WEEKLY.

#### Frostburg, Md ..... January 7, 1893.

#### A CLASP OF AMETHYSTS.

"Oh, so you are taking in dressmaking, are you?" said Lucia Fanshave, rather supercilionsly, as the glanced around the neatly furnished back parlor, with the fashion plates on the table, the lay figure in the corner, and the sewing machine under the window. Miss Fanshawe was a tall, elegantly dressed young woman, with perfect fitting kid gloves, a bonnet that had been inaported direct from Paris, and a general

" 1-am-better-thau-you" air. Ellen Lilburne was pretty, too, but her dress was cheaper, her anner less aggre sive.

The two girls had been desk mates at Madam Dupont's fashionable school in | Lindsay so cold and stand-offish of late. Philadelphia, but since their graduation the wheel of fortune had revolved in far different directions. Lucia had been inguifed in the whirlpool of gay society, where a rich husband was the prize which all were striving for, and nothing more serious than the last german or the next progressive euchre party was talked about; while poor Ellen, driven by stress of circumstances into the noble army of bread winners, had dwelt in a more toilsome atmos-

Yes, "she said, composedly, "I am taking in dressmaking. Have you any enstomers that you could recommend me? Since papa's death, my mother and I have been thrown entirely upon

our own resources, you know." She spoke quickly and with spirit. Something in Miss Fanshawe's manuer nettled her a little.

"Oh, dear, no!" said Lucia, smelling at the La France rose that she held in her hand. "My dresses are all designed in Paris except the very commonest, and those I have from Miss Attinelli, on Fourteenth street. I never did care for amateur work."

"Indeed! Then to what do I owe the pleasure of this call?" asked Ellen. "It is not at all probable that you have taken the trouble to come here merely to see me.

Lucia laughed a little awkwardly. "You always were satirical," she said. But I am going to a fancy dress party as a heliotrope flower next week, and I remembered that pretty amethyst clasp that you used to wear at school. would match my trimmings exactly, if you wouldn't mind lending it to me for

a few days." Ellen opened a little desk near the window and took it out-a crescent. the same one I used to see in the dress shaped line of purple fire set in a dull gold frame.

So much obliged to you," said Lucia emoothly. "And if I hear of any one who desires to employ a dressmaker I amethysts, and very conveniently forgot shall certainly recommend you. Old Doctor Findley was in his study

the next day when Miss Fan-hawe was announced. He knitted his shaggy "A rilly, flippant votary of fashion,"

he muttered to himself. "What brings that grandniece of mine here? I've given her to understand often enough that her visits are unpleasant." Lucia came in smiling.

"Dear nucle," she said. "I've heard that you were making a unique collection of precions stones, and I've brought a humble contribution to it." Doctor Findley pricked up his ears,

and his eyes grew bright. "Eh?" be said.

"It's an heirloom in our family," Lucia said. "An amethyst clasp that be- heartily with him, saying: longed to my mother's mother. Of "I congratulate you, my boy! I'm a course we are very much attached to it, bachelor myself, but there are times but to please you we would sacrifice | when I question the wisdom of my own any feeling of mere sentiment."

"Let me see it," said the doctor. -held it so that the sunlight reflected | Findley gave her that day. from its facets of violet fire and scrutinized the antique setting keenly.

color and the pattern is choice. But I herited this moral obliquity, but I am will not take your pretty ornament, Lu- certain it wasn't from my side of the cia, without making some veturn. A genealogical tree. Be so good as to fair exchange is no robbery. Ame- give me back the diamond ring, which thysts are rare, but diamonds are more you neither earned nor deserved; I inprecions. Here!"

easket a ring set with a dew drop of marry—the real owner of the ameglistening whiteness--a diamond of the | thysts." choicest water.

"Oh, uncle, this is too much!" cried Lucia, coloring high with pleasure. "No, it isn't," he retorted curtly.

Then Lucia went away feeling that she had a ring handsomer than Miss and the esteem of her rich old grand-DeBoughainville's famous solitaire that | uncle, all at once—it was rather overeveryone admired so much.

