

FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.

HAT though the skies be cold and gray And winds be wild and shrill, Love's messenger shall find his way Across the vale and hill: For sunlight he shall have your face, For stars—two eyes that shine Where my heart has its dwelling place—Your own, dear Valentine!

Old Mr. Fessenden.

T WAS the day before St. Valentine's, and Clare Clancy and Katie Wood, after pausing a little before the show window, entered the small uptown shop, and were shown by a lady in attendance a number of choice valentines that came within reach of their purses. The two girls were great friends, each just 14, and pretty and full of fun. They were going to send this year a number of valentines to other friends and relatives, and had come in together to select them.



A CABLE CAR WAS CLANGING ITS BELL WILDLY.

case filled with those dainty combinations of paper lace and bright color so fascinating to the heart of youth and, ah, me! to the memory of age, perhaps, and as they lifted the filmy overlays to read the cunningly hid verses beneath they did not notice that standing in the door was a feeble old man leaning on a cane and watching them. His hair was rather long and silver white. His face was cleanly shaven, and he had a large nose, a rather childish mouth and clear blue eyes. As he moved away the two girls heard his step and turned. "Oh!" exclaimed Clare, whispering, "there is old Mr. Fessenden! He lives next door to us and is a cranky old bachelor. Let's send him a valentine." The other girl nodded. Then they watched him a moment through the window as he paused to look in. "He comes every year to look at the valentines," said the shopwoman. "Show us some funny ones," said Clare. "Some about old bachelors." The girls were not cruel; they were thoughtful. They picked out a highly colored picture of a fierce-looking old man in a house that was in wretched order, and under which were the following lines:

AN OLD BACHELOR. You think yourself extremely wise, Since all your worthless life You've lived alone without the care And love of a tender wife. Perhaps, indeed, you've vainly tried To wed, your whole life through, And were so glum and crusty that No wife would live with you. They did not like the word "worthless," because Clare said she had never heard that he dissipated in any way, but Katie said it did not mean that, but only meant that his life had been worthless because he hadn't married. By and by they went across the street to a bright red letter box and dropped in all their purchases. As they recessed they were talking

bustily and did not notice that a cable car was clanging its bell wildly and that the gripman was making a frantic effort to stop it. But suddenly each felt herself pulled hastily backward, and realized that they had been drawn from in front of the deadly cable car just in time. Each gave a little scream and turned to thank her rescuer. It was the old gentleman, Mr. Fessenden. He had dropped his cane and leaned on them, trembling from the effort. The girls were abashed, and blushed and stammered. Clare hastily picked up his cane, and he thanked her courteously. They crossed the street together in the direction of the little shop. "I suppose you were so taken up with the valentines you are sending that you did not notice the car," said the old gentleman, gently. "I used to be very fond of them myself. Suppose we all go in and look at them a little." The girls could not refuse and shame-facedly entered. The shopwoman smiled at them knowingly, but they only smiled back in a feeble and sickly way. The old gentleman selected two valentines that the girls had not felt able to buy. "I want you to have these," he said, "to remember me by and to make you think to be always very careful when you cross the street." The girls thanked him faintly with downcast eyes. Then he bade them a courtly adieu. They noticed how feeble he was as he limped away and wondered how he could have had strength enough to save them from the car. Then as they went out, each holding a prettily ornamented envelope, they looked at each other in shame and regret. Clare was the first to speak. "Let's send him another," she said. "They have some beautiful ones down the street further. Let's go down there." They counted their money as they went along and put it all together. By and by they came out of the shop below with a valentine that, instead of being in an envelope, rose to the dignity of a beautiful box, tied with pink and blue ribbons. "I would give anything if we could only get that old letter box open," said Clare, and, passing, they frowned at it as if it were to blame for everything.

