

THE NEW YEAR.

Slipping in among the children, Bright and eager at their play, Comes the new year, sweet and shining, Just as gay and dear as they.

THE STATIONER MANSION.

Ordinarily, Kelsie was not given to enthusiasms, nor was the expression of sentiments habitual to him.

"Margaret," he said, half under his breath, "home is home when all's said."

"I have always heard you Chicago men were dreadfully conceited," said a soft voice out of the fragrant loom.

"Perhaps. But a man is not prompt to perceive the faults of his mother. Affection long association, personal pride—these are the lenses through which he looks."

"You must not be sentimental," she insisted—"not even about me. But did—did this city of yours many deprivations and sacrifices ever—seem—so fair to you—before?"

"No," he answered and squared around and faced her. "No!"

"Margaret," said Cameron Kelsie, earnestly, "I thank God for you! I have thanked him every hour since I have known you."

"Ah, who am I that God has saved me from the doom I did desire, and crossed the lot myself had craved To set me higher?"

the eyes of a wife I'm ashamed to say my ambition was wholly sordid. I need had time to think of those things which come naturally into the lives of most men.

"I don't understand," she said a little faintly. She released herself, but like a rose resting against a mask of bronze her soft cheek touched his own.

"I did nothing particularly creditable—nothing, at least, that was not his rightful due. His father, you must recollect, had literally picked me out of the gutter."

"Yes," she said, tentatively, "yes." He seemed to forget that he was holding her hand. But he went on talking, the dreaminess of retrospection creeping into his voice.

"I wish I knew," said the man at last, and more to himself than to her, it seemed "I wish to God I knew if I were right—or wrong."

"You—you mean—?" "Oh, it was the old story. He fell in love. A nature like his must early find an outlet for emotion."

"Yes—and writer, and artist, and all manner of erratic and clever individuals in one. She married a fellow I knew back East—a fine fellow. She broke his heart."

"Oh, we had a stormy scene! Come to think of it, I it was who did the storming. Ours was the kind of an encounter that forces out braver words."

"What," she questioned, "was the outcome?" "Oh, we had a stormy scene! Come to think of it, I it was who did the storming."

"What made you say," she asked at length, "that you wondered whether you had been right—or wrong?"

"An imperious command, Margaret!" he said. "I have nothing to confess about a woman—not even about other women, which is, I understand, the lesser folly in

infidelity of my own judgment. With love and knowledge of you" came humbly.

"I find myself wondering," he went on more quietly, "what prompted my opposition to the boy's love-affair."

"Your motive," answered "the voice of slow music," steadily "was, I am sure, the noblest—most disinterested."

"I kissed her—almost with reverence. You have answered yourself, Margaret. Only such a woman as you could be so generous."

"I don't know anyone was here." "Something familiar in the pose of that girlish figure in the pale, glistening gown, struck him. He hesitated—then took a stride forward."

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that he cackled when he laughed. "Let me get a good look at you," rattled on Kelsie.

"I cannot stay," said Richard Derrick. He shot a glance at the little figure in the Cardinal's chair.

"Nonsense, boy! There's a storm coming up—not that the weather would daunt you, of course."

"I had the grace to divine"—that lovely laugh of hers breaking upon the silence—"that he had the grace to divine."

"An Apple Party." The guests at such a party are expected to wear some adornment of an apple character.

Each guest, on entering, was given a card bearing a letter and a number. The letter was one in a brand of apples and the number referred to the brand.

When John saw him, he gave him a joyous welcome. No shade of jealousy crossed his noble heart.

On the morning, as Jesus reexplained, John repeated his significant exclamation with even increased emphasis.

The alleged volcano in the mountains of Rowan County Kentucky is nothing more nor less than a moonshine still.

Andrew coveted his brother's superior abilities for the service of his new-found Master. He rested not until he had communicated to him his momentous "find."

—Made to order weather would be all right so long as the other fellow had none of the say in giving the order.

PLEASANT FIELDS OF HOLY WRIT.

Save for my daily range Among the pleasant fields of Holy Writ, I might despair.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON. First Quarter. Lesson V. Luke 9, 1-11. Sunday January 31, 1904.

There was no need to ring a bell to secure Jesus an audience. People flew to him like filings to a magnet.

But the sermon was only an incident. His real errand that morning was to call his apostles. He had already given the what might be called preliminary or probationary calls.

He prefaced the call by a thrilling pictorial miracle. Nothing could have more significantly taught them what they were to be and do.

The consideration of Jesus in this encouraging his disciples is characteristic and worthy of note.

It is helpful to recall Jesus' previous dealings with these men.