It so happened that young Dr. Lindsay strolled in a few days after to con- sent the 'diamond ring to Nelly Lil. surprises in each department. sult the old practitioner about some burne with a pretty congratulatory new combination of drugs, and found | note. Nor was this all. On her wedhim absorbed in the contemplation of ding day she received as perfect a set of "Look here, Frank, did you ever see !

a finer row of amethysts? Leave of talking about Mederia Medica. One Dr. Findley; "but they are not, like the can't eat and drink shop the whole | casps, antiques." Look at the color-see the

"It's very pretty," said Lindsay. "I neem to have seen one like it some- like to walk behind the chariot wheels where. Although I can't say I am es- of success. specially interested in amethysts." "That you have not!" cried the old gentleman with decision. "This specimen is sui generis. I don't believe its mate exists; certainly not on this side

Liudsay smiled, admired the drawers of the jewel box, and diverted the conversation back to the drug question as soon as possible. But his opinion remained unchanged.

of the water."

"There!" he exclaimed to himself as he came out from seeing a case of German measles, an hour or so afterward. "I remember now where I saw the match to that clasp of purple stones. Nellie Lilburne used to wear it in her

He drove directly to the Lilburne

kindly familiarity fitting to old playmates, "how pale you are! Does not the dressmaking business prosper?"

She shook her head, but tried to sum-

mon up a smile. "Frank, I have come to the conclui in that there are too many dressmaker in the city alrealy. But what Tact teaches you when to be silent. Inbrings you here? You don't want a dress made do you?" learn anything.

"Nelly, will you sell that old amethyst clasp that you used to wear?"

said he, in the abrupt fashion that was ordinary to him. "I believe I can get you a good price for it. Old Doctor Findley is making a collection of antime gems, and I think he would pay you well for it."

"I have lent it to Miss Fanshawe," said Ellen. "She borrowed it to wear to a fancy dress party, and when I asked her for it, she told me she had

"Lucia Fanshawe?"

"Hump!" said Frank. "In that case, why doesn't she make good the loss to

Ellen arched her pretty eyebrows.
"I don't think that Lucia likes to spend money," said she, "except where it will make a show."

"It's very strange," said Frank, re-He met Miss Fanshawe at a reception the next evening. She was superbly dressed and looked very handsome, but

he could not help remembering Ellen Lilburne's lost clasp. to her mother, "what makes Doctor Men's top soled all solid leather They tell me he has got a very fair practice, and, off course, he'll inh rit that old Lindsay estate in the suburos sooner or later. He used to be rather

an admirer of Ellen Lilburne, but since she has gone entirely out of society---"Don't fret, dear," said Mrs. Fanshawe; "men have their bot and cold fits; it's their nature. Now, I'm quite sure that Frank Lindsay admires you. Give him plenty of line-you'll be pretty sure to laud him at last," added the accomplished old manœuverer.

The very next time that Lindsay went to Doctor Findley's house the old gen. deman alluded to the amethysts again. "Have you found that match for my irelet of gems yet?" he said jeeringly. No," answered Frank. "Will you allow me to look at the stones once

"As much as you like—as much as you like," said Findley, gleefully. "One or two experts have seen 'em, and they ted me I've got a real treasure in 'em." "Did you tell me where it was that ou obtained them?" asked Lindsay.

"No, I didn't; but it is no secret. My grandniece, Lucia Fanshawe, gave them me. They were an heirloom in the family, it seems—on her mother's side but Lucia is a good-hearted little thing, and she knows my fancy for rare stones. However, she has lost nothing by it, for I gave her in return a threehundred-dollar diamond. I'm not one ano likes to be under obligations to

any body. "Ah!" said Frank. "Well, then, sir, if I was to use a paradox, your clasp of amethysts is its own match."

"Eh?" cried the old gentleman. "This is the very ornament of which I was speaking," said Lindsay. "It is of a friend of mine-Miss Lilburne. Your very obliging niece has been gencrous at some one else's expense. She borrowed Miss Lilburne's crescent of return it. It is strange to what depths of meanness your society lady wall stoop at times," he added bitterly. Doctor Findley pulled meditatively

at his grizzled mustache. "Humph! humph!" said be. "The diamond was clear gain, then, wasn't But where does this lady live, Lindsay? I must either return this trinket to her, or see if she will part with it to me for a fair compensation. I must say that I am unwilling to lose

"Keep the clasp, sir," said Frank ; "I will see that all shall be right. I am going to ask Nelly Lilburne to marry me- and, of course, the interests of husband and wife are one."

