to "hurry ap and get those flounces made as soon as possible."

"I've learned that Hugh Mansfield the lovely scene which the sunset was see that," she muttered vindictively, drawing her breath hard as she watched them from her window. "She subtle, barbed thrust of Mrs. Harding's is lovely, in her odd style—dangerousive had gone straight to its mark. It had flounces made as soon as possible."

"I've learned that Hugh Mansfield is to spend part of the summer there," she went on, turning again to the friend who had run in to discuss with her their plans for the season, "and you know, Fannie, what a magnificent of the season, "and the plans for the season, "and the property of the season, "and the property of the season, "and the perfect ideal of manhood and how often his good excuse for discharging her before two days have passed. I would die beeatch he is. So I warn you in time image had, of late, been a part of her

"Oh, I yield to the inevitable at the they had met by chance-once during very outset," returned Fannie Reming. one of Leslie's early morning strolls, ton, banteringly; "for what earthly chance will my poor beauty have against your gold?" And there was gathering, and the wood was ringing just a sufficient shade of truth in the

wince a little, for there was no denying that her friend Fannie had, by far, the advantage in the way of good looks. "But what will Miss Weir be doing in grass with his light cane as he walked, the meantime while all the rest of us startled her so that she had let fall the are quarreling over the great prize?" hatful of sweet June roses she had

and assisted her in gathering up her fallen treasures; then, when he had seen the last velvety pink blossom safely replaced in the wide-rinmed safely replaced in the wide-rimmed dark eyes, as he heard the startling straw hat, he had gone on his way news, convinced the pretty schemer every thought of fear, or that somewith her few modest words of thanks, uttered in a voice marvelously low and sweet, lingering pleasantly in his moment too soon.

ughs, her soft white gown prettily defining a little and graceful form, the tion. bare head covered with rich coils of pale-pink ribbons, filled to the very whole truth came out.

brim with blushing, dew-wet roses. Nor did she know that he had secret-ly carried one of those same roses away friends to consult, my darling," pleaded the impassioned lover, "let us be mar with him as a souvenir of his meeting ried here at once, and we will return to with the lovely wood-nymph, as he the fashionable watering place we have called her in his thoughts.

beneath her light jests upon the sub-ject was a firm, determined purpose to Mrs. Harding, and most reluctantly, as himself.

An amused smile was Hugh Mans-ield's only recognition of the little Within a week the beautiful Mrs. field's only recognition of the little hand that made Leslie's heart unconsciously beat quicker.

After that, in a proud, graceful little

way all her own, she quietly avoided him. With all her dreams-and Les- rival's fame. lie was something of a dreamer-she was not romantic or simple-minded enough to fancy that he, the lionized millionaire, would think seriously of a girl in her position, and she was far Fannie, in mock indignation, bantered too pure and proud to permit any attentions from such as he that might be lightly misconstrued.

And now, pacing the shingly beach, she knew, at last, that another feeling, stronger and deeper than pride alone, urged her to fly from his presence.

"If I could only leave here," she was saying to herself, with a kind of passionate rebellion against her fate. "If I could only be free from the pain of seeing him, and—and knowing that he belongs to a different world from mine! went the knots from growing again in If I need never again bear that woman's petty stings and slurs. But, there!" on a small limb it is best to remove the whole limb, and thus be sure to with a grim little smile of recollection, get rid of all the disease. By keeping "what am I saying ! I must earn my daily bread, and Lou Harding, with all her mean little tyrannies, gives me the chance to do that. No, no; I leaves of the trees will hide, that canmust stay on and continue to bear it, not be seen until the leaves drop, so it Where else could I go?—what could I is always best to take some pleasant

"What a pleasure to see you at last Miss Weir!" broke in a cheery, mas-culine voice upon her excited reverie. And, turning, she was face to face with Hugh Mansfield, who extended And, turning, she was face to face with Hugh Mansfield, who extended his hand with a frank, glad smile that lit up his dark face most winningly. his hand with a frank, grad since that lit up his dark face most winningly. "What must one do," he went on, in a tone half jesting, half serious, "to obtone half serious, "to obtone half serious, "to obtone half serious, "to obtone half serious, "to ob tain an occasional audience of your disease more extensively than before. majesty † I will do anything—only tell me. Do you know," quite earnest—black knots the limbs had better all be chance to speak one word with you in three whole days ?" "Indeed! How you must have suf-

fered !" she retorted, lightly, her careless tones just tinged with irony; and to grow were it not for the curculio, she hastily withdrew the hand which his she had permitted to merely touch his two enemies to fight against, very few ety now," she added, fearful that he might guess the real truth, "and I have cupied. Even now, she added, glanc-For it seemed to be a cardinal point ing nervously toward the wido o's cottage, "I must be going. Mrs. Hard-