times for the two little girls because one of them—Katie—had reminded him of the little girl for whom he had bought valentines so long ago. "If it does not come to-morrow," he thought, with a faint smile, "it will be too late." For he had been more feeble than usual this winter, and his doctor had told him that he could hardly hope to live through another. Then he closed his eyes and slept, and perhaps as he slept he dreamed. He slept so late the next morning that his old servant was alarmed, but near noon he awoke and asked for his mail. The servant brought it. There were two or three small envelopes, letters, probably, and one package—a handsome white box, tied with blue and pink ribbons. Then he put out his hand tremblingly and touched it. He wished to be sure that it was not a part of his dreams. He was so pale that the old servant was frightened. "Are you ill—worse?" he asked. "No—no! I am well. Open—open the box." The servant untied the ribbons carefully. Within was a beautiful valentine. The old man stretched his hand for it. It was very handsome, and in the center was a poem that told of love and constancy through all time. The servant read it to him. "See if there is any address on it—anything to tell where it was sent from." The old servant looked carefully. There was no address. "Then she will come to me. I shall see her to-morrow—perhaps to-day." The rest of his mail remained unnoticed. It was a beautiful winter afternoon and the sunlight shone through the west window into the room where the old man waited, holding the white box, tied with blue and pink ribbons. By and by the servant went out and left him there. When he returned it was near evening. The old man still held the little white box and his face was turned toward the gates of sunset. But his eyes were closed and he was looking through the gates of eternity. And perhaps she had come to him, for when Katie's grandmother heard of old Mr. Fessenden she said, reflectively: "I used to know of a young man by that name more than 40 years ago. He lived in the next town to us and went with a girl whose folks moved to the city just before we did. I didn't know 'em very well, but I heard once that about a year after they came here she died."—Albert Bigelow Paine, in N. Y. Herald.

A DAY OF MATING. St. Valentine's Day, as Celebrated by the Romans, Was the Time to Choose Mates. Mr. Donce, in his illustrations of Shakespeare, says, regarding St. Valentine's day: "It was the practice in ancient Rome, during a greater part of the month of February, to celebrate the Lupercalia, which were feasts in honor of Pan and Juno, whence the latter deity was named Februata, Februus and Februella. On this occasion, amidst a variety of ceremonies, the names of young women were put in a box, from which they were drawn by the men as chance directed. The pastors of the early Christian church, who by every possible means endeavored to eradicate the vestiges of pagan superstitions, substituted in the present instance the names of the particular saints instead of those of the women, and as the festival of Lupercalia had commenced about the middle of February, they appear to have chosen St. Valentine's day for celebrating the new feast, because it occurred at nearly the same time. This is, in part, the opinion of the learned compiler of the lives of the saints. It would seem, however that it was utterly impossible to extirpate altogether any ceremony to which the common people had been much accustomed, a fact which it is easy to prove in tracing the origin of various other popular superstitions, and according the outline of ancient ceremonies was preserved, but modified by some adaptation to the Christian system. It is reasonable to suppose that the above practice of choosing mates would gradually become reciprocal in the sexes, and that all persons so chosen would be called valentines, from the day on which the ceremony took place."—Pittsburgh Dispatch.



A SUSPICIOUS COINCIDENCE. Mrs. Slimdick—Yes; I got 17 comic valentines to-day, and I shall expect you all to settle up at once. Chorus of Boarders—But surely, Mrs. Slimdick, you do not accuse us of sending the valentines? Mrs. Slimdick—I make no accusations whatever, gentlemen. I only know that I have 17 boarders.—N. Y. World. Could Not Understand It. "There's one thing," said the practical joker, "that I could never understand." "What is that?" "Why, when I can pick out such genuinely witty comic valentines to send out to my friends, they should make such blundering and brutal selection to send to me."—Washington Star.

TURMOIL IN SAMOA. Bival Factions Continue Their Warfare—Consuls at Loggerheads. Auckland, N. Z., Feb. 2.—The following advice has just been received here from Apia, Samoa, under date of January 24: There has been no further general fighting between the partisans of the rival chieftains since the last advice was forwarded except that a party of Mataafa's followers was routed in the bush by Malletton's. It is expected, however, that fighting will be resumed, as Mataafa is re-arresting persons who have been already fined and released. The work of pillage continues, among the houses looted being the home of the late Robert L. Stevenson, the novelist. The exiled Malletton chiefs were land at Pago Pago, on the island of Tutuila, the schooner on which they were being unable to proceed to the island of Manua, owing to adverse winds. The Tutuilaans gave them a hearty welcome and made an attempt to seize Mataafa's son, who was on board the schooner, but the captain put to sea. There has been a collision of authority between Chief Justice William L. Chambers, of the supreme court, and Joannes Raffel, the German president of the municipality of Apia. Herr Grossmull, a German resident of Apia, who was arrested for smashing the windows of the supreme court chamber, was sentenced by the chief justice to imprisonment and to pay a fine. Raffel instructed the police authorities to release Grossmull, whose fine was subsequently fixed at \$1,250. The German consul, Herr Rose, thereupon wrote to the American consul, Lloyd W. Osborne, and the British consul, E. B. Maxse, protesting that the action of the chief justice in fining Grossmull was an infringement of German consular rights. Messrs. Osborne and Maxse jointly replied in their official capacity that the proper tribunal having dealt with the matter, the consuls could not interfere. More than this, they declined to have further intercourse with the German consul or the German municipal president except in writing, or to attend meetings, except to consider the acts of the municipal council of Apia, unless an apology with full retraction was offered for the behavior toward Chief Justice Chambers. At the same time the supreme court summoned Raffel for contempt of court in releasing Grossmull.

