

UNDER THE SNOW.

F. L. VEISS.

And he kissed her, and she kissed him, and they kissed each other...

THE MARTINS' JOLLIEST ST. VALENTINE'S.

BY A MINISTER'S DAUGHTER.

The parson had difficulty in turning the corner of the Old Year's Bills, but finally he managed to round it safe on the side of the New Year with an empty purse and his small brood of Martins...

Scranton, to old Towser and all the school friends. Milly, the youngest of the Martins, labored long over the rhyme on her offering for the pet of the parish's valentine...

"I love little Amy Because she is time-y!" And the thing was done, and I'm sure it was a much prettier token than a ready-made valentine...

"If you love me as I love you, No knife can cut our love in two." and which can be bought at any shop in the country for a few coppery Indian heads...

St. Valentine's night how the Martin's bell did ring! The parson was kept busy trotting in his slippers from study to the front door, for all the children, under the angel guardianship of their big sister, were out delivering at the village houses their tokens of affection...

The duty of door-keeper kept the parson busy. His sermon progressed slowly that Saturday night. He almost resolved to preach without notes, or turn the sermon-barrel upside down and begin anew on its contents...

"Feneugh!" exclaimed Rev. Mr. Martin in a whistle after he had scanned the door half a dozen times after a species of those presumably highly amusing constructions known as comic valentines...

"The rose is red, The violet is blue, Cologne is sweet, And so are you." N. B. You are sweeter than cologne.

Evidently the linked sweetness of the original amount of perfume dropped in the vial had been long drawn out by the aid of water, rendering the sweet liquid of a milky hue...

"Bless that cherub," he said fervidly. "By cherub" he evidently referred to young Master Martin, who not exactly resembled the stereotyped notion of cherubim...

A tiny envelope with the motto "The pen is mightier than the sword," and "O for a forty parson power," all intertwined with appropriate decorations contained five stub pens...

"Ho! Ho! Ho!" laughed the parson, skipping along the hall, as a powerful pull at the bell seemed almost to jerk it out by its wire roots.

"No, no, Kilhern!" exclaimed Mrs. Martin from her post on the stairway, "let me have the fun of going just this once, then I must return to poor Miss Lewis."

So she opened the door, and bore back a thin flat package addressed to herself. It was the triumph of small Milly Martin. She had seen daintily painted satin banners for guest chambers, at church fairs, tempting into reach of her purse...

"Sleep well Within this quiet room O thou, Who'er thou art, Disturb thy neighbor's slumber, Forget thyself and all the world, Put out thy feverish light, The stars are watching overhead. Sleep sweet, Good night! Good night!"

"Dear child!" and there were tears in mother Martin's eye as she recognized in the dainty bow of ribbon on the banner the best white sash of Milly's very favorite doll, the creases having been subdued by a ponderous heated iron...

dashed to the door to catch sight of what seemed to be a rubber-booted centipede vanishing around the corner. He longed to give chase, but repressed such an unministerial desire and retraced with the bulky valentine...

"Of all the calves My mother bakes I give me this little ginger cake. This gift we make For St. Val's sake To the father who always Takes the cake."

Mrs. Martin looked somewhat dubious at this last line. After her two months' endeavor of a No-Slang-Society it was rather hard on Mr. Martin to be laughing in a pleased way...

"It's been just the jolliest St. Valentine's!" cried the twins, "even if we hadn't any money to rely upon."

"That's just where the fun came in," said Milly, dragging around in trailing rubber boots that seemed determined to stick by her.

"You've been the best of children, helpful to your father, and brave and uncomplaining about the loss of your penny pot. I know how disappointed you must have been just at this St. Valentine season..."

A Traveller's Tale. As we'd a tale as ever sprang from a traveller's imagination is told of a ship that lies in the midst of the great Colorado desert, a waste of sand double the size of the State of Massachusetts...

Wanted Papa to be Still White Grandpa Talked to His Plate. A three-year-old girl accompanied her father, not long ago, upon a visit to her grandparents in the country, where a blessing is invoked by the white-haired patriarch before each meal...

He Grasped the Situation. One little Indian boy who attends school at Indian Island, Old Town, takes an intelligent interest in his lessons and does not simply learn them by rote...

The Largest Tree in the World. The largest tree in the world, according to statistics lately published by the Italian government, is a monster chestnut standing at the foot of Mount Etna. The circumference of the main trunk at sixty feet from the ground is 212 feet.

DOMESTIC SERVICE. BY OLIVER THORNE MILLER. A quaint old lady of a past generation used often to say that one could not expect all the virtues for eight dollars a month...

A Handsome Blue Flower. A beautiful annual is the Torenia Fourieri, it has large sky blue flowers, having three large spots of dark purple blue, and is yellow in the center...

Countersuit notes are very rarely taken in the banks of Russia. The tellers are held responsible and therefore exercise keen vigilance.

By the sea boiled, where could one go to find water to cool it? One part of the world in which no native pipes and no native smokers have been found, is Australia.

ABOUT SHAWLS.

BY MARION LEWIS.