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With bated breath and upturned faces a large crowd stood the other day watching a man who was slowly ascending the steeple of an up-to-the church. He seemed to go over the delicate scaffold like a snail. The crowd below were expecting every moment to see him fall. When he reached the end of the scaffolding and stood upon a piece of framework that looked in the distance as if it were about a foot square, he leaned far over and shouted something to another workman about half way down. The spectators shuddered, but could not take their eyes from the little climber who had left the scaffolding and was still going up the steeple. When he still going up the steeple. When he reached the top he remained for a few minutes, examined the steeple on every side, and then retraced his steps. When he got safely back to the scaf-fold he waived his hand to the people and smiled. He went to the top of the steeple several times in the course of an bour, and every time a crowd

nacle of an iceberg.

Mrs. Lou Harding had chanced to gathered. "You think it hazardous ?" said the steeple-climber to a Tribune reporter when he came down to the ground. Though he looked so small when in the air, he was considerably above the average height, slim and wiry, all bone and muscle, with a clear steady eye and hand and perfect confidence himself. His eyes sparkled as if he was in love with the work as he continued: "People who are not used to being at great heights, and who feel dizzy when a few feet from the ground, naturally look with wonder upon a man working high up in the air, and think that he must feel as they would. fore I would admit that I looked upon I probably go upon more steeples and Mrs. Harding kept her word. And other elevated places to adjust ornawhen, after several days had passed mental designs than any other man in the business, and I feel just as much without a glimpse of Miss Weir, Mr.
Mansfield made some inquiries concerning her, the young widow put on a pretty air of injured innocence.

the business, and I feel just as much at home standing on a narrow board on a rock. I feel a perfect sense of on a rock. I feel a perfect sense of safety, and never think of falling.

She left me very unexpectedly, and I must own that I felt rather hurt over "But I was not always without fear. When I first began the business I alit, since I had kept her so long in my employ and done so much for her." ways started up the scaffold with trembling legs and a quaking heart, she said, with a charming little pout. and many times I have not gone to the "But she said she expected soon to be married, and hinted at some old ro-mance which had just ended all right not going up just then. An old man as an excuse for leaving me so sudden. who had been a climber in his day saw ly. So I suppose I really ought not to blame her, after all.

The look that swept over Hugh's advice that cured my faint-heartedness dark, handsome face, and settled in time. He said when starting up, gloomily in the depths of his beautiful always to fix your mind intently on the thing is going to happen, out of your mind. This was just the thing, and I that she had not sent Leslie away one But the watering place suddenly lost have found from experience that it is beauties. I dearly love the country for itself."

"Bravo!" cried Miss Remington gay. ly, while Mrs. Harding merely arched her black brows and shrugged her elegant shoulders, as if the likes or discussion of the specific plant shoulders, as if the likes or discussion of the specific plant shoulders, as if the likes or discussion of the specific plant shoulders, as if the likes or discussion of the specific plant shoulders, as if the likes or discussion of the specific plant shoulders, as if the likes or discussion of the specific plant is a specific plant in the watering place suddenly lost all attractions for the young millionare. He left at once, not carring particularly whither he went; and, by some strange fate, found himself, at the boldness and seeming recklessness end of the first day, in the very same was to take a reason of the watering place suddenly lost all attractions for the young millionare. He left at once, not carring particularly whither he went; and, by some strange fate, found himself, at the other limits and the watering place suddenly lost all attractions for the young millionare. He left at once, not carring particularly whither he went; and, by some strange fate, found himself, at the other limits and the watering place suddenly lost all attractions for the young millionare. He left at once, not carring particularly whither he went; and, by some strange fate, found himself, at the boldness and seeming recklessness which are that makes a man afraid, and over-caution has given many a poer fellow a tumble where boldness and seeming recklessness which are the watering place suddenly lost and t climbers. Hundreds quit the busin in a short time because they cannot In the shock of the sudden meeting overcome their nervous dread. I have tawny hair that waved in silky rings over a broad, white forehead, and the white straw hat, with its fluttering her coldness and reserve, and then the place where the straw hat with its fluttering her coldness and reserve, and then the where the semicoldness and reserve, and then the her coldness and reserve, and then the whole truth came out.

"Since you have no relatives or which point they would have to 'shin'

it would not go up an inch. "I have known men who, when they just left to spend our honeymoon."

