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French and Irish Embroidered Hemstitched,
From 10c. to \$3.00 each.

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French Silk Bolting Cloth, Hand Embroidered,
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For 1890

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The standard of the Magazine is high, its spirit progressive, The illustrations are interesting and of the best.

There is not space here to give even a summary of the features to appear next year, but among other things there will be a **NEW DEPARTMENT** and **ADDITIONAL PAGES**, and groups of illustrated articles will be devoted to the following subjects:

- African Exploration and Travel,
- Life on a Modern War Ship (3 articles),
- Homes in City, Suburb, and Country,
- Providing Homes through Building Associations,
- The Citizen's Rights,
- Electricity in the Household,
- Ericssohn, the Inventor, by his Authorized Biographer,
- Hunting,
- Humorous Artists, American and Foreign.

There will be 3 serials. Robert Louis Stevenson will contribute in 1890.

Each subject, and there will be a great variety this year, will be treated by writers most competent to speak with authority and with interest. Readers who are interested are urged to send for a prospectus.

25 cents a number; \$1.00 for 4 months.

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HOW ABUSE KILLS A CUSTOM.

St. Valentine Observances Die Out and Reappear from Time to Time.

That St. Valentine's day observances began by reason of man's observation of nature, continued as matter of sentiment, and finally degenerated into mere fun, too often tinged with ill-natured satire, is known to all well-informed persons, and is, in fact, true of nearly all social customs. In the most southerly regions of Europe and adjacent parts of Asia and Africa signs of coming spring were apparent at that season, and so the birds were thought to choose their mates for the year on that day.

Simple, innocent notion, wasn't it—and suggestive apparently of the most tasteful acts of tenderness. But observe how easily all human customs run into abuses. At first youths and maidens chose their partners ("Valentines") on that day for the approaching festivities, school children exchanged tender messages and little presents were sent to loved ones. But in no long time the great began to expect cecily presents from their dependents and the wealthy used this as a sort of disguise for corrupting judges or securing the favor of the powerful.

"Gifts to Caesar" were a sort of forced tax in Rome, and at one time a hard pressed creditor or criminal might take a sort of hari-kari revenge on his pursuer by despoiling everything he had to the emperor. In Paris, at one time, with St. Valentine's day and Easter gifts, life became a burden to those who had more money than influence. Great bales of rich merchandise, gloves stuffed with gold coins, and even fine carriages were put up in egg-shaped or heart-shaped packages and sent to those whose favor was sought. When an abuse or a fashion reaches its worst reform follows, and so a general revolt puts an end to the Valentine business for a time.

In the United States the abuse first took the form of ill-natured satire. Valentines with coverings as much like the tender ones as possible were sent to the person one wished to wound or insult—the contents being scurrilous doggerel. At length this, too, reached a point where it became almost unbearable; and now, though "comic valentines" are still used, they are externally quite different from the sentimental ones, and are usually treated with silent contempt. But on looking over a lot of the old sort one is amazed to note the many devices of those who pandered to malice.

There are snakes with human heads, owls, dogs, donkeys and dozens of other creatures, all fixed to represent some supposed meaning of the poet. Every trade and profession is caricatured—but the most scurrilous letter natured. Politicians, lawyers and doctors generally "catch it" most unmercifully. The "poetry" of these productions is simply execrable. An "expert" who examined several thousand specimens testifies that he did not find one above the lowest level of doggerel.

All these, and the abuses in the sentimental line, produced the natural result: Valentines are now left to children and servants, and even with them the sentiment has mostly given place to merriment. As to sending a "comic" valentine to a lady or gentleman, would as soon think of stealing a sheep. The law has also stepped in; Uncle Sam says you must not use his mails for a scurrilous valentine. So the custom must die out for awhile—to revive in the future, as other customs have done.

Send Flowers.

