

The Box of Queer Things

ONCE upon a time, and not so long ago, either, there was a little white house with green blinds which stood on the edge of a wood.

Grandmother Gray wore a cap over her white curls, and her dress was of black silk, very full in the skirt, with an enormous pocket filled with all kinds of treasures.

She had two grandchildren, whose names were Lucy and Sarah. Lucy and Sarah lived a long way from their grandmother. Every pleasant Saturday they went to see her.

They walked slowly through the woods, stopping sometimes to play with the birds and often to rest, for they always carried a basket with a present. It was not always the same present. Sometimes they brought fruit or berries or eggs or custard, and, strange to say, the basket was never empty when they returned.

Grandmother Gray would put on her glasses just as they were about to leave, look at them to see if their faces

reach home. One is for Sarah and the other for you."

The squirrel was watching for her. The squirrel looked in the basket and said, "Do you know, I think they are boxes of nuts."

"You don't know anything about it," declared Lucy.

"No, of course I don't know," replied the squirrel. "How could I if you won't let me see? But I think they are boxes of nuts."

The squirrel chattered crossly and cried after her, "I hope they are nuts, I hope they are nuts."

Lucy was much disturbed, for she wanted candy or a doll or a tea set. She sat down on the stump of a tree and kept saying, "I hope they are not nuts." Then she took one of the boxes up and opened it.

At first it seemed to be filled with colored candies, but in an instant these changed into little creatures, and, with a whirring noise, they flew at her.

She sprang up, spilling some on the ground. She started to run, but the



WITH A WHIRRING NOISE THEY FLEW AT HER.

were clean, and then say: "Let me see. Perhaps I have something in here that little girls would like."

Down in her pocket she would reach and, after searching, bring forth two boxes and, placing them in the basket, say, "Don't open these until you reach home."

One Saturday Sarah had the measles and could not go to her grandmother's. Lucy was allowed to go alone. "Be sure to come home early," said Lucy's mother as she started forth, "and mind that you do not break the eggs in the basket."

Lucy promised to be careful and walked into the woods. Before long she met the gray squirrel. "Hello," she called.

"Hello," cried the squirrel, not pausing.

"You seem to be in a hurry this morning," called Lucy, for the gray squirrel was usually very friendly.

"What's in it?" asked the squirrel, with great interest.

"Eggs," replied Lucy.

"I don't eat them," said the squirrel scornfully.

"My grandmother does," explained Lucy.

"How very important the squirrel is this morning!" said a voice. It was the black crow.

"He is busy today," answered Lucy.

"He is a lazy thing," said the crow; "all squirrels are. I see you have a basket."

"Yes," answered Lucy; "a basket of eggs for my grandmother."

"Did you ever take her any corn?" inquired the crow, putting its head on one side.

"No; my grandmother doesn't like corn," answered Lucy.

"How curious!" declared the crow, even more surprised.

Lucy found Grandmother Gray sitting at the window of the little house. Soon after dinner her grandmother said, "Now, Lucy, you must start for home, for it is a long walk through the woods, and you are alone."

She handed Lucy the basket as she spoke. Lucy had reached the door when Grandmother Gray put on her glasses and said: "Let me see. Let me see. I think I have something in here for little girls." She put her hand in her pocket and brought forth two boxes alike in color and size. As she placed them in the basket she said: "Be sure not to open these before you

little creatures pursued her. She felt them attack her.

"I am a spank!" cried a wee voice.

"I am a pinch!" said another.

"I am a tickle!" said another.

"I am a scratch!" said still another.

They lighted on her hands and face and legs. As fast as she drove them from one place they would fly to another. She was so frightened that she ran through the woods crying. The birds heard the noise and screamed too.

The box cover was still off, letting more and more creatures escape. Lucy managed to clap the cover on as she ran, but it was some time before the pinches and scratches and tickles and spanks were driven off.

"What in the world is the matter?" inquired the black crow.

"I don't know," answered Lucy tearfully. "I thought it was candy, but when I opened the box spanks and pinches and scratches and tickles flew out at me."

The first thing her mother said when she entered the house was, "Why, Lucy, what has happened to you?"

