

FIREMISSE MISCELLANY.

HER LETTER

The following exquisite poetic epistle from the Overland Monthly cannot fail to touch a sympathetic chord in the breast of every one who has resided on this coast for a considerable length of time—particularly those familiar with the capricious freaks of Dame Fortune in the mining regions:

I'm sitting alone by the fire,
Dressed just as I came from the dance,
In a robe even you would admire—
It cost a cool thousand in France;
I'm he-diamonded out of all reason,
My hair is done up in a coque;
In short, sir, the "belle of the season"
Is wasting an hour on you.

A dozen engagements I've broken;
I left in the midst of a set;
Likewise a proposal, half spoken,
That waits on the stairs for me yet.
They say he'll be rich—when he grows up—
And then he adores me indeed.
And you, sir, are turning your nose up—
Three thousand miles off—as you read.

"And how do I like my position?"
"And what do I think of New York?"
"And now, in my lighter ambition,
With whom do I write, flirt or talk?"
"And isn't it all at a loss rich,
And diamonds, and silks, and all that?"
"And isn't it a change to the ditches
And tunnels of Poverty Flat?"

Well, yes—if you saw us out driving
Each day in the Park, four-in-hand;
If you saw poor dear mamma contriving
To look supernaturally grand;
If you saw papa's picture, as taken
By Brady, and tinted at that—
You'd never suspect he sold bacon
And flour at Poverty Flat.

And just at this moment, when sitting
In the glare of the grand chandelier—
In the bustle and glitter of evening
The "best voice of the year"—
In the midst of a *quatre de chanson*,
And the hum of the "market of sale"—
Somebody, Joe, I thought of the "Perry,"
And the dance that we had on "The Park."

Of Harrison's barn, with its master—
Of eggs tumbled over the wall;
Of the candles that shed their soft lustre,
And *tulle*, on head dress and shawl;
Of the steps that we took to one side;
Of the dress of my sweet *ris-a-ris*;
And how I once went down the middle
With the man that shot Sandy McFee;

Of the moon that was quietly sleeping
On the hill, when the time came to go;
Of the feet that were peeping
From under their bed-clothes of snow;
Of that ride—that to me was the rarest;
Of—the something you said at the gate;
Ah, Joe! then I wasn't an heiress
To the best-paying lead in the State.

Well, well, it's all past; yet it's funny
To think, as I stand in the glare
Of fashion, and beauty, and money,
That I should be thinking, right here,
Of some one who breathed high water,
And swam the North Fork and all that,
Just to dance with old Poinsett's daughter,
The Lily of Poverty Flat.

But, goodness! what nonsense I'm writing—
(Mamma says my taste is too low)
Instead of my triumphs reciting
I'm spooning on Joseph—beigh-ho!
And I'm to be "finished" by travel—
Whatever's the meaning of that?
O, why did papa strike pay gravel
In drizzling on Poverty Flat!

Good night!—here's the end of my paper;
Good night!—if the long-drawn please—
For may be, while wasting my taper,
Your sun's climbing over the trees.
But know, if you haven't got riches,
And are poor, dearest Joe, and all that,
That my heart's somewhere there in the ditches—
And you've struck it on Poverty Flat.

A WIFE IN DISTRESS.

"Pray tell me, my dear, what is the cause of those tears?"
"Oh, such a disgrace!"
"What is it, my dear? Don't keep me in suspense."
"Oh, I have opened one of your letters, supposing it to be addressed to myself. Certainly it looks more like Mrs. than Mr."

"Is that all? What harm can there be in a wife opening her husband's letters?"
"No harm in the thing itself, the contents. Such a disgrace!"
"Who has dared to write me a letter unfit to be read by my wife?"
"Oh, no; it is couched in the most chaste and beautiful language. But the contents! the contents!"

Here the wife buried her face in her handkerchief and commenced sobbing aloud, while her husband eagerly took up the letter and commenced reading the epistle that had nearly broken his wife's heart. It was a bill from the printer for three years subscription for the newspaper.

Recently a pale faced, sorrow stricken woman, while in a dry goods store at Kansas City, Mo., was observed by a salesman concealing a *handkerchief* under her shawl. Very quietly, and without attracting the attention of a single eye in the store, the salesman said to her, "I am not able to pay for the lace under your shawl or you might kick it and we come. Please put it back while I walk to the other end of the counter." Large tears came to the woman's haggard eyes, her whole face expressed gratitude and without a word she put the lace back and walked out of the store.

PLAYING WERE WOMEN.—Three little girls were playing in a back yard. Two of them were making believe keep house, a few yards distant from each other—neighbors as it were. One of them says to the third little girl: "There now, Nellie, you go to Sarah's house, and stop a little while, and then come back and tell me what she says about me; then I'll talk about her; then you go and tell her all I say, then we'll get mad and won't speak to each other, just like our mothers do, you know. Oh, that'll be such fun!"