WEARY OF DELAY. Uncle Sam Thinks the Delagoa Bay Arbitrators are Too Slow. London, Feb. 2.—The Berne correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette telegraphs that the decision of the arbitrators in the Delagoa Bay dispute may be expected not later than June. It is added that the United States threatens in the event of further unreasonable delay to make grave representations to the federal council, which appointed the arbitrators and that England will join in these representations. The interest of the United States in the Delagoa Bay railroad arbitration is due to the fact that the interests of the late Mr. Murdoch are involved in it. In the course of the negotiations between England and Portugal as to the action of the latter power in East Africa the claims of the Delagoa Bay Railway Co. for compensation for the seizure of the line by Portugal in 1889 were brought forward. Eventually it was decided that the Swiss federal council should appoint arbitrators in the matter and the case has been before them ever since. The delay is greatly due to the fact that the government of Portugal presented a counter claim to which the company sent a reply and Portugal then made a rejoinder. The Murdoch claim, it has been asserted, would be settled with an award of a sum under \$10,000,000.

CUTTING DOWN THE ARMY. An Order to Muster 15,000 Volunteers Out of the Service Is Issued. Washington, Feb. 2.—The war department yesterday issued an order to muster out about 15,000 volunteer troops. The regiments are: First Maryland, now at Augusta, Ga.; Third Mississippi and Second Missouri, at Albany, Ga.; Eighth and Thirteenth Pennsylvania, at Augusta, Ga.; Fourteenth Pennsylvania, at Somerville, S. C.; Fourth Texas, at San Antonio, Tex.; Fourth Wisconsin, at Anniston, Ala.; Seventh volunteer infantry, at Macon, Ga.; Eighth volunteer infantry, at Macon, Ga.; Eighth volunteer infantry, at Chickamauga; Tenth volunteer infantry, at Macon, Ga. This order presages the abolition of the entire Second army corps now commanded by Maj. Gen. Young and formerly under Gen. Graham's command. All of the regiments ordered mustered out are attached to that corps and their loss will leave only ten regiments. These will be formed into four independent brigades and placed in camp permanently at Augusta, Ga., and Greenville, S. C. Three regiments ordered out yesterday, the Seventh, Eighth and First volunteer infantry, are colored regiments. Foretold the Hour of His Death. New York, Feb. 2.—Rev. George H. Simons, of Brooklyn, predicted his own death, which occurred at midnight Tuesday, of pneumonia. Last December, during a heavy snow storm, he visited a sick child and caught a chill. Since then he had been ailing and on Tuesday was quite feeble, but was not apparently in any immediate danger. To his wife, however, he said: "I do not believe I will live after midnight." Mr. Simons, who was pastor of Wyckoff Street Methodist church, had been an impressive figure in Brooklyn for a long time. Found a \$10,000 Shortage. Detroit, Mich., Feb. 2.—Investigation of the books of Robert Leadley, late chief clerk of the police justices' courts, has resulted in showing a shortage of \$10,168. Leadley is widely known in baseball circles, having once been manager of the Cleveland National league team and manager of the Detroit when in the National league. Leadley's term as police court clerk expired several months ago. The judge who had the appointing allowed him to hold over without reappointing him, and his bondsmen are not considered liable. Leadley is missing.