Lucy did not reply. Just then Sarah called out to know what her grandmother had sent her in the basket. Trembling, Lucy handed Sarah her box. She ran quickly toward the door as Sarah started to open it. She was ready to run away if this was also filled with tiny creatures.

But Sarah opened it and found it full of beautiful colored candies. "Open your box and see if it is the same," asked Sarah.

Lucy was ashamed to tell she had disobeyed her grandmother, so she opened her box slowly, thinking there could be very few spanks left in it.

To her surprise, she found no pinches or scratches or tickles or spanks, but just one very small white peppermint candy.—New York World.

A Stitch In Time.
'Twas but a rusty little nail,
And on it hangs this tale,
For on it some one caught and tore
The pretty new frock that she wore,
But some one only tossed her head,
'Till mend it by and by," she said,
Another hour in play was spent,
And then the tear was quite a rent,
Alas, before the day had flown
The rent into a hole had grown,
So big that mother had to spend
Quite half a day that hole to mend,
And now that pretty frock she wore
Is not so pretty as before.
So recollect this rhyme of mine
And that a stitch in time saves nine.

FEBRUARY FETES.

ST. VALENTINE'S THE CROWNING DAY OF THIS MONTH.

Two Legal Holidays and One Devoted to Cupid—Colonial Hats—A Valentine Cake, Dessert and Lovely Table Scheme.

While February is distinctive as the shortest month in the year, it yields the palm to none in the number of holidays which it contains. The birthdays of two of our great men—Lincoln's, on the 12th, and Washington's, on the 22d—are legal holidays, but the day dedicated to St. Valentine comes as the crowning date of the month. Shops give prominence to emblematic hearts and darts and Cupids, and many pretty home entertainments are based on tales attributed to the little love god.

By a little ingenuity the table decorations and desserts may be made em-



VALENTINE CAKE.

blematic of the day celebrated. For St. Valentine's there is a round loaf cake garnished with hearts cut from cherries. A dainty dessert is also shown—champagne glasses filled with pink bavarian cream, into which are thrust tiny silver darts, while crimson hearts cut from candied cherries are peeping here and there above the foam.

For Washington's birthday come cases suitable for entrees or desserts—buff and yellow cases in the form of colonial hats.

One hostess has solved the problem of decoration for a valentine dinner table. She knew from experience with her children's sponge gardens that a variety of quick growing grass and other seeds can be secured from the florists that will spring into delicate green beauty very quickly after being thickly scattered in the damp sponge and retain their masses of rich green for a long time. This gave her the first idea of novelty for the valentine table, and other ideas were quickly evolved from it.

For a small sum her regular florist prepared a number of the easily manipulated wire frames in the form of hearts and arrows, with tiny wire forms in the shape of bows for the place cards. The latter contains a rim of green, growing from the thin layer of damp sponge and sand fastened to the wire and outlining the bow, while the pink and gilt string of the bow had a dainty card attached containing the name and an appropriate valentine sentiment inscribed in gilt letters traced with brush and pen from a bottle of liquid gold paint. The little sponge laden frames of hearts and darts of living green are to be placed at intervals over the table, but the masterpiece is the centerpiece, where the hostess has displayed her greatest ingenuity. This is heart shaped, of course, but such a gorgeous heart is seldom seen. It is a mammoth affair fashioned of sheet lead and a narrow boxlike frame outlining the heart. This is filled with wet sand and stuck full of short stemmed pink carnations. The center of the heart is a mass of fine green low growing ferns of every del-

THE NEW QUEEN LOUISE.

Spouse of Frederick VIII. of Denmark Is a Woman of Many Virtues.

The new queen of Denmark, who before her husband's ascension to the Danish throne was the Crown Princess Louise, is not celebrated for her beauty, but she is distinguished for her many virtues and is also noted as the richest royal princess in Europe. She is a woman of very severe aspect, of masculine type of features and is said to be the tallest woman of royal blood in Europe, being over six feet in height. No matter what the function may be at which her majesty is present she towers over all the other women there. She was born in 1851 and is the daughter of the late King Charles XV. of Sweden and Norway and a niece of the present King Oscar of Sweden.