Humorous Sayings and Doings.

"Plain faced girls should dress plainly," remarked a lady of authority on fashion. Was there ever a young lady who was willing to admit that she had a plain face?

—Corry O'Leary has a new reason why women should enter the political arena. He says every woman is bound to do a certain amount of scolding, and if she does a great deal in public, she won't do so much at home.

—To be a woman of fashion is one of the easiest things in the world. A late writer thus describes it: "Buy everything you don't want and pay for nothing you get; smile on all mankind but your husband; be happy everywhere but at home.

—Mr. Muggins says there is no country in the world where wives are more worshipped than in France. He regrets, however, that all the adoration comes from somebody else's husband.

—The very first question that disturbed mankind was the woman question—and it bids fair to be the last.

—A little girl was very fond of preaching to her dolls. She reproved one the other day for being so wicked. "Oh! you naughty, sinful child," she said, shaking the waxen limbs, "you will go to that lake of brimstone and molasses, and you won't burn up—you'll just sizzle!"

—A lecturer was dilating on the power of the magnet, defying any one to show or name anything surpassing it. A hearer demurred and instanced a young lady, who used to draw him 13 miles every Sunday.

—A well known poet of New York recently sent some verses to be set up by a printer. The word "fail" occurred in one of them, and when the poet received the proof the place where the word ought to have been, was occupied by stars with a note at the bottom read, "there's no such word as fail." The compositor evidently had Richeieu on the brain.

—Said one gentleman of honor to another: "If you don't accept my challenge, I shall post you in the paper." "Go ahead," said the other, "I had rather fill all the papers than one coffin."

—An invalid disturbed all the inmates of his boarding house, up town, recently, by imitating a dog. When asked why he did it, he said he had been ordered by his physician to take port wine and bark.

—A man had a sign up, "Cheap ladies' shoes for sale here." He found that not a woman entered his shop. No wonder; the ladies don't like to be called cheap—they want to be called dear.

—"I can marry any girl I please," said a young fellow, boastfully. "Very true," replied his wagging companion, "for you can't please any."

—At a printer's festival, recently, the following toast was offered: "Woman, second only to the press in the dissemination of news."

—When the Knights Templar's procession was moving in Philadelphia, a ragged boy came running out of an alley, yelling at the top of his voice: "Come quick, Jimmy! Here comes the sojers!" Jimmy, another ragged little fellow, rushed out into the street, and said: "Sojers be d—d! Them's all gin'rals!"

—A Frenchman brought two mugs to the milkman in the place of one, as usual, and on being asked the meaning of it, replied: "Dis vor te milch, an' dis vor te vatar; and I will mix him to suit myself."

—A printer out West, whose office is half a mile from any other building, and who hangs his sign on the bough of a tree, advertises for an apprentice. He says, "A boy from the country would be preferred!"

—The following intoxicating toast was offered by a Mr. Stearns, at a festival given to the National Division of the Sons of Temperance at Washington: "Woman—more beautiful than flowers, more delicious than strawberries and cream; the purest spirit of the age—she is far more intoxicating than wine; we love her, and she cannot help herself."

—When a young lady tells you "to take heart," she probably means some particular heart, and if you look into the matter, you will probably find you may take hers.

—It is stated by scientific men that lightning strikes more women than men every year. Because they are more attractive, of course.

—Fowl culture is being indulged in by the ladies. "I have got a henney," said a young lady to her cousin. "Dear me," was the reply, "I thought his name was Charles."

—Merry loves company, and so does a marriageable young lady.

—Tom asked an old "ten per cent" what he wanted to accumulate so much money for. Says he, "you can't take it with you when you die, and if you could, it would melt!"

—The Columbus (Ohio) Journal pointedly remarks that every cord of wood given to the poor here will be so much fuel saved from use in the other world.

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GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
Specially adapted to the wants of the community, embracing

Dry Goods, Groceries, Queensware, Hardware, Boots & Shoes, Hats & Caps, Etc., Etc.
Call, and judge for yourselves.

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Main street, Opposite Court House.

New Store! New Goods!

I AM NOW PREPARED TO OFFER A large assortment of choice
PROVISIONS, GROCERIES, WOODEN WARE, TOBACCO, FRUITS, CIGARS,

YANKEE NOTIONS, Etc., Etc.
Also, a General Assortment of **BOOTS, SHOES AND GAITERS.**

I design to keep only the CHOICEST and BEST articles and sell them at a Small Profit For Cash.

MY MOTTO—Quick sales and small profits.

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PERFUMERIES OF ALL KINDS,
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