Just at present the feminine heart is set on a seal-kin saque; but there was a time, and not long ago either, when an elegant shawl was cashmere or a cozier article...

It is about one hundred years since these shawls were appreciated in Europe. Many years before, some ambassadors of the ruler of India left a few specimens in Paris...

Madame Guodin, a reigning beauty at this time, is said to have been the first to wear a cashmere shawl in Paris, but she was closely followed by the Empress Josephine...

But as the demand increased new shawls were manufactured, but brought an enormous price. These shawls were made of the finest wool in the world...

The shawls were woven in separate pieces, but so skillfully put together that the seams cannot be found. From three months to two years were required to complete a shawl...

When the new maid comes, I take pains to make things pleasant for her. I'll see she feels at home. I give her a room with her own furniture...

These things appear small, but they are not small in effect, they pay, even if not done from principle or from naturally friendly feelings.

I never could, when I have to speak of shortcomings, I do it as quietly and courteously as I would suggest changes to my son's tutor or my daughter's music-teacher...

In a good many years of housekeeping by this method I have never had trouble with servants. I have not, by any means, found "all the virtues" for any number of dollars a month...

How to See the Wind. Take a polished metal surface of two feet or more, with a straight edge; a large hand-saw will answer the purpose. Take a windy day for the experiment...

For a steady thing, the light of a tall candle is better than that of a skyrocket. The preacher fails who tries to preach a doctrine that hasn't been tested in his own heart...

There is no house so small that it has not room for love; there is no castle so large that it cannot be filled with it. Labor, therefore is a duty from which no man living is exempt without forfeiting his right to his daily bread...

Labor in all its variety, corporeal and mental, is the instituted means for the methodical development of all our powers. Labor has an agreeable end in the result we gain; but the means are also agreeable, for there are pleasures in the work itself.

There is an unfortunate disposition in a man to attend more to the faults of his companions which offend him than to their perfections which please him. Those who discharge promptly and faithfully all their duties to those who "still live" in the flesh, can have but little time for poking and peering into the life beyond the grave...

Prudence in a woman should be an instinct, not a virtue. What I have been taught I have forgotten; what I know I have guessed. The love of glory can only create a hero; the contempt of it creates a great man.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Not to sow means not to reap. Labor is a great producer of wealth. When free from folly, we to wisdom rise. They that govern most make the least noise. Without labor there would be no ease, no rest. A bad egg takes up as much room as a good one.

The youth of friendship is better than its old age. Constancy in labor will control all difficulties. Get each man right, and the nation will be right. It is better to fall in trying to do good than never to try.

The more money a man has the more he needs religion. Wrong doing people are the most exciting of all people. Heart work is something that can not be paid for in money.

The man who loves others will try to make himself lovable. You can tell what a man believes by finding out what he does. No man ever hears birds sing who goes into a cave to look for them.

You can't tell how much milk a cow will give by the way her bell rings. Necessity is not only the mother of invention, but the father of lies also. The great essential in saving men is to convince them that you love them.

The man who is always thinking evil finds out ten thousand ways to speak it. The man who is always looking for an easy place will have a hard time of it. Every man on earth needs more courage more than he does more money.

In learning from experience one must not count the mistakes. The wealth of society is its stock of productive labor. The hand of little employment hath the daintier sense. Genius can never despise labor. Labor is the law of happiness.

A good man is kinder to his enemy than bad men are to their friends. Kind words are flowers that any one can grow without owning a foot of land. Circumstances are beyond the control of man; but his conduct is in his power. Cheat me in the price rather than in the goods.

No man was ever deceived by another so seriously as by himself. He that is not open to conviction is not qualified for discussion. What we know is very little, but what we are ignorant of is immense. At twenty the will reigns, at thirty the wit, and at forty the judgment.

There are some people who, like a new song, are in vogue only for a time. Unworthy offspring often boast of their worthy descent, and have descended a long way. It is to be feared that they who marry where they do not love will love where they do not marry.

Conviction, were it ever so excellent; is worthless till it converts itself into conduct. Self-will is so ardent and active that it will break a world in pieces to make a stool to sit on. To rejoice in the happiness of others as to make it our own; to produce it is to make it more than our own.

It is better to have a few feeble thoughts of one's own than to be entirely occupied with the ideas of others. Progress in evil is so rapid and inevitable that long after one has entered upon crime he believes himself only in a passion. It is at our own will whether we see in the despised stream the refuse of the street, or, looking deep enough, the image of the sky.

For a steady thing, the light of a tall candle is better than that of a skyrocket. The preacher fails who tries to preach a doctrine that hasn't been tested in his own heart. If you want to have plenty of opportunities for doing good, be sure that you do not neglect the first one. Is life long enough for quarreling? Are there so many good people that they can afford to shun and avoid each other?

A bet is a fool's argument, but you can't make the man who has won believe that he is not wise in his generation. There is no house so small that it has not room for love; there is no castle so large that it cannot be filled with it. Labor, therefore is a duty from which no man living is exempt without forfeiting his right to his daily bread...

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