

AN AMERICAN GIRL.

(BALLADE.)



SHE'S had a Vassar education,
And points with pride to her degrees;
She's studied household decoration;
She knows a dado from a frieze,
And tells Corots from Boldinis;
A Jacquemart etching, or a Haden,
A Whistler, too, perchance might please
A frank and free young Yankee maiden.

She does not care for meditation;
Within her bonnet are no bees;
She has a gentle animation;

She joins in singing simple glees,
 She tries no trills, no rivalries
 With Lucca (now Baronin Räden),
 With Nilsson or with Gerster; she's
 A frank and free young Yankee maiden.

I'm blessed above the whole creation,
 Far, far above all other he's;
 I ask you for congratulation
 On this the best of jubilees:
 I go with her across the seas
 Unto what Poe would call an Aiden,—
 I hope no serpent's there to tease
 A frank and free young Yankee maiden.

ENVOY.

Princes, to you the western breeze
 Bears many a ship and heavy laden:
 What is the best we send in these?
 A free and frank young Yankee maiden!

AN ENGLISH WAR-CORRESPONDENT.

"ARCHIBALD FORBES once a private soldier? Then his origin must have been very humble and his education self-acquired." Not so fast, good readers. There are those who have poverty thrust upon them, and others who thrust poverty upon themselves. I am afraid Archibald Forbes belonged to the latter class. His father, Louis Forbes, was a Presbyterian Doctor of Divinity, while his mother belonged to the old family of Leslie. Living in the north of Scotland, Forbes studied first at school, then with a tutor, and finally at the Aberdeen university. Though excelling in classics, he had such an aversion to mathematics that when the senatus academicus recently proposed to confer upon him the degree of LL. D., an irate professor exclaimed:

"I can never consent to such a mockery. As a student Mr. Forbes was 'ploughed' in mathematics. I shall never consent that a man should receive an honorary degree from this university who has failed to pass his examinations."

Fortunately for Forbes, success on the battle-field does not depend upon the appendix of LL. D.

During Forbes's second collegiate year, his father dropped dead in his pulpit. There being nine children, and little fortune, Archibald left Aberdeen for Edinburgh, with de-

signs first upon the law, and secondly upon the church. While endeavoring to decide upon a career, he spent all his money, and fell in love with a young lady, with whom he arranged to elope in a gig on a certain Sunday when the obdurate father was to be at church. Alas, "the best-laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley." The obdurate father waylaid our hero, remonstrated with practical determination, and turned the love-lorn youth into a ditch, whence he arose sadder and wetter.

Attaining his majority in 1859, Forbes became possessed of \$2,500, and determined to join a cousin in Canada who owned a large tract of land near Lake Huron. On reaching Quebec, he lingered in the old town, held by the beaming eyes of his landlord's daughter. At the end of three months, the wild Scotchman had exhausted his resources, confessed his poverty to the landlord's daughter, and abandoned the idea of joining his cousin. With eight shillings in his pocket, he shipped for home as a sailor, and steered twelve hours a day for weeks, when his vessel became water-logged. No timber-ship can sink, otherwise Forbes would have gone to the bottom. There was no cooking for a week, life being maintained on biscuits and salt meat. After several sailors had been washed overboard, the