In her veins flows the blood of Bernadotte, the famous general of Napoleon I., who became king of Sweden. Her mother left her a fortune of 60,000,000



QUEEN LOUISE.

marks, about 15,000,000 of our democratic dollars, and this legacy, through being wisely invested, is said to have increased to an even more impressive sum. She and the king are very popular with the people of Denmark. No breath of scandal has ever touched their domestic life, and they have four sons and four daughters to rise up and call them blessed. Their marriage was a love match, and King Frederick as a young prince told his parents that he would give up rank and title rather than marry a woman not of his own choosing. He wedded the Princess Louise in 1863.

When to Write Menus.
The next time you are hungry, if you will take the occasion to plan some meals, you will be astonished to find how readily your mind works and how many appetizing dishes will occur to you. Everything under those favorable conditions "would taste good," and you will have an entire week's menus written off before you know it. Let those housekeepers who are in the habit of arranging for the table just after breakfast, when the appetite is satisfied, a dozen household distractions are on their minds and the grocer waiting, try it once. They will never go back to the old way, says a Good Housekeeping correspondent.

Celery Root Salad.
Wash and scrape celery roots, then cook in boiling salted water until tender. Drain, sprinkle with salt and set aside covered to cool. When cold cut in half inch cubes. Pour over a pint of cubes about five tablespoonsful of olive oil mixed with a little salt and pepper. Turn the pieces of vegetables over and over with a fork and spoon to cause them to take up the oil, then pour over about three tablespoonfuls of vinegar and mix again. Serve on lettuce leaves. The whites of two cooked eggs cut in small pieces and the yolks sifted may be mixed with the celery root before the addition of the oil. Mayonnaise dressing may be used instead of the simple oil and vinegar. A little grated onion may be added, or the salad fork and spoon may be rubbed with a clove of garlic cut in halves.—Boston Cooking School Magazine.

As a rule American cities and other self governing communities get such government as they deserve. It is safe to assert that if the honest men, those who prefer good government rather

cate sort from the tiny maidenhair to the dainty walking and creeping varieties. Each fern is in its tiny separate pot, just as it came from the florist's. They are set so close together that not a trace of the pots can be seen among the overspreading fern fronds, but the rims make a secure foundation on which to stand a number of dainty Cupids facing toward the edge of the table in every direction and pointing their daintily posed bows and arrows toward the guests.—Table Talk.



CUPID CUTS.

St. Valentine Ice Cream.
One quart of ice cream, three-fourths of a cupful of sugar and one cupful of candied cherries. Cut the cherries in pieces, mix with the cream and sugar and freeze. Line a heart shaped mold with plain vanilla ice cream colored bright red with fruit red paste to the depth of one-quarter inch, fill the center with the fruit cream, cover securely and pack in equal parts of ice and salt. Let stand four hours, turn from the mold on a glass ice cream platter covered with fancy lace paper.

UNION SEMINARY,

(Formerly Central Penna. College)
NEW BERLIN, PA.
M. W. Wiltner, A. B.—E. A. Nace, A. B., Principals.
Spring term of ten weeks opens Tuesday, April 3rd.
Special attention paid during the spring term to teachers—whether preparing for examination or for college—and to those desiring to teach. Excellent location, reasonable rates.
For catalogue and further information, address the Principals.
x apr 5

than the rule of rings and gangs of grafters and looters, would co-operate in elections they could rule even the worst of our municipalities. It is, we think, beyond question that a great and long continued prevalence of murderous violence in any self governing city is proof positive that the reputable elements of the population—the majority in brains, character, property and social influence—have been grossly neglected, for such a majority has only to unite for good government and it can command a majority of voters.

NEITHER of New York's senators, Platt and Depew, were invited to the whitehouse wedding.

HAVE YOU TRIED

the new Quick Desserts that grocers are now selling? They are justly termed "Easy to Make" as all ingredients are in the package. Three complete products—

D-Zerta

Quick Pudding and D-Zerta Perfect Jelly Dessert at 10c. per package, and D-Zerta Ice Cream Powder, 2 packages for 25 cents. Five choice flavors of each. A trial will convince you how easy it is to have the finest desserts with no labor and little expense. Order to-day.