AN EXPENSIVE FIRE. Columbus, O., Is Visited by a \$750,000 Blaze—Several Firemen Very Badly Hurt. Columbus, O., Feb. 2.—The most serious conflagration which has visited Columbus since the Chittenden hotel fire of 1891 visited Columbus last night. Half a block of fine buildings in the heart of the business portion of the town was destroyed. The fire is thought to have started in the basement of the Dunlap building, occupied by the Chicago Bankrupt Clothing Co. It swept up the elevator shaft and soon the whole building was ablaze. The audience in the High Street theater, which is across an alley from the burning block, was dismissed in a hurry, and this crowd was soon swelled to enormous proportions by people from all parts of the city. The fire soon communicated to the Jones block on the left and the Souther & Bright building on the right, and these with the wholesale millinery store of Souder & Bright and the store of D. S. Ambach, clothing, were as complete wrecks as the Dunlap building. A fire wall four feet thick separated the fine block of Green, Joyce & Co., wholesale dry goods and notions, from the others, but this was no barrier, and at 1 o'clock this morning the fire had eaten its way through and was burning fiercely in the upper stories. At 11:30, with scarcely any warning, the front and rear walls of the Dunlap building, as though rent asunder by an explosion, fell, one on High street and the other completely filling the alley in the rear with bricks and debris. Fortunately the police had kept the street fairly clear, or the loss of life would have been enormous. As it was a number of firemen were caught while flying from the crumbling walls. Whiteley Davis is missing, and while his comrades and the police are making every effort to discover his remains, they have not yet been found. Capt. Jack Welch is seriously injured. Otis V. Kilbourne was bruised about the head and body and may die. John Donahue was hurt internally; has had scalp wounds. Charles Connors was badly injured. Miss Carrie Johnson was knocked down and run over by a hose reel. Her right leg was broken. She has numerous other injuries and is in a precarious condition. Scores of other people were slightly injured when the walls gave way by flying debris. The State Journal places the entire loss at \$750,000.

TOOK FLIGHT SUDDENLY. The Notorious Count Esterhazy Leaves Paris to Escape Arrest—Latest Phase of the Dreyfus Affair. Paris, Feb. 2.—Count Ferdinand Esterhazy was officially informed on Tuesday that, his testimony before the court of cassation in the Dreyfus inquiry being concluded, proceedings against him on criminal charges would be resumed in 24 hours. He left Paris at once. Esterhazy's flight to evade arrest on the charges brought against him by his cousin, Christian Esterhazy, of obtaining money under fraudulent pretenses, is the sensation of the day. On reading the warning letter which was brought to him by a detective, Esterhazy swore and called the letter a "trick worthy of the beasts I have had to deal with." It is understood that the hasty withdrawal of the safe conduct granted him was the outcome of his cavalier treatment of M. Bertulus, the magistrate. The latest victim of the anti-Dreyfus party is Grand Rabbi Zadok Khan, who is being denounced as the "ringleader of the infamous Jewish conspiracy against France," on the strength of a story just published to the effect that, after Dreyfus was sentenced, the rabbi, at the request of Matthew Dreyfus, tried to get through a friendly Jewish officer in Esterhazy's regiment some particulars as to the count's movements. Le Soir demands the resignation of the rabbi, and as the latter is virtually a state official it is not unlikely that the agitation will become a serious matter for him. Curiously enough, the editor of Le Soir, which is one of the most violent of the anti-Dreyfus organs, is himself a Jew, named Gaston Pollonais. According to a dispatch from Cayenne, capital of French Guiana, Dreyfus was so angry on learning that Capt. Renault had asserted that Dreyfus confessed at the time of his trial and degradation that he declined to answer any more of the questions put to him by the court of cassation unless taken back to France. Rotterdam, Feb. 2.—Ferdinand Esterhazy arrived here yesterday from Paris and left immediately for Amsterdam.

SECRET WAS WELL KEPT. Indictments Against Sheriff Martin and His Deputies Were Quashed Several Months Ago. Wilkesbarre, Pa., Feb. 2.—District Attorney Martin, who prosecuted the case against Sheriff James Martin for the killing of 21 miners and the wounding of over 50 others by the sheriff's deputies at Lattimer in September, 1897, announced yesterday that the remaining indictments against the sheriff and his deputies had been nolle prossed. Sheriff Martin was placed on trial for murder one year ago and was acquitted. There still remained 19 indictments for murder and 35 for felonious wounding against the sheriff and his 68 deputies, which are now disposed of. The nolle prosequi were entered last September, but owing to the fear of the effect of publicity on the miners it was deemed advisable to withhold the announcement until all danger of an outbreak had passed. Tom Johnson's New Departure. New York, Feb. 2.—Tom L. Johnson, capitalist, ex-congressman and the late Henry George's most prominent disciple, announces that he has determined to relinquish his business cares and devote the rest of his life to promulgating the doctrines of the single tax. Fatal Fall for Four. Dubois, Pa., Feb. 2.—One man was instantly killed and three others fatally injured yesterday by falling a distance of 50 feet while working on a bridge on the extension of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh railroad near Punxsutawney.

