

WINTER APPLES.

What cher there that is half so good, as the money made in the winter night, as a dancing fire of hickory wood, and a glowing coal in the hearth light, and a warm apple, round and sleek, and a juicy apple with a frosted cheek?

A CHANCE ENCOUNTER.

I met her just outside the railway station, in one of the great Italian ovens, indeed, was in the omnibus the hotel to which I was going, and which stood there, as they all do for a long time, awaiting the collection of the luggage.

old experiences, hoping to divert her, but though she listened civilly for a moment, and gave me a smiling, friendly nod, she soon turned away.

In the meantime I may as well mention to myself, and how it was that I was specially adapted to take this little stray in hand. I am Miss Stanley-Drummond, of a family not unknown on either side of the House, and the people who are round me draw that line so differently, according to their own ideas or shall I say their own years?

And then she told me with a little blush, as if she were somehow in fault, that she could not keep the trouble and the question out of her eyes.

"I am an old girl. Here I am still a fortnight later lingering on in a town which I know by heart, every corner in which, every church, every picture I have seen in my life, and I am tired and weary of it all. I have been in a plot against the poor little thing, which the mother, even if she fully sees it, is powerless to prevent. How can I prevent it? Do anything at all in the matter you may well ask? I can't answer; and yet I keep on putting off my departure one day after another, with a vague notion of being just to Elie, who certainly is clinging to me as I scarcely could have thought possible on so short an acquaintance. And this is how it is.

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good care of her; but then all the position and all the advantages sacrificed that I've been struggling so to secure for her—and she's such a lady, quite a little princess, isn't she, Miss Drummond? and my mother has got to get her into the best society. But it's all so different, different position in the north, that I don't know what to do. Do you think, Mrs. Hall, that Elie would get into the best society as Freddy Hall's wife?"

"He is a baronet's son, and has the very best of connections," she said. "But next moment she started up at some imaginary sound. "Oh, I must go; the Colonel must not think that I have been talking it over with any one. Oh Miss Drummond, if you would but say a word to him!" the poor lady cried.

WORLD'S FAIR. THE WORLD'S CONGRESS AUXILIARY. This constitutes the intellectual and moral branch of the Exposition. Its motto is "Not Matter, but Mind," and it is organized to provide for the presentation, by papers, addresses and discussion, of the mental and moral status and achievements of the human race.

THE BOARD OF LADY MANAGERS. The participation of women in the Exposition promises to be one of its most interesting as well as novel features. Now that a commission of distinguished ladies, headed by the young lady architect, and with an abundance of money, and with all recognition, and aid by the United States Government, has been appointed to direct the work of the organization, and of enlightening the interest of women throughout the United States and in foreign countries, has progressed to a satisfactory stage.

NEWS IN BRIEF. —Mexico dentists pull a tooth for \$2. —There are 657 languages spoken in Europe. —Tomatoes were not cultivated seventy-five years ago. —The col of bank Newfoundland is six hundred miles long. —Fresno, Cal., boast of a 45 pound sweet potato. —The better class of the Philippine Islanders smoke cigars a foot long. —The British Parliament has met at eleven places besides Westminster. —An average acre of grass newly mowed weighs nearly two and one-half tons. —Harry W. Wood of Lansing, Mich., dislocated his shoulder while stretching himself. —Cefigula, the Roman Emperor, is said to have been thrown to the wild beasts of the arena. —Apples were first grown from 123 to 25 cents each in the reign of Henry VII, of England. —In the Solomon Islands the market quotation on a "good quality" wife is 10,000 coconuts.

