

FOREST FIRE.

Summer heard a hidden locust whirring;
Sloped she to the flowers with a sigh.
'Darlings, come,' she said; 'we must be stirring.

A BRIDE FROM THE SEA.

BY FRANCIS M. LIVINGSTON.

Demetrius Green was a traveling salesman. He had the reputation of being the best-informed man and of selling more goods in his line of business than any man in New York.

He had been with his house four years when he took his first vacation. He had never asked for one, and he did not ask for one.

By far the most attractive girl among his sister's friends, Demetrius thought, was Lydia Hartley.

On Monday there was a boating party. When the ladies were seated in the boat Demetrius noticed that Lydia rose and gave her seat in the stern to her aunt.

The ladies were none the worse for their wetting, and they had a merry party at night in the parlor of the hotel.

Demetrius sat smoking his pipe for a long time before he went to bed. He reviewed the events of the day, trying to recall all that Lydia said and how she looked when he said it.

'I have something to say to you, Miss Lydia,' he began. A faint blush rose to Lydia's cheek, but she made no reply.

'During the two weeks which I have known you I have grown to feel a deep regard for you,' he went on; 'you are the first woman I have ever loved, and if you can care for me in return I want to make you my wife.'

'I have something to say to you, Miss Lydia,' he began. A faint blush rose to Lydia's cheek, but she made no reply.

sidered what you would say when I should speak to you. I hope you haven't made up your mind to send me to the right about.

Lydia raised her eyes. 'No, Mr. Green, I have not,' she said. 'I respect your offer, I have the highest esteem for you, and I am sure that I shall grow to care for you very much.'

'I thought she made her home with you,' said Demetrius in some surprise. 'So she does,' said Miss Hartley. 'Who is her guardian then?'

'No, he comes to the house about every week, when we are at home.' 'Where can I find him?'

'No—yes, he did once. He sent Lydia a message about a year ago, and I remember that Brooklyn Navy Yard was on the letter, but that may not mean anything.'

Another week passed, a week of great happiness for Demetrius, and apparently for Lydia, too. Demetrius had told her that he was to go on the road again the following Monday.

'John, this gentleman wants to talk to Hartley. Take him over.' The man led the way to the dock when the two got into a small boat, the man taking the oars and pulling toward a tug which lay about two hundred feet from the dock.

'Which of these gentlemen is Mr. Hartley?' asked Demetrius. 'None,' replied one of the men, laconically.

'I was told that I should find Mr. Hartley here,' he said. 'If you can wait a while, we'll have him up,' said the first speaker.

'This was sent as before, and after another interval of waiting came back the answer: 'All right; I'll be there.'

'What's the charge, gentlemen?' said Demetrius, briskly, as he folded up his correspondence and put it in his pocket. 'No charge, sir.'

'No charge? Then take this, and drink to the health and happiness of my bride and myself on the 8th of October,' and pressing a five-dollar note into the

hand of the astonished workman, he sprang into the boat and was rapidly pulled ashore.—The Epoch.

A Woman's Peculiar Malady.

There is living in Cleveland, Ohio, a lady afflicted with a peculiar malady which has puzzled and baffled the entire country. Herself the sister of a well-known physician, she has been unable to obtain any relief, and has turned in despair from one form of treatment to another without avail.

One day she felt the dread symptoms of paralysis stealing over her, and before assistance could be summoned the unfortunate woman was again prostrated, speechless, and unable to move a muscle of her body.

The next morning she awoke with the same alarming state of affairs, and again was the young woman paralyzed, recovering only when the atmosphere was cleared of its overcharge of electricity.

The farmer's wife ran out to the road and looked up and down. A tramp was shuffling along, when she hailed him. 'I say, did you see any cows in the corn in that corner lot?'

Mr. Byam Keggs (from Kalamazoo, with intense disgust). 'Here, waiter, I ordered raw oysters. What on earth are these nasty black stones?'

Woman (tramp). 'I s'pose you've traveled a good deal in this country?' Tramp. 'I know every toot of it, Ma'am, from Portland, Maine, to the Rio Grande.'

Woman. 'Don't ye git tired o' travelin' sometimes?' Tramp. 'Occasionally, Ma'am, I am oppressed with more or less ennui; still, there's nothing like travel, you know, to broaden one's mind.'

What Can He Tell Pa? Clara (shyly). 'You will have to gain papa's consent first, Mr. Sampson, ere I give you my answer.'

