

MY COUNTRY HOME.

Old homestead: In that old gray town, Thy vine is seaward blowing, Thy slip of garden stretches down To where the tide is flowing...

BARBARA.

"Now, you must do some credit to my nursing, and get strong and well again." As Fannie Pleasanton spoke she put beside the bed over which she was leaning, a great bunch of fragrant violets, moist and beautiful, breathing their sweet stories of shady nooks in deep woods...

ston of dress, new garments loading tables and wardrobe, drawers overflowing with dainty finery, open trunks waiting to be packed. And the preparations were all for a wedding in one short week, and the bride-groom elect was Cyrus B. Lenox. What was this story the little seamstress she found starling in the attic had told her? The janitress to the tenement house had been a servant in the Pleasanton family, and came to Fannie, who was rich and generous, whenever any distress came to her notice...

A Novel Timepiece.

A watch that winds itself by the motion of the wearer is the latest wonder of Europe. The moneyed tourists abroad will probably come home in the fall provided with them to astonish their stay-at-home friends. The following explanation of the new toy will, however, take off the edge of this triumph with our readers. The new automatic timepiece is called in Switzerland, where it was invented, the "Marche-Marche."

naked, working the mines. The holes leading to the mines were so small that it was necessary for one to lie down and slowly work through the apertures. At New Zealand our party were just in time to get passage on a vessel chartered to visit the west coast sounds. This was the first excursion party ever taken to the sounds. The sights were remarkable. Everything is wild in the locality. The mountains rise straight up from the water. In some portions we found a little beach, but any beach at all was a rarity. We saw large numbers of birds and curious animals. The birds settled on us by the score, and did not seem in the least afraid. In fact, it appeared as if they thought us a sort of tree, on which they could rest without danger. We visited the lakes of New Zealand, where we spent many happy hours. On one occasion a large whale came near upsetting our boat by shooting under us. We all thought there were several whales near us, but our boatman assured us there was only one.

Cavalry in Future Wars.

Among the military nations of the continent it is recognized that, so far from the time for the efficacious employment of cavalry either on the battle-field or in enterprises against the flanks or rear of an enemy being past, a glorious future is dawning for that arm, and that opportunities will arise when well-disciplined, well-trained, and well-commanded cavalry may, through its power of securing for itself comparative immunity from the dangers to which other arms are in a higher ratio exposed, take a leading part in the conflict and perhaps decide the fate of a campaign. Among other high authorities, Field Marshal Count Moltke has recorded his opinion that because in future the destructive fire of artillery will necessitate a scattered formation, the role of cavalry will be most important. History proves that without cavalry a victory is rarely brilliant. If cavalry is beaten, according to Montecuculi, the battle is entirely lost; if, on the other hand, it is victorious, the victory is complete. From the day when Hasdrubal destroyed the Roman host at Cannae until that on which 2,000 years afterward, the British squadrons, charging the flanks of the old guard at Waterloo, "prevented all rallying" after the annihilation of the French cavalry, this axiom has been true. In the last great war cavalry on both sides were on several occasions nobly sacrificed in order to gain time for the infantry, or in heroic efforts to avert disasters already irreparable, but neither in the "death rides" of Worth or Rezonville, or in the terrible slaughter of Sedan, were the losses as heavy as those incurred by cavalry in the days of muzzle-loaders. That the effect of fire of modern weapons, requiring as they do in their use considerable skill and a correct judgment of distance, would be very destructive to cavalry moving rapidly outside the line of 400 yards remains to be proved. As Elzey's brigade was pressing forward to the line held by the Confederates at the bloody battle of Gaines's Mill, a squad of fifteen or twenty soldiers were encountered on their way to the rear. A tall fellow at the head of the little party drew special attention to himself by singing out at the top of his voice with an oath, "Gentlemen, we had the honor of being captured by Stonewall Jackson himself"—a statement which he repeated with evident pride all along the line, as our men tramped past. It was subsequently learned that his story was true. General Jackson, having ridden some distance in advance, had come suddenly upon the blue-coats, and with his characteristic impetuosity, had charged among them and ordered them to surrender, which they made haste to do.