The old gentieman shook hands

course in life." Lucia Fanshawe had never received He turned the trinket over and over so severe a castigation as that which Dr.

"Niece," he said, "you have been a thief and a liar both. I don't know "Humph!" he said. "It's a good from whom you could have possibly intend to give it as a wedding present to He took from a teak wood jewel the girl whom Lindsay is going to

roor Lucia had not a word to say in her own defense. All her life she had practiced these little diploma ies and she had never before been found out. But now, to lose diamond, lover

Doctor Findley kept his word. He amethysts-brooch, ear-pendants and bracelets-as New York could supply. "In their way they are perfect," said

Lucia Fanshawe received no cards to the wedding. Probably she would not have gone if she had. Failure does not

"That's Your Own." At St. Gallen a Socialist stump orator was lately advertised to lecture. An 3ld local Socialist, aware that the demagogue was in the habit of largely "annexing" from famous writers, deterfined to attend the meeting and protest in his own way. Seated near the rostrum, at the end of the first sounding phrase he said, his base voice reverber. ng through the hall, "That's Ferd.

nand Lassalle's. The lecturer paused to glare at his leep-toned interlocutor. A minute aferward another unacknowledged quoation was made, and "That's Karl Marx's," thundered the critic.

This was too much for the lecturer's patience. Leaning over his desk, he cried. "You ill-mannered old scoundrel, if you interrupt me again I'll have you chucked out." "That's your own." boomed the voice from below. And the whole meeting was very much with the last speaker.

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# HILLILI \* VII \* IV

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opera button Shoes. . . \$2 00 and 2 50 Boys and Youths' school Hats. · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · 40. 50 and 75 cent-Boys and Youths' winter Caps. 2 50 Men's heavy wool Hats. 40 and 50 cents

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GENERAL ITEMS.

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Judging from the wild accounts concerning an alleged coal beom in this

lowing facts: Nova Scotia is about one-half the size of Maine, after you deduct 500 square miles covered by 400 takes. There is said to be a \$600,000 coal deal on hand.

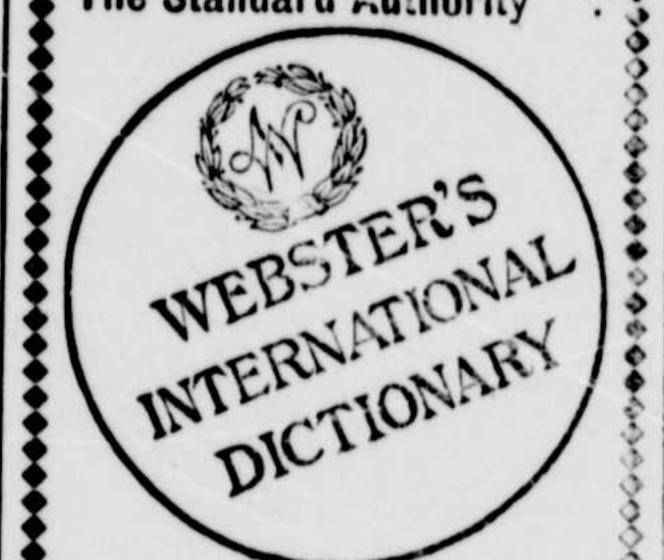
1st. It is strange that even that much coal could hide in a lutle turnip patch like that, and not turn-up until now 2d. Clearfield, Poe dontas, or our own region, toink nothing of that much coal; but if Borden Shall were to par a few long tons on Nova Scotia, without putting a fence around it, about 2240 3d. If there is a event there usquar ity is about like the quality-and any one (tamiliar with the geographical

water works, the quarry would rain the water. The most popular bet is five to one that Cleveland could carry N va Scotia and burn the McKinley bull, Force bill, and some of our back subscription .. 1 25 bills. - Cumberland Courier.

is enough to supply the Frosting

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