DECEMBER

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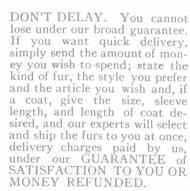
goods, and at much lower prices.

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however, the impudent young soldiers

mingled too, having the evident inten-

The things that happened next, hap-

pened so quickly, one after the other,

that they are still confused in my

memory. At the time I knew only that

the soldiers were following and sur-

rounding Nell and me; that my heart

was beating fast, that her cheeks were

scarlet and her eyes very large and

bright, either with fear or anger, or

both; that I felt an arm go round my

waist, and a man's rather beery breath

close to my ear; that I cried "Oh!"

that rude girls were laughing; and then

that Nell was boxing a man's cars. I

am not even quite sure that everything

was in this exact order! but just as I

heard that sound of "some ca-smack," I

saw Sir Alexander MacNairne not far

off, and without stopping to remember

that we were supposed to be Frisian

peasant girls, I called to him. I think

I said, "Oh, Sir Alexander MacNairne,

tion of disappearing with us.

..\$ 55.00 to \$140.00 ... 30.00 to 90.00 ... 22.00 to 100.00 46.00 to 15.00 to 15.00 to 13.50 to 8.45 to 9.20 to 54.00 to Ermine Sets..... Misses' Fur Sets..... Children's Fur Sets...

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ur Trimmed.

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idea of the many desirable Furs shown in our

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Please mention "The Farmer's Advocate."

come-please come!"

With that, he began to knock people about, and break a path through to not to use and some of them laughed, and some were angry. Even in those few es; ds I could see that he was a hot tempered man, and that the laughs rade him furious. He said things in Enclish, with just the faintest Scotch 'burr''; and as there were no Dutchmen of Mr. van Buren's type in the rude crowd, the Scotsman had soon tumbled

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The second

But the soldiers were not to be thrown off so easily, even by such a big man as Sir Alexander MacNairne, and Nell and I would have been in all the horrors of a fight-a fight on our account, too-if Jonkheer Brederode had not appeared in the midst, as suddenly and unexpectedly as if he had dropped from the round, full moon. He must have come from behind me,

the men about like ninepins-all except the soldiers-and got close to us.

and my mouth was open to exclaim how thankful I was to see him, when he hastily whispered, just loud enough for Nell and me to hear, "Don't seem to know me." Then he began talking authoritatively in Dutch to the young soldiers, looking so stern and formidable that it was no wonder the fun died out of their faces (they were mere boys, all four), and they shrank away from Nell and me as if we had been hot coals which had burnt them when they touched us.

When Jonkheer Brederode first dashed to our rescue, Sir Alexander MacNairne had been extremely busy with two of the little soldiers, but overawed by their countryman's distinguished manner and severe words, they lost their desire to fight and sheepishly joined their companions. This gave Sir Alexander a chance to see to whom he owed the diversion, and to my surprise he exclaimed, "Rudolph Brederode!"

He did not speak the name as if he were pleased, but uttered it quite fiercely. His good-looking face grew red, and his blue eyes sparkled with anger. was astonished, for neither Nell nor I had any idea that they knew each other; and I was still more startled, and horrified as well, to see Sir Alexander make a spring toward Jonkheer

Brederode, as if he meant to strike him. Our skipper stood perfectly still, looking at him, though Sir Alexander's arm was raised as if in menace; but at that instant the lifted hand was seized, and the arm was moved up and down rapidly, as if it were a stiff pump-handle that needed oiling.

It was Mr. Starr who had seized it, and began to shake it so furiously. Before the tall Scotsman had time to understand what was happening, Mr. Starr had wheeled him round so that his back was turned toward us, and I heard the nice American voice exclaiming, "How do you do? Never had such a surprise. Where's your wife?"

"Where's my wife? That's what I mean to ask Brede-" Sir Alexander struggling to get his hand out of Mr. Starr's cordial clasp. But before I could hear the end of the word, much less the first syllable of another, Jonkheer Brederode was hustling Nell and me, out of sight of the others, round the carousel.

"Come with me, and get out of this, quickly," he said, but not in a scolding tone, such as I had dreaded when he discovered us in such a shocking situation brought on by our own folly.

I was dying to ask questions, but of course I did not dare; and though I was afraid at first that Nell would resist,

she was as meek as a sugar lamb. The motive seemed very mysterious, but I couldn't help fancying it was on Sir Alexander MacNairne's account that Jonkheer Brederode had wished us not to recognize him; still I could not think why. When we had talked about Sir Alexander MacNairne the other day at Amsterdam, the Jonkheer said nothing about their acquaintance. I wondered if there had been a quarrel, and if so, what it could have been about, though it was certainly no affair of mine. Stil, it is hard to control one's thoughts; and I wondered more and more as Jonkheer Brederode hurried Nell and me back to the hotel, not by the short way we had taken before, but dodging about through a dozen intricate streets as if he were anxious to give trouble to any one who might be following. Our skipper seemed preoccupied, too, which was a good thing for us, as it took his mind off our crimes. As it was, he actually made no allusion to our strange costume, our escapade, or even the hateful adventure from which he had rescued us for that he had rescued us there was no question. Sir Alexander MacNairne, with his quick temper, and his ignorance of the Dutch character as well as the Dutch language, and the privileges of Kermess week, was making matters

worse for us Jonkheer Bred the situation. pened if he ha think, for the been a fight,

presently have Alexander Mc the police. The skipper on this, and p not a word di that had humiliated us scolded, for h ed, as he app slightest intercept to get us do no further cold; and whe strange preocc ance with us either case, were in our our shawls which now I But we had

there was a opened it, Nairne, in wrapped ov curling-pin-Brederode report our us the err such a th first word. our poor

"Girls," to leave the 'Lorelei'cotte'!-in a q