By Frances Hodgson Burnett

on his arrival in New York, Martin Bassett telegraphed to his daughter and sister, per Atlantic cable, informing them that he might be detained a couple of months, and bidding them be of good cheer. The arrival of the message, in its official envelope, so alarmed Miss Belinda that she was supported by Mary Anne while it was read to her by Octavia, who received it without any surprise whatever. For some time after its completion, Slowbridge had privately disbelieved in the Atlantic cable, and, until this occasion, had certainly disbelieved in the cistence of people who received messages through it. In fact, on first finding that she was the recipient of such a message, Miss Befinda had made immediate preparations for faining quietly away, being fully convinced that a ship-wreck had occurred, which had resulted in her brother's death, and that his execut-rs had chosen this delicate method of breaking the message.

precation of Miss Behinds had induced her to extend that lady's nices.

"I would prefer, my than one discreet matron as they attired themselves as they attired themselves

than one discreet matron to her daughter, as they attired themselves—"I would much prefer that you would remain near me during the early part of the evening—before we know how this young lady may turn out. Let your manner toward her be kind, but not familiar. It is well to be upon the safe side."

What precise line of conduct it was generally anticipated that this gold digging and silver mining young person would adopt, it would be difficult to say; it is sufficient that the general sentiments regarding her were of a distructful, if not timorous nature.

To Mine Bassett, who felt all this in the very air she breathed, the girl's innocence of the condition of affairs was even a little touching. With all her spiendor, she was not, at all hard to please, and had quite awakened to an interest in the impending sound event. She seemed in good spirits, and talked more than was her custem, giving Miss Belinds graphic descriptions of various festal gatherings she had attended in New York, when she seemed to have been very gay indeed, and to have worn very beautiful dresses, and also to have had rather more than her share of partners. The phrases she used and the dances she described were all strange to Miss Belinds, and tended to reducing her to a bewildered condition, in which she felt much timid amazement at the intrepidity of the New York young ladies, and no slight suspicion of the "German"—as a theatrical kind of dance, having extraordinary amount of attention from the partners of the stronger sex.

It must be admitted, however, that by this time, notwithstanding the various shocks she had received, Miss Belinds had begun to discover in her young guest diverse good qualities which appealed to her affectionate and susceptible out heart. In the first place, the girl had no small affectations; indeed, if she had been less unaffected she might two varieties which appealed to her affectionate and susceptible out heart. In the first place, the girl had no small affectations; indeed, if she had been less unaffected ahe mi

and she had only just been reproaching herbelf for her wanty in recogn sing this fact. But Many Anne's words awakened a new train of thought.

"Is—is Miss Octavia's dress a showy ene.
Mary Anne?" 'She wants nothin' but a vail to make a bride out of her—an' a becominer thing she never has wore."

They heard the soft sweep of skirts at that moment, and Octavia came in.

"There!" she said, stopping when she had reached the middle of the room. 'Is that simple enough!"

Miss Belinda could only look at her help-leasly. The 'white muslin' was composed almost entirely of Valenciennes lace; the blue ribbons were embroidered with field diaises; the air of delicate elaborateness about the whole was comething which her innocent mind could not have believed possible in orthodox white and blue.

"I don't think i should call it exactly simple," she said. "My love, what a quantity of lace!"

"There is a good deal of it, 'she remarked; but then it is nice, and one can stand a good deal of also Valenciennes on white. They said Worth made the dress. I hope he did. It cost enough. The ribbon was embroidered by hand, I suppose. And there is plenty of it cut up in these bows."

There was no more to be said. Miss Belinda led the way to the coach, which they entered under the admiring or critical eyes of several most respectable families, who had been lying in wait behind their curtains since they had been summoned there by the sound of the wheels.

As the vehicle rattled past the boarding-school, all the young ladies in the first class reabed to the window. They were rewarded for their seal by a glimpee of a cloud of mu-lin and lace, a charmingly dressed yellow brown head, and a pretty face, whose eyes favored them with a frank stare of interest.

"She had diamonds in her ears!" cried for their seal by a glimpee of a cloud of mu-lin and lace, a charmingly dressed yellow brown the without he wrapse! I have no doubt she is a perfect blaze!"

here, it really will be better to try to please them a little."

He laughed in an amused fashion she did not understand.

"I den't mean to displease them," she that's a good idea!"

"I den't mean to displease them," she that's a good idea!"

herself; but she followed Lucia across the room.

She made the acquaintance of the Misses Egerton, who seemed rather fluttered, and after the first exchange of civilities, subsidiate into monosyllables and attentive stares. They were, indeed very anxious to hear Octavia converse, but had not the courage to attempt to draw her out, unless a sudden query of Miss Lydia's could beconsidered such an attempt.

THE LIME-KILN CLUB.

understand.

Suppose we do," he said. "By Jove, 'sa good idea!"
e laughed as he followed her.
What anuses you so?" she inquired.
On!" he replied. "I am merely think-of Lady Theobald."

Well," she commented, "I think it's per disrespectful in you to laugh. Isn't it youly night? I didn't think you hat such onlight nights in England. What a night in a solemn voice as he looked up and down the ailes, "at midnight las' night de speerit of Brudder Charles Climas Goshport, a local member of die elub, passed from yarth to do miknown. Only a week ago he sat in die hall, to-night he am dressed fur the grave. What acksinun will de club take?"

"I "spoes, sah," said the Bev. Penstock as he rose up, "dat it am in order to present a resolushun to de effect dat he was a man of the highest integrity, liberal hearted, high minded, an' dat his loss am a sad blow to de ull eity." sht nights it rogaments
frive?"
ithat one of the things you do in
its—drive by moonlight?"
iss. Do you mean to say you don't do
England?"
Is it young ladies who drive

England?"
Not often. Is it young ladies who drive accombight in America?"
Well, you don's suppose they go alone out?" quite ironically. "Of course they some one with them."
Ah! Their papas?"

"Yes, such a resolushun am in order. Brud-er Penstock can you remember dat you eber cok Brudder Goshport by de hand an' gin im a word of praise fur his hard work an' nonest ways?"

"I-I-doan' remember dat I eber did,

HOLY RELICS.

on of a Catholic Priest in

and cutions of centuries ago, the repo-bade adieu to the Reverend Father, receiv a promise that he might come again and a more extended visit to the little pa-above stairs.

An American Couple who Played a Los-ing Game.

The statement made through a cable dispatch during the past week relative to the importation of spurious relies to the United States has caused universal surprise in this country, and smong the Catholic eleme t provoked considerable indignation. Mr. Mc-Sorley, a custom house broker in New York, who has had charge of the entire custom business of the Catholic elergy for nearly thirty years, in speaking of the unpossibility of a traffic existing in spurious relies, said a clergyman who bought such a relie would be punishable by excommunication. As to the second part of the dispatch, which is to the effect that collections of bones purporting to be remains of early martyrs recently dug from the catacombs had been shipped to America, Mr. McSorley said that the only relies be knew of that were coming to this country were the remains of St. Justins, which were expected in about two weeks. They were obtained by the Rev. Mr. Mollinger, pastor of the church of the Most Holy Name, at Allegheny City. Mr. McSorley said that did not believe that Father Mollinger would be deceived in such a matter, or would accept the relies without making a careful investigation.

With the view of ascertaining the status of