West Point.

The Board of Visitors to the West Point Military Academy, in their annual report to the Secretary of War, says the general impression made by the appearance of the cadets in drill and review gives a very favorable idea of the discipline of the institution. The board are of the opinion that every graduate of the academy should be an expert in the use of the rifle, off hand or lying down, at short or at long range, completely understanding and competent to teach all that a scientific marksman ought to know. They recommend that increased opportunities and instruction be given, with a view of obtaining the highest excellence with small arms. An appropriation of \$3,000 is recommended for a new gymnasium, \$5,000 for improving the cadet laundry, \$10,000 for improving the blacksmith and other shops, \$12,000 for removing the barracks for the cavalry detachment nearer the stables and riding hall, \$5,000 for changes in the library building, \$17,500 to make suitable provision for the departments of chemistry and philosophy. The board recommends that the number of appointments "at large" be restored to 10 per year.

Like a Crater Valley.

The Beaver Basin, Wyoming, is for all the world like a crater valley with a huge cone towering in the middle. It is 6,100 feet above the sea level, and has two wells in partial running order giving what is claimed to be the best lubricant in the American market, of a gravity in the crude of 13.90 Beaume, of a color like dark mahogany and smelling like a mixture of linseed oil and balsam. Crossing the Rattlesnake Basin in the third block to the east is a curious congregation of tall, queer-shaped sandstone groups, which look in the distance like the building of a city, so curiously did the water work in, out and around them hundreds of years ago. Rattlesnake Basin is bounded by steep-like hills, from which eleven streams of oil flow. The oil from these bottoms is of the heaviest gravity at zero of the Beaume scale and is very black. A shovelful when thrown into water will sink immediately and is of an asphaltum consistency, containing largely vaseline products.

Nature has written a letter of credit on some men's faces which is honored wherever they go.

she Gave It to a Gambler.

News from Chicago says, Mrs. Thomas Smith confessed to the city detectives recently that she had not been gagged and robbed of \$1,000 as she had reported, but that she had given the money to her lover, who lost it at the Washington Park races. Mr. Smith is chief draughtman at the Dearborn foundry. Mrs. Smith married him seven years ago. Recently they determined to buy a home and commenced to save to that end. Her story is that a somewhat noted gambler here, "Black Jack" Bass, was intimate with her before her marriage and their relations have continued since then. During the seven years she had given him \$1,900, money procured from her husband under one pretense or another, and recently she gave him the \$1,000 which had been saved. Recently her husband asked her to have the money ready that evening, as he intended to pay it out as a first instalment on the purchase of a house. Meanwhile Bass had lost it. With the determination of committing suicide she set about washing herself and otherwise making preparations for a presentable appearance in death. While using the towel the happy thought of gagging and robbing Bass suggested itself. Binding her arms and legs and disarranging her clothing, she crawled out to the front door and made the noise which brought the neighbors to the scene. Her story was that two men disguised as plumbers had secured entrance to the house and robbed her. The detectives arrested Bass on general principles and he brought about the confession of the woman.

Street-car Fares in Scotland.

In many towns in Scotland where street railways are in operation a custom is in vogue that is an improvement on the American system. Instead of charging a stated fare, from which there is no deviation on account of the distance the passenger travels, the car routes are laid off into districts. When a passenger gets on a car he pays one penny, which takes him to the end of that district, and then the conductor re-enters the car and collects another penny from each person, and continues doing so as each new district is entered until the terminus of the line is reached. By this means, a passenger only pays for the distance he rides, and is thus encouraged to enter the car even when he has but a short distance to go.

Massive Monument.

The pyramid of Cholula, not far from the City of Mexico, is the most massive monument ever raised in America. Its base covers forty-five acres, it is 160 feet high, in terraces composed of stone and brick and natural soil heaped up in layers.

Bashfulness may sometimes exclude pleasure, but seldom opens any avenue to sorrow or remorse.