And Leslie allowed the happy fellow got into a ticklish spot, would have black specks come before their eyes, Later, only a few days ago, had come a formal introduction given by to plan the whole affair just to suit which would move up and down and in a circle, and they would fall down in a circle, and they would fall down When Fannie Remington received and hug a plank like a long-lost brothglitter in the widow's black eyes and their wedding cards she smiled and er. Their heads would seem to be in the slight, but scornful emphasis with which she uttered the explanatory words "my companion," carefully added her sincere approval. When Mrs. Lou Harding received hers, which chanced to be at the breakfast table, in presence of a dozen other guests, feeling. I have felt this way many the felting of the state of the same of the state of the state of the same of th times, and even now I sometimes have trick, and there was a light in his handsome dark eyes as he took her fashion, while Mrs. Harding, who had laugh at the idea, and it goes away as a sydden desire when on the pinnacle lost not a moment in packing up her bewildering wardrobe and fleeing to quickly as it comes. A man who drinks stimulants is out of place on a new fields of glory, listened in bitter silence to the hated echoes of her steeple where a false step will send him headlong a hundred feet or more below. So, also, as a fat man, for a climber must be light, agile and muscular. Dark-haired men with swarthy faces usually make the best climbers." But there is yet another trouble with

"Does it prevent dizziness when going to a great height to keep the eyes turned upward ?" "This is a popular notion, but there is nothing in it except that the attention is turned from the idea of fa'ling, and this will keep a man from tumbling. But the place for the eyes is upon the road to be traveled to see that everything is in position. A high wind sometimes renders scaffolding unsafe, and if a man has his eye on the

sky he would never see it. "Did you ever fall ?" "I've had many narrow escapes, but only one good fall. This was about seventy feet. I had a sick child home and was thinking about her and was absent-minded. I started off sideways between the scaffold and steeple, and in two or three seconds I was at the bot tem. I thought I would be killed and in a second my whole life flashed through my mind, and also the future of my family, and how they would all day in the Winter to look over the plum orchard for black knots, when, look after the children were full-grown. I knew that I was bumping against the timbers of the scaffold, but there was no pain and I was overcome by a soothing influence and never had a more pleasant journey in my life. It seemed as if I had been falling for hours. I knew when I struck the bottom and felt a shock at the sudden stop, but it was not disagreeable. I had enough pain afterward, though, and it took about six months to patch up my body. Both arms and one leg were broken. I made up my mind to give up the business when I got well, but in a little while the old fascination came back and I went to climbing again.

The climate of the island of Aaran, off the west coast of Scotland, is so mild that palms and camelias thrive in the open air in winter, though the atitude is that of the northern part of

Snobley-"Aw-aw-it must be very unpleasant for you Americans to be governed by people—aw—whom you wouldn't ask to dinner!" American

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little grimace yearly to the grave by not having boast a little. Anyway, Hugh Mans-

blushes, Fan Don't you suppose we can all see which way the wind is blowing?" teased Mrs. Harding, with a self-satisfied little laugh. "Well, I admit your taste as well as your dis-

to capture him.' There was a thrill of indignant sur orise in the clear, sweet tones as Leslie had been reading, paying little atten-tion to the confidential chat which had

net, despite all the rich widows and

profit, or, in fact, much pleasure. To be forewarned is one-quarter better than to have a righteous cause for a man who is forewarned is fourarmed, while he who bath his quarrel

out.

The Black Knot.

the plum tree that the hens do not remedy, says the Massachusetts

Ploughman, which is fatal to the

tree if permitted to have its own way:

this is the black knot; unless taken in

season this will destroy a tree in a few years. Close watch should be kept to

discover the first attack, when with a

sharp knife it should be cut off, being

particular to cut beyond the diseased wood. When thus cut off the wound

close watch during the growing sea-

son, most of the knots will be discov-

not be seen until the leaves drop, so it

there being no leaves to obstruct the

vision, they can be readily seen and re-moved. Whenever black knots are

cut off close to the trunk of the tree.

that an entire new top may be formed,

or the tree dug up, and a new one set

The plum would be a very easy fruit

can succeed in growing plums with any

order By, and to officials of the U.S. more sticks or stones.

Leslie could not feel angry with the charming girl, who always championed her cause so sweetly—"spoiled her" opposite Patent omce, Washington, D.C.

What! you don't mean to say you are going the moment I am so fortunate as to find you?" he interrupted her cause so sweetly—"spoiled her" with a rueful countenance, indeed."

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"I must," she retorted lightly, as she and reels as he travels along the road.