

A Valentine.

Go, Cupid, and lay sweet heart tell
I love her well
Yes, though she stamps on my heart
And sends that bleeding thing apart;

And further say I have a shod,
Cushioned in blue and painted red
The grocery man has promised I
Can "hitch" whenever I give by;

For the Day.

Love is like a rose-bud
hid behind a thorn;
Love is like a moon flower
frightened at the morn.

Tricks but make it sweeter,
Warms but makes it grow;
Quarrels make but fester
Love's returning glow.

Not despite shall sever
My fond heart and thine!
Believe me, Love, forever,
Thy true Valentine.

Love Runs Riot on St. Valentine's Day.

SOME TIME-HONORED CUSTOMS.

Hail, Bishop Valentine, whose day is near.
Since the whole civilized world is engaged
in the pleasing task of sending or receiving
the favors of love—and according to the universal sentiment
all the world loves a lover—we will welcome
the annual festival of the saint, and his chief assistant, Cupid.

Each little bird this time,
Both choose her loved peer,
Which constantly abide
In wedlock all the year.

A custom that stamps itself upon the nations,
and continues to exist even under unfavorable circumstances,
is worthy of careful investigation if only to establish its antiquity.
We find on referring back to the earliest Christian era
that St. Valentine's Day did not originate with the good St. Valentine,
who was a priest of Rome, martyred in the third century.
That name was bestowed upon the heathen feast of Pan and Juno,
known as the Lupercalia, celebrated in ancient Rome during the month of February,
and attended by scenes of disgraceful revelry.
By giving the pagan festival a saint's name,
it was sanctioned to the use of people, and became a simple and harmless occasion of popular amusement.

The young people of England and Scotland kept St. Valentine's Day for many centuries by an ancient lottery custom,
which was very entertaining and seldom abused in its usage.
On the eve of that day all the lads and lasses gathered in their best attire,
and prepared a number of slips of paper on which each one wrote his or her name in a real or disguised hand,
which was then rolled up and deposited in a hat, to be drawn from in the way of lots.
Each person drew two valentines, but the maid who drew could not choose,
one of the two valentines being privileged to choose her,
her second valentine drawing another maid.
In this way all were provided with partners for the dancing and festivities which followed.

The customs of St. Valentine's day are alluded to by Chaucer, Shakespeare and an earlier writer, Lydgate, who sung its praise in 1400.
In the Pepys diary, written during the reign of Charles II., that cranky historian of social frivolities wrote:

"My wife did show me with great pleasure her stock of jewels increased by the ring she had made lately as my valentine gift,
this year a turkey-stone with diamonds."

Sir Walter Scott deals with the custom in his "Fair Maid of Perth," where Catherine leaves her chamber on St. Valentine's morning and finding Henry asleep gives him a kiss.
Whereupon, the glover, one of the characters of the story, says: "Come into the booth with me, my son, and I will furnish thee a fitting theme.
Thou knowest the maiden who ventures to kiss a sleeping man wins of him a pair of gloves."
This pretty concession to the custom Catherine accepts.
Charles Lamb wrote a flowery invoca-

tion to Bishop Valentine, whom he thus quaintly and merrily apostrophizes:—"Thou comest attended with thousands and tens of thousands of little loves, and the air is brushed with the hiss of rustling wings."
Singing cupids are the choristers, and instead of the crossier, the mystical arrow is borne before thee.
In other words, this is a day on which the charming little missives called valentines cross and intercross each other at every street and turning.
The weary postman sinks beneath a load of delicate embarrassments not his own.
In these little visual interpretations no emblem is so common as the heart—that little three-cornered exponent of all our hopes and fears; the bestuck and bleeding heart; it is twisted into more shapes than an opera hat.
What authority we have in history or mythology for placing the headquarters and metropolis of Cupid in this anatomical seat, rather than any other, is not clear.
We might easily imagine upon some other system which might have prevailed, a lover addressing his mistress thus: "My liver and heart are entirely at your disposal."
But custom has awarded the seat of sentiment to the afore-said triangle, while its less fortunate neighbors wait at anatomical distance.

The valentines of to day are very much like the valentines of the past, for they express the same idea to which Josh Billings referred in his inimitable way: "Luv is the same divine sentiment, no matter how you spell it."
It is neither the spelling nor the poetry that captivates the youthful imagination, but the daring expression of affection which can be announced in a valentine, but in no other way.
No breach of promise can have ever resulted from the sending of a valentine.
Such a proposition as this would never be considered in a court of law, although it may count for much in the court of love:

My valentine wilt thou be,
Accept this heart so true;
I lay bestow a thought on me,
For I love only you.