—The Russian Government will lend the Central Finance Committee \$25,000,000 without interest. —Immense flocks of crows have exterminated the grass-hopper pest in some parts of California. —The Persian carpets which adorned the hall on one side of the palace at Tehran have been in use for 200 years. —Queen Victoria's crown kept with other royal regalia under strong guard at the old tower, is worth about \$600,000. —A deer was shot in a Bohemian forest, whose head was a large barrel of bone or horns in the place of the usual antlers. —Kennebunk, Me., claims the youngest grandfather in the State, in the person of his own father, who is only thirty-six years of age. —Humboldt County, California, has a population of 33,000 and \$17,000,000 taxable wealth, but it is unconnected with the world by railroads. —Dan's notes in Austria-Hungary are printed on one side in German, and the other in Magyar, for the benefit of the Hungarians. —The first vessel launched by the early American colonists was the Blessington, a sloop built in Massachusetts Bay, July 4, 1631. —Four skeletons of giants have been unearthed near Florence, Mo. There is a tradition that four male loads of gold are buried in the same vicinity. —Fire-proof and time-proof books, with leaves and covers of sheets of iron, brass, and platinum in gold and silver letters, have been suggested. —Venezuela has fifty-six holidays every year. On these occasions the people close their stores and enjoy themselves in chief lights and other tropical amusements. —Money loaned to Luke Hayden, of Torrington, in 1801, was recently paid into the Connecticut School Fund. Sixty years have elapsed since the original loan has been paid in interest. —The total area of bog land in Ireland is 2,830,000 acres, of which 1,254,000 is mountain bog, and the other is available for the native stock. The average thickness of the peat is twelve feet. —A house in Delham, Mass., built in 1535, is occupied by a family, the descendants of the original builders. They appreciate the antiquity and value of the building. —The Persian Government has abolished the tobacco monopoly, indemnifying the company for the nature of the monopoly of export. The priests forbid this by forbidding the people to smoke. —A mulatto servant named Robert Smith, who died in St. Louis, Mo., recently had been employed for many years as "that man" in a hotel, where his surprising memory enabled him to furnish every guest who left the dining room with his personal history. —The report from the new arctic well in Huron, South Dakota, show that it is the most wonderful well known to exist. The water spouts up a distance of 100 feet, and the amount of water which is pumped out is estimated at 800 to 400,000 gallons per minute. —In Bostan they talk of a band of English crusaders who strayed away from their leaders about 1150, A. D., and settled in Kurdistan, and building a city named the "native stock," so that it is dangerous for the Britons to be too severe about the faults of the Kurds. —A curiosity has been found in a Allegheny county, Md., wood. Two hemlock trees, the trunks of which are fifteen inches in diameter, are growing six feet apart. At the height of ten feet from the ground the trunks stand apart, and then form a single stem eighty feet high. —The creature having the greatest number of distinct eyes is the chiton, a species of mollusc, in the shell of which are found as many as 11,000 separate and distinct eyes. —By an act of the British Parliament which was passed March 29, 1867, and came into force June 1 of that year, the Canadian provinces, Ontario and Quebec and New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, were federally united into one Dominion of Canada. —In Nicaragua, Central America, the statues of the gods were generally placed at the foot of the pyramids while the native fathers north placed theirs at the summit or in places. While hieroglyphics are common on dolls, walls and pottery, yet the patient recovery of our archaeologists have recovered but little of these ancient monuments and habits of these aborigines. —Jumbo, a horse owned by a Savar (lock shipbuilder), is said to be the largest horse in the world. He is nearly seven feet high and weighs 1700 pounds. He is a powerful animal, and has dragged with apparent ease a two ton load. With the children he is a great favorite, and he is said to be a great favorite with the children, as he has eight pockets of oats at each meal and makes away with two hundred pounds of hay every week. His shoes are of unusual size and weigh four pounds each. —According to rumor, the Pope is said to have concluded to buy the entire Borgheuse garden, on the strength of an agreement by which the celebrated collection will become the property of the Vatican.

—The actual erection of the Exposition buildings began in June, 1891. Work on the interior is proceeding. —The framework is up to the roof line, and the iron and steel trusses for the roof are being put in place. —The framework is up to the roof line, and the iron and steel trusses for the roof are being put in place. —The framework is up to the roof line, and the iron and steel trusses for the roof are being put in place.