

Living on a Farm.

How brightly through the mist of years, My quiet country home appears! My father, busy all the day In plowing, corn, or sowing hay;

MISS DABNEY.

It had been universally conceded among Louise Dabney's friends that she was not a favorite with gentlemen—that fortune so essential to feminine well-being, whether it be from lack of beauty (though about that there were diver-

speak. As she doesn't want to marry him, she can afford to be audacious. "I didn't think she would condescend to flirt."

"You seem to have made a study of Miss Dabney. I think she didn't wish to be left out in the cold. All my guests seem to be paired off this season. You must have devoted yourself to me, Mr. Northcote, unless I import another 'blessed damsel'."

"Don't, I beg; I am content with the blessings the gods have provided."

"You might dispute Louise with Mr. Leroy, to be sure."

read. Mr. Leroy had been trembling on the brink of a proposal that very night, and yet he was engaged to be married. How dared he mention love to her! But how she had been blameless? Hadn't she flirted deliberately with another girl's lover? What disaster had she not wrought in her mad pursuit of an admiration which she did not value!

"Tears, idle tears," Louise, "whispered some one whose neighborhood she did not inhabit. 'Can I help you! Shall I stay and try?'"

"I want to own you, Louise," Mr. Leroy, strolling out from the smoking-room, was petrified by the shadow of a pair of embracing lovers, caused by the late rising moon. Checked, by love he muttered, redly.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

The Crop of Potatoes.

Many farmers have large crops of potatoes that cannot be sold readily. Now, what is it best to do with them? Shall they be sold for what they will bring, or is it better to put them in the cellars and let them rot in the ground?

A Valuable Table for Farmers.

Table listing various agricultural products and their prices per bushel or hundred pounds, including Blue grass, Dried apples, Dried peaches, etc.

Norway Women and Weddings.

The women on holidays turn out in the old Norse costume, the chief feature of which is the bodice, which is often made of some bright-colored velvet, turned down in front with white silk, and laced before and behind according to the fashion of the day.

A Brave Russian General's Origin.

The Skobelevs have a singular origin. In 1830 the Emperor Nicholas, while on a review of his whole army, ordered a general Skobelev to select the finest man in the army to form into a body of imperial guards.

A TERRIBLE ENCOUNTER.

The Political Meeting that Ended in a Horrifying Combat Between an ex-United States Minister and a Militant Agent.

A writer in a Western paper, giving some reminiscences of Cass M. Clay, once United States Minister to Russia, tells the following story of an appalling incident in his career: Mr. Clay's duel with Robert Wickliffe, Jr. grew out of some remarks made by the latter in a public speech when they were running for the Legislature in Fayette county, Ky.

A War Romance.

The war correspondent of the London Times relates this incident of the battle of Raskrag: As the Russians began to retreat and their fire to slacken as the Turkish batteries made their way up the crest of the mountain, a young Russian officer was seen standing just behind one of their batteries waving his sword and boldly encouraging his men to stand their ground.

The Diamonds of Birmah.

The Indian princes and nobles are greedy of diamonds beyond all people, and there is but one country in the world in which any product of nature is so precious as this wonderful comberstone, whose nature, indeed, we know, but whose genesis is still a mooted question for science.

More Telephonic Discoveries.

Still another development of the powers of the telephone has been made. An experiment in New York demonstrated that the current of one telephone would divide itself into numerous smaller currents, sufficiently strong for at least six telephones, a discovery unparalleled in the science of telephony.

Stanley's White Companions.

The two companions selected by Mr. Stanley to accompany him on his long and adventurous journey through Africa were two young Englishmen, brothers, named Francis and Edward Peacock, and Frederick Barker. In all his letters from the interior Stanley writes of these in the warmest terms of friendship.

A DESPERATE DEFENSE.

Thrilling Story of the Siege of a Russian Fort in Asia Minor, as Told by One of the Garrison.

One of the most remarkable episodes of the present war, which, however, has not as yet reached all the attention it deserves, is the defense of the fort of Bayazid in Armenia by a Russian garrison, 3,000 strong, against a Turkish army numbering 20,000 men.

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An Expedition Poet.

At a social party in Virginia City, Nev., says the Gold Hill News, Sam Davis had an oyster supper with one of the gentlemen that Capt. Jucker Crawford could, in less than four minutes, write acrostics on the first names of any four ladies in the room.

Estimated and most bewitching little creature Truth and honesty I see in every trace; 'Tis sweet to watch the sunshine in your face And say, may heaven bless your pretty feature

Items of Interest.

A difficult lock to pick—One from a bald head. A woman in Ohio recently married her eighth husband. Kansas is almost exactly in the center of the United States.

Items of Interest.

At San Antonio, Texas, the citizens have requested the mayor to allow bull-fighting. A woman in Palo Pinto, Texas, gave birth to a child on a Thursday, and on the following Saturday gave birth to two more.

Items of Interest.

When a man and woman are made one, the question is: "Which one?" Sometimes there is a long struggle between them before the matter is settled. In many parts of Australia the gradual disappearance of the natives and their dogs has led to an immense increase in the herds of kangaroos.

Items of Interest.

A grade old man told his son that if he did not grow less dissipated he would shorten his days. "Then, dad," said the boy, "I shall lengthen my nights."

Items of Interest.

It is estimated that over 150,000 persons in this country are engaged in the keeping of bees. This includes farmers and others who make the production of honey a portion of their occupation. The Boston common council recently resolved, by a vote of thirty-six to nineteen, that no wines, cigars, lager, cider or mineral water should be furnished at entertainments or with refreshments paid for by the city.

Items of Interest.

San Francisco has the first and the only endless wire-rope street railways. The cars stop and start easily, and run more rapidly than horsecars. In fact, even the frost and snow of winter would render them useless, but in San Francisco they promise to entirely supersede horsecars.