There are years when the custom of sending valentines falls almost into disuse.
The year 1896 is not one of these.
The valentines in the shop windows are prettier and more enticing than ever, and the mails are overflowing with tributes sent to a distance by loving friends as tokens of remembrance for the occasion.
The bashful lover buys one that will fully express his sentiments, gets a chum to direct it, hires a small boy to ring the doorbell of "her" home, and give it into her own hands, and is radiantly happy next day when he sees it admired, and hears her overdone comments as to who could possibly have sent it.
Sometimes a flask of choice perfume, or a dainty lace handkerchief, a pair of evening gloves, or a fan—gifts quite permissible under the chaperonage of St. Valentine—is sent with the valentine.
A box of flowers with a valentine card is a pretty reminder of the day.

The valentine party, which is a revival of olden times, is well observed in late years, and valentine luncheons and dinners among the young people are frequent even in Lent, for a feast that has for its patrons a bishop cannot be regarded as exactly a secular affair.
The card of invitation and menus for these occasions are in the forms of hearts, and answer the double purpose of a favor and a valentine.

There is a superstition to the effect that the first person met on St. Valentine's morning is the true valentine, and stories are told of fair ladies of the olden days who walked abroad with an attendant and kept their eyes securely closed until an eligible gallant appeared.

A modern poet has recorded the custom in rhyme:

There is a legend golden—
Clear in my thought it shines—
That she who's first beholden
On sweet St. Valentine's

Shall be to him who chances
Her features to divine
The fond one of his fancies—
His bonny valentine.

One evening as Mohammed, after a weary march through the desert, was camping with his followers, he overheard one of them saying, "I will loose my camel and commit it to God."
The prophet then immediately exclaimed, "Friend, tie thy camel and commit it to God."
We cannot expect an indulgent Providence to make up for our neglect of proper effort.
No amount of faith is an excuse for laziness.

A Boy who Could and Would.

I know a boy who was preparing to enter the junior class of the New York University.
How was studying trigonometry, and I gave him three examples for his next lesson.
The following day he came into my room to demonstrate his problems.
Two of them he understood, but the third—a very difficult one—he had not performed.
I said to him, "Shall I help you?"

"No, sir; I can and will do it if you give me time."

I said: "I will give you all the time you wish."

The next day he came into my room to recite another lesson in the same study.

"Well, Simon, have you worked that example?"

"No, sir," he answered; "but I will do it if you will give me a little more time."

"Certainly; you shall have all the time you desire."

I always like those boys who are determined to do their own work, for they make our best scholars and men, too.

The third morning you should have seen Simon enter my room.
I knew he had it, for his whole face told the story of his success.

Shadows Needed.

"Wrong, wrong!" cried a child, tearfully.
"My copy lies before me; mountain, meadow, lake, and forest are faithfully drawn, line by line.
Why is my sketch a failure?"

The elder sister glanced over the child's shoulder.
"True," she said, "mountain, meadow, lake and forest are skilfully imitated, yet the picture is not complete.
Look again; have you forgotten nothing?"

The child examined her work more closely.
Her face suddenly brightened; the tears dried on her cheek.
"Ah!" she said with joy, "I have discovered my mistake; I forget the shadows! Now," she continued, adding a few dark lines—"now my picture is perfect."

Even thus, no life, however beautiful, is complete without its shadows.
We would, if we could, have naught but sunshine; but Christ, the great and loving Master, fills in the shadows, and makes the picture perfect in the Father's eyes.
—The Good Way.

Magistrate (to witness):—"I understand that you overheard the quarrel between the defendant and his wife?"
Witness:—"Yes, sir."
Magistrate:—"Tell the Court, if you can, what he seemed to be doing."
Witness:—"He seemed to be doin' the listenin'."

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TORONTO DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES are held as follows, every Sunday:—

West End Y. M. C. A., Corner Queen Street and Dovercourt Road, at 11 a. m.

General Central Y. M. C. A., Cor. Spadina Ave. and College Street, at 1 p. m. Lecturers—Messrs. Naamith, Bridgen and others.

East End meetings, Cor. Parliament and Oak Streets, at 11 a. m. every Sunday.

BIKES CLASSES—Every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, corner Spadina Ave. and College Street, and cor. Queen Street and Dovercourt Road. Lectures, etc., may be arranged if desirable. Address, 273 Clinton Street.

HAMILTON DEAF-MUTE ASSOCIATION

Messrs. GRANT AND DUFF conduct religious services every Sunday, at 3 p. m., in Tremble Hall, John St. north near King.

The Literary and Debating Society meet every Friday evening at 7:30, in the Y. M. C. A. Building, corner Jackson and James Sts. President, J. R. Byrne; Vice-President, Thos. Thompson, Secy., Treasurer, Wm. Bryce; bergt-at-arms, J. H. Mosher.

Meetings are open to all routes and friends interested.

Grand Trunk Railway.

TRAINS LEAVE BELLEVILLE STATION:

West—3:15 a. m.; 4:30 a. m.; 11:55 a. m.; 5:15 p. m.

East—1:05 a. m.; 2:30 a. m.; 11:05 a. m.; 12:25 p. m.; 6:00 p. m.

MALDEN AND PATERSON BRANCH—3:45 a. m.; 7:40 a. m.; 12:45 p. m.; 5:10 p. m.; 8:55 p. m.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Classes:—

SCHOOL HOURS.—From 9 a. m. to 12 noon, and from 1:30 to 3 p. m.
DRAWING CLASS from 3:30 to 5 p. m. on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons of each week.
GIRLS' FANCY WORK CLASS on Monday and Wednesday afternoons of each week from 3:30 to 5.
SIGN CLASS for Junior Teachers on the afternoons of Monday and Wednesday of each week from 3:30 to 5.
EVENING STUDY from 7 to 8:30 p. m. for senior pupils and from 7 to 8 for junior pupils.

Articulation Classes:—

From 9 a. m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p. m. to 3 p. m.

Religious Exercises:—

EVERY SUNDAY.—Primary pupils at 9 a. m. and senior pupils at 11 a. m. General Lecture, 2:30 p. m., immediately after which the B. C. Class will assemble.

EACH SCHOOL DAY the pupils are to worship in the Chapel at 8:45 a. m., and the teacher in charge for the week, will open by prayer and afterwards dismiss them until they may reach their respective school rooms later than 9 o'clock. In the afternoon, 3 o'clock the pupils will again assemble after prayer will be dismissed in a quiet orderly manner.

CLERGYMEN (CLERGYMEN)—Rev. Canon Burke, Right Rev. Monsignor Farrelly, Rev. T. J. Thompson, M. A., (Presbyterian); Rev. H. S. Baker, (Methodist); Rev. A. Cowart, (Baptist); Rev. M. W. Maclean, (Presbyterian); Rev. Father O'Brien.

BIKES CLASS, Sunday afternoon at 3:15, International Series of Sunday School Lessons. Miss ANNIE MATHISON, Teacher.

Clergymen of all Denominations cordially invited to visit us at any time.

Industrial Departments:—

PRINTING OFFICE, SHOP AND CARPET SHOPS from 7:30 to 8:30 a. m., and from 1:30 to 3:30 p. m. for pupils who attend school; those who do not from 7:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. and from 1:30 to 3:30 p. m. each working except Saturday, when the office and shops will be closed at noon.

THE SEWING CLASSES HOURS are from 9 a. m. to 12 o'clock, noon, and from 1:30 to 3 p. m. those who do not attend school, and from 3:30 to 5 p. m. for those who do. No sewing on Saturday afternoons.

The Printing Office, Shop and Sewing Room to be left each day when work is done in a clean and tidy condition.

Excuses are not to be excused in various classes or Industrial Departments except on account of sickness, without permission of the Superintendent.

Teachers, Officers and others are not allowed matters foreign to the work in each interfere with the performance of the several duties.

Visitors:—

Persons who are interested, desirous of visiting the Institution, will be made welcome any school day. No visitors are allowed Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays except the regular chapel exercises at 2:30 on school afternoons. The best time for visits on ordinary school days is as soon after 12 in the afternoon as possible, as the classes are dismissed at 3:00 o'clock.

Admission of Children:—

When pupils are admitted and parents are with them to the Institution, they are advised not to linger and prolong the taking with their children. It only makes discomfort for all concerned, particularly the parent. The child will be tenderly cared for, and if left in our charge without delay will be quite happy with the other inmates in some cases in a few hours.

Visitation:—

It is not beneficial to the pupils for friends to visit them frequently. If parents do come, however, they will be made welcome to the class-rooms and allowed every opportunity of seeing the general work of the school. We cannot furnish lodging for our entertain guests at the Institution, the accommodation may be had in the city at the Quinze Hotel, Huffman House, Queen's, and American and Dominion Hotels at moderate rates.

Clothing and Management:—

Parents will be good enough to give all directions concerning clothing and management of their children to the Superintendent. Correspondence will be allowed between parents and employees under any circumstances without special permission on each occasion.

Sickness and Correspondence

In case of the serious illness of pupils letters or telegrams will be sent daily to parents and guardians. IN THE ABSENCE OF LETTERS FROM PARENTS OR GUARDIANS THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE OF THE CHILDREN.

All pupils who are capable of doing so will be required to write home every three weeks. Letters will be written by the teachers for little ones who cannot write, teaching, as far as possible, their wishes.

No medical preparations that have to be used at home, or prescribed by family physicians will be allowed to be taken by pupils except with the consent and direction of the Physician of the Institution.

Parents and friends of deaf children are warned against Quack doctors who advertise their cures and appliances for the cure of deafness. In 999 cases out of 1000 they are swindlers and only want money for which they give no return. Consult well known medical practitioners in cases of deafness and be guided by their counsel and advice.

R. MATHISON, Superintendent