

## HIS VALENTINE.

Ah! Will she be my valentine,  
 And dare I hope for, yes!  
 And will she in these arms recline  
 While kisses I impress?  
 Or shall my wandering missive be  
 Received with cold disdain;  
 And thus bid every hope to flee  
 And leave despair remain?

Long have I waited for this hour  
 That grants to all the right,  
 To use the poet's vivid power,  
 To tell of fond love's might.  
 To pour forth all the heart's desire  
 In burning words of rhyme;  
 To tell to what you dare aspire  
 In thoughts that are sublime.

Ah! Should I be a coward though  
 Thus fearing to declare  
 My love to her whom I have sought  
 My hearth and home to share.  
 In a direct and fond appeal  
 On bended knees before,  
 And swear that I would take for weal  
 Or woe, for evermore.

How foolish that such thoughts should rise  
 To haunt me while I wait;  
 To cause distrust of her I prize  
 To make me fear my fate.  
 No thought have I that by delay  
 I've lost all that seems so dear:  
 Or that some other one might say  
 "Be mine my life to cheer."

I'll bid the thoughts begone from me,  
 Bid Hope her pinions spread;  
 And shame, distrust, and cause to flee  
 All doubt, all fear, all dread.  
 For how can she who surely knows  
 My heart is all her own,  
 Thus to some other one dispose  
 Of that which I would own?

## MORAL.

Delay and cowardice receive  
 Their just reward at last;  
 For, by St. Valentine, I grieve  
 To say his hopes were past.  
 No more dare he now hope to gain  
 His darling's kind regard:  
 For he received with just disdain  
 Her thanks and wedding card.

## A CORRECTION.

In the next to the last paragraph of the article on the Stereoscope in February FREE LANCE there was an omission of several lines, which completely obscures the meaning of the paragraph, and, to a considerable extent, of the entire article, since this paragraph was partly a summary approaching a conclusion. The explanation is left obscure, or, rather, false, from the sequence of clauses arising from the omission.

After "Hence one set of criteria;" insert *the mathematical, light, and aerial perspectives which the artist has cunningly used, tells us that the objects are solids, while the other criterion, etc.*

Also, in line 12, column 1, page 269, for conveyed, read converged; omit and in second line of same column many typographical errors (forming grammatical errors) the reader will readily correct.

## FRANKLIN'S MISSION IN FRANCE.

THE treaty of Paris, concluded in 1763, left England by far the most powerful of all nations. Under the guidance of the "elder" Pitt her arms had won successive victories in both hemispheres, had crippled or broken the power of all rivals, and left Britannia more truly a "mistress of the world" than ever before or since. Thus had ended the struggle in which France had been the chief adversary of Britain, and dominion in the New World the chief prize to be gained. And the power of France was so completely crushed, that upon the verge of bankruptcy, and despoiled of all hope of western empire, she could only helplessly nurse her old bitter feeling for the Briton and await the opportunity for revenge.

In the meantime George III. had ascended the English throne, and his tory obstinacy