PAINS IN THE BACK.

Are the signs of the deranged Kidneys. And as the Kidneys are the most important organs in the human body except the heart, and have more work to perform than any other of the organs, these first symptoms of approaching disease should be heeded.

Krine's Kidney Pills are a specific for Kidney and Urinary troubles and will cure quickly by supplying that which Nature lacks, thus assisting nature in its important functions, of filtering the poisons from the blood. One month's treatment one dollar, at Krumrine's Pharmacy. If not benefitted ask for your money back.

Centre County Banking Co.
Corner High and Spring Streets.
RECEIVE DEPOSITS; DISCOUNT NOTES.
J. M. SHUGGERT, Cashier.

A Genuine Clearance Sale of Wall Paper—Miles of It.

In one and two room lots, to make room for a large stock of Spring goods now coming in.

All dainty, artistic and up to date designs, that sell at sight; be convinced by calling and seeing for yourself.

Picture Framing a specialty. With all the modern conveniences for making them, and the finest assortment of mouldings to select from at extremely low prices.

Furniture Polishing, the kind that's always reliable. Window Shades, Curtain Poles, Mirrors, Pictures, Paints, Oils, Glass.

JAP-O-LAC and SAP-O-LIN Varnish Stains, a very handy and reliable article to have about the house; comes in a variety of colors and any one can use it.

All these things and many more too numerous to mention at the largest store of its kind in Central Pennsylvania.

Eckenroth Bros., :: : Bush Arcade,
Belleville, Pa.

OF A TRUTH The Big Piano Sale OF M. G. GEPHART

29 S. Allegheny St., Aikens Block, Goes Merrily On.

Never in the history of Piano selling in Belleville and Centre county have such values been known as we are giving, and never have there been so many fine pianos sold in so short a time as we have sold here during the past ten days, and THE END IS NOT YET.

We have had to duplicate the orders we had placed for pianos almost daily, in order to fill the demand as well as to replenish the various styles and makes as they have gone out.

You have such noted high grade makes to select from as the Knabe, Behr Bros., Brambach, Haines Bros., Hobart M. Cable, Briggs, Schomacker Boston, and other standard makes, and we guarantee to furnish you the piano of your choice at lower cost than you can procure it elsewhere.

Don't be deceived by glowing pretenses and exaggerated statements, or fictitious prices.

We have fully and conclusively demonstrated to the public that worth and merit win; that pianos are not pianos; that to represent a piano truthfully and place it in its proper class is honorable and trustworthy; that misleading representations—rating a medium grade, or a low grade, or a stencil piano, if you please, at an exorbitant price, and finally selling it at far more than its real worth—will not go with the people. That it is a well established fact that there is not a dealer within the State of Pennsylvania who gives the values we are giving you right now.

A piano is the most costly article which you place in your home, and you expect to buy but one in a lifetime.

Before you buy your piano, we ask of you to call and inspect our fine pianos and get prices, and be convinced. Seeing is believing.

We have a large number of Organs, piano case and cottage styles, such as the Estey, Tanaad & Voley, etc., recently taken in exchange on piano sales, at very low prices.

Second-hand and slightly used Pianos from \$75 up.

Terms to suit your convenience.

PHONE OR ADDRESS
M. C. GEPHART
29 SOUTH ALLEGHENY ST. BELLEFONTE.

IF YOU HAD A NECK
As Long as This Fellow.
SORE THROAT
ALL THE WAY DOWN
TONSILINE
WOULD QUICKLY CURE IT.
2½ and 5c. All Druggists.
THE TONSILINE CO., Canton, O.

CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH PENNYROYAL PILLS
Beware of Counterfeits. Refuse all Substitutes.
Safe. Always reliable. Ladies, ask Druggist for CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH in Red and Gold metal boxes, sealed with blue ribbon. Take no others. Beware of cheap imitations and imitations. Buy of your Druggist, or send 4c. in stamps for Particulars, Testimonials and "Relief for Ladies," in letter by return Mail. 10,000 Testimonials. Sold by all Druggists.
CHICHESTER CHEMICAL CO.
9100 Madison Square, PHILA., PA.
Mention this name.