A GREAT RECORD. Business Failures in January Were Very Few. THE REVIEW OF TRADE. The Remarkable Gains in Many Branches Continue. DECLINE IN WHEAT'S PRICE.

A Drop of Five Cents Is Noted for the Last Week—Market for Cotton and Woolen Goods Is Strong—Iron Products Advance in Price. New York, Feb. 4.—R. G. Dun Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Failures in January were smaller than in any previous month except August, 1898, and July, 1897. There were only seven failures for \$100,000 or more, and the average of liabilities per failure is smaller than in January of any other year, and the small failures are not only fewer in number but smaller in average liabilities than in any previous year. The volume of business in January was far beyond all precedent. Exchanges through clearing houses were 44 per cent. larger than last year, and 59.7 per cent. larger than in 1892, and while speculation in stocks at New York materially increases the volume of payments, it was larger outside this city by 33.3 per cent than in 1892. The remarkable expansion in the aggregate of business payments comes in spite of a material decline in prices during the past seven years, so great that payments of \$82,000,000 would cover about as much business as payments of \$100,000,000 in 1892. It is not strange that European exchanges are disturbed. The most remarkable feature of the week has been the decline of five cents in wheat, with only half a cent in corn and only a sixteenth in cotton. The government estimate of the wheat crop, 675,000,000 bushels, had more influence than any other from that source for years, because it is recognized as the result of great efforts to get at the truth, and is therefore considered about the lowest estimate admissible. A very strong market for cotton goods has prevailed. The advance in goods has been unusual and has been sustained by heavy buying, especially of print cloths and kindred products. The prospect is that the outgo will place dealers and manufacturers in a stronger position than they have held for years. A better tone appears in the woolen goods market also. The iron industry is advancing prices of products rather than of materials. Pig remained without change this week, anticipating that six or seven furnaces will be put into blast as soon as possible. The demand is strong, but apparently urgent at the chief markets. Eastern bars and plates have advanced with very heavy demand, and cut nails have been hoisted by the association of makers. The rush of orders for the future does not cease and the works are generally covered for months ahead with orders. Failures for the week were 234 in the United States, against 335 last year, and 24 in Canada, against 39 last year. The Expo Will be a Go. Philadelphia, Feb. 4.—Mayor Warwick has signed the ordinance authorizing a temporary loan of \$200,000 for the erection of buildings for the Philadelphia museum exposition of manufactured goods of the United States, to be held in this city next fall. This will enable the exposition managers to comply with the conditions attached to the congressional appropriation aiding the exposition. The congressional appropriation provides that the \$300,000 appropriated shall not be available until an equal sum shall have been raised from other sources. Hotel Quarantined. Omaha, Neb., Feb. 4.—The spectacle of an entire hotel full of guests being quarantined and armed policemen standing at every door and window to prevent the people escaping is presented in Omaha. Friday morning three cases of smallpox were discovered at the Vendome hotel, located in the center of the city. The health department was notified and a squad of policemen raced to the scene and when the guests started on their morning duties they were driven back into the house by force. Must Die in the Chair. Albany, N. Y., Feb. 4.—The court of appeals has handed down an order directing the warden of Sing Sing prison to electrocute Mrs. Martha Place, some time during the week beginning February 20. Mrs. Place killed her stepdaughter at her home in Brooklyn. The governor was petitioned by women to commute the sentence to imprisonment for life, but he has refused to interfere. Bishop O'Hara Dies. Scranton, Pa., Feb. 4.—Right Rev. William O'Hara, the venerable bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Scranton, died last night, after a lingering illness. He was 82 years old. Philip Gets a Sword. New York, Feb. 4.—Commodore Philip was presented with a sword and album last night at the residence of Gen. Daniel Butterfield, in recognition of his services at the naval battle of Santiago, July 3, 1898. Gov. Roosevelt presented the sword to Commodore Philip. Fought 20 Hard Rounds. New York, Feb. 4.—Joe Bernstein, of New York, got the decision over Young Pluto, of South Africa, at the Greenwood Athletic club in Brooklyn last night after a hard fight of 20 rounds.