Learning to Shop. Pretty Miss. 'Have you any plows?' Jeweler. 'Yes, lows?' 'Yes, or harrows?' 'Harrows?'

Food for a Lover. He. 'Amanda, this is the next little restaurant where I have those delicious lunches I have mentioned to you but could not describe, and this is Tom, the waiter whoserves my favorite dishes so nicely.'

Vanquished. 'I am carrying out the wishes of my late father, sir,' said the peddler. 'He called on you 307 times without ever making a sale and then turned the job over to me. He died of a broken heart, sir, and I am fast breaking down, but I have a son who—'

BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCHES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

An Autumnal Idyl—Then You'll Remember Me—A Precantionary Measure—A Creature of Habit, Etc., Etc.

Then You'll Remember Me. Restaurant Waiter (to departing customer who has failed to give him the accustomed tip)—'You'll not forget me, will you?'

A Precantionary Measure. Enamored Youth. 'Your father treats me with the most distinguished consideration. The other night he called to me as I was leaving and reminded me I was forgetting my umbrella.'

A Creature of Habit. 'Are you going out riding?' 'Yes.' 'Why do you take that bell along instead of a whip?'

Not Due to Success. First Poetical Aspirant (to second Jitto)—'So you say you sent off more than a hundred poems and never had one returned?'

Penelope's Word of Comfort. 'Penelope, can't you say something to soften the blow?' implored the young man.

Careful of His Mind. Woman (to tramp). 'I s'pose you've traveled a good deal in this country?' Tramp. 'I know every toot of it, Ma'am, from Portland, Maine, to the Rio Grande.'

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A Mean Trick.

Gus De Smith has been engaged to a number of young ladies, but thus far he has never married any of them. Besides being a gay Lothario, Gus is also a poet. On meeting a friend recently Gus remarked:

'Did you hear that I was engaged again?' 'You don't tell me so? When are you going to get married?'

A Pointed Reply. After the downfall of Napoleon in 1815, the French Government became liable for the amount of 750 million francs, which was to be paid over to Allies within three years, to reimburse them for the expense of the campaign.

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Washing Away a Continent. The average discharge from the Mississippi into the Gulf is estimated at 1,000 cubic feet per second. This would be 500,000 cubic yards per day, and 180,000,000 cubic yards per year.

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WINDOWS.

THEIR DEVELOPMENT FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD.

The Glazed Lattice was the Parent of the Modern Domestic Window-Pane—Its Introduction into England.

What is a window? The answer depends very much on the age of the world to which the question is intended to apply. A window may be a mere aperture in a wall, or, at best, an opening covered with lattice-work—such as still exists in Oriental countries.

Crude petroleum is increasingly used as a substitute for coal on account of cheapness and ease of handling. The flour mills and evaporator works at Fenon, Mich., will be run with this 'fuel oil' hereafter.

The metal balls inside the round sleigh-bells, are placed inside of the sandcore, which occupies the space inside the bell. In casting the sandcore is burned away and the piece of metal is closed in the bell form.

A novel electric railway is undergoing construction in a suburb of St. Paul, Minn. The railroad is an elevated structure, and the cars are hung below it to the street level. They hang from sets of wheels taking their power from the tracks, which are charged with electricity.

Admiral Luce on Coast Defence. The following views of Rear-Admiral Luce, given to a Baltimore Sun man, will be read with interest. In speaking of the interior waterways running parallel with the Atlantic Coast, near the shore, he says:

'The need of the coast is undoubtedly the strategic naval waterways in a world which is Long Island Sound, by holding which New York and Brooklyn could be protected, and the Delaware and Chesapeake Bay, commanding the approaches to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Norfolk. It is not so much necessary to have a large naval force as it is to have an efficient one that could be quickly transferred from one point to another.

'The Delaware and Raritan Canal should be deepened so that big vessels could run through it. The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal should also be deepened, and its approaches, which are bad, should be improved. The Government and private corporations should work together in improving these canals. The Erie Canal should be widened and deepened to accommodate war vessels, so that the world could, at a moment's notice, be sent through the inland canals, with nothing to molest or disturb them, to the threatened points.

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POPULAR SCIENCE.

The Lick Observatory is to have a rival in Colorado, 5000 feet above the sea-level. The specific gravity of milk is about 1.033. Its actual weight is 2.15 pounds per quart, or 8.6 pounds the gallon.

The Gastroscope is an instrument by which the interior of the stomach may be illuminated, and the condition of the lining membrane determined. It is a delicate and costly instrument.

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