Daring Jesus' forty days in the Wilderness, his Messianic character and work fully dawned upon him.

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pens into the pulpit," said old Dr. Tyne in a brusque talk to theologues. He meant that it was in no way necessary to display the tools of one's craft before an audience.

Casualties of 1903.

Wrecks on Sea and Rail, Explosions, Floods and Fires Snuffed Out More Than 8,300 Lives.

During the year of 1903 more than 8,300 lives were snuffed out by wrecks on sea and rail, explosions, floods, fires and other casualties.

- JANUARY. 69 Drowned in storm along Atlantic coast. FEBRUARY. 19 Ferryboat capsized at Glens Falls, N. Y. MARCH. 22 Explosion of oil tank cars at Olean, N. Y. 600 Tuamotu Islands swept by tidal wave. 52 Storm in Eastern Germany. APRIL. 60 Eruption of volcano Deliterna Firma, Colombia. 1,500 Explosion of the arsenal at Canton, China. 16 Tornado at Hopewell, Alaska. 10 Explosion of oil tanks at Minneapolis. 56 Mountain slide at Frank, Northwest Territory, Canada. MAY. 19 Collision of the steamers Hamilton and Saginaw. 12 Railroad wreck at Winnipeg, Canada. 15 Tornado in Southern Nebraska. 22 Collision of the steamers Huddersfield and Uta, near Antwerp. 15 Wreck of the schooner Gloriana, near Casco, N. S. 32 Railroad wreck near Stronie, Silesia. 12 Ferryboat capsized near Posen, Prussia. 31 Wreck of the Hayami Maru, near Yokohama. 4,000 Earthquake in Melazgher, Asiatic Turkey. JUNE. 100 Collision between the steamers Liban and Insulair, near the Maire Islands. 33 Wreck of the Arequipa, near Valparaiso. 234 Mine explosion at Hanna, Wyoming. 38 Cloudburst in Serbia. 10 Railroad wreck at Raymond, Iowa. 51 Flood at Clifton, S. C. 125 Tornado at Gainesville, Ga. 81 Floods along the Missouri and Mississippi. 15 Lyddite explosion at Woolwich, Arsenal, England. 19 Collapse of an apartment house at Warsaw, Poland. 168 Railroad wreck at Najerilla, Spain. 47 Mine explosion at Barraterra, Mex. 29 Cloudburst and flood at Heppner, Oregon. JULY. 73 Explosion in cartridge mill at Lowell, Mass. 29 Floods along the Oder, Silesia. 23 Railroad wreck at Rockfish, Va. 19 Cloudburst in Western Texas. 54 Cloudburst near Jeannette, Pa. AUGUST. 11 Collapse of stand at Philadelphia Base Ball Park. 48 Hurricane on the Island of Jamaica. 89 Accident in the Paris underground railway. 21 Railroad wreck near Udine, Italy. 692 Floods at Chifu, China. 41 Capsizing of ferryboat near Heisingfords Finland. 260 Tenement house fire at Budapest, Hungary. SEPTEMBER. 11 Warehouse fire, Christiana, Sweden. 29 Explosion on the vessel Yaskara near Constantinople. 21 Hurricane in Florida. OCTOBER. 36 Wreck of the steamer Savoyard, near Brest, France. 19 Wreck of the steamer South Portland, near Marshfield, Ore. 10 Collapse of incomplete bridge at Pittsburgh. 10 Hurricane off the coast of Virginia. 54 Wreck of the steamer Progress off the coast of Japan. 12 Wreck of the steamer E. L. Hackley, near Marietta, Wis. 20 Wreck of the bark Mazatlan, Mexico. 17 Railroad wreck at Washington's crossing, N. J. 10 Subway cave-in, New York city. DECEMBER. 64 Railroad wreck on the E. and O., at Laurel Run, Pa. 10 Railroad wreck at Grand Rapids, Michigan. 575 Theatre fire, Chicago. Sleeps in Tent in Zero Weather. During the severe cold weather recently Rev. Dr. Charles Grise, pastor of Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal church, at Easton, Md., has slept in a tent on the back porch of his parsonage. Dr. Grise had been in poor health for some time, caused by an aggravated case of catarrh. Last summer he consulted an eminent physician, who told him that the best way to effect a cure was to sleep out of doors as much as he could. While taking his vacation last summer he commenced to sleep in the open air and since his return home he has slept in a tent every night since. He declares that he feels better than he has for 10 years, has gained 20 pounds in weight and is stronger than he has been for years. One cold morning recently he found the mercury clear down in the bucket of the thermometer.