Flowers are always a graceful and pleasing compliment to pay to a lady, and for those who wish to mark this saint's day by an offering at the shrine of some fair one no better emblem could be made. An engaged man, whose estate, by the way, has been described as resembling that of Mahomet's coffin, hanging between heaven and earth, is not limited to flowers and airy paper nothings. He may offer jewels to his fiancée, if his bank account admits of the necessary outlay. But if, like the majority of men, his heart is bigger than his purse, he may send her a pretty heart-shaped mirror, with the inscription, "My heart is filled with thee," or a plush mounted inkstand and gold pen, or some one of the fancy blotters, labeled, "Use this when writing to me," and then he will do a double service, for her little brother will also probably use it on the challenge he writes to the boy across the way to skate him five miles.

Valentine's Morn.



"Do they expect young ladies to climb up to the letter boxes! And why couldn't they make 'em a little bigger while they was about it?"—Life.

She Still Listens to Tales of Love.

Why is it that St. Valentine's day is not observed as it was half a century ago? Is it because the young men and maidens have got beyond it, that they are more intellectual than formerly? One feels inclined to hold that the decadence of Valentine's day and of the customs proper to it suggests a change in the attitude of young men to young women—a decline in the chivalrous respect and politeness which used, I think, to mark their manner towards them. Young men seem, nowadays, to stray into so many paths, and flatter more for les petits soins which it is becoming in them to offer and pleasant for young women to accept. It may be that the progress of the higher education among our girls and maidens may have frightened our present day Corydons and Alexises into their frigid aloofness. What!—send a valentine to a learned girl graduate?

Impossible! Ah, believe me, the intellectual cultivation of woman will never crush her affections, the expansion of her heart will keep pace with the expansion of her mind. She will still blush at the whisper of love, she will still be true and faithful to the vows of her maidenhood, though in the future she will insist, I think, that a man shall give her of his best—his purity, his steadfastness and his honor. She will disdain the emptiness of flattery; she will cease to be deceived by externals; she will demand in her lover an intellect not less cultivated than her own, sympathies not less generous, tastes not less refined, aims not less exalted. But she will retain her tender nature, her capability of self sacrifice, her grace and gentleness and inexhaustible love; and she will still delight—if it be worthy of him who sends and of her who receives—in a valentine.

ONLY TO SEE HER FACE AGAIN.

Published through The American Press Association, by permission of Newhall and Evans' Music Co., 171 West 4th St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Words and Music by JAMES E. STEWART.

Moderato.
1. On - ly to see her face a - gain,
2. On - ly to see her face a - gain.

ma A tempo.
On - ly to hear her speak,.... On - ly to see her smile once more,.... On - ly to hear her Fair as the stars a - bove,.... On - ly to hear one lit - tle word,.... On - ly one word of

legato. rit. ma A tempo.
speak,.... She was as fair as a - ny flow'r, Full of beauty and of love;.... Sad was the night when we part - ed, Down by the old trying

staccato.
grace,.... One lit - tle wish is all I ask, On - ly to see her face..... place,.... Where last we kissed our sad fare - well, On - ly to see her face.....

CHORUS.
mf a tempo. rit. D.S.
On - ly to see her face a - gain, Full of beauty and of grace; One lit - tle wish is all I ask. On - ly to see her face.

mf a tempo. mf rit.
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ALL ORDERS SENT C. O. D.

Notice. THE STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss. Lancaster county, Nebraska. In the District court, Lancaster county, Nebraska. J. B. Trickey, et al., vs. Charles Ohenstain. The above named Charles Ohenstain will take notice that on Friday, the 28th of February, 1890, the said J. B. Trickey, et al., will take the deposition of Edward L. Trickey, a witness to be used as evidence on the trial of the above entitled cause, at the office of W. H. Hart, 226 Montgomery street, San Francisco, California, between 8 a. m. and 4 p. m. T. C. MUNGER, Plaintiff's Attorney.

James Mathers, his heirs and devisees, will take notice that it has been shown to me, S. T. Cochran, a justice of the peace in and for Lancaster county, Nebraska, that the judgment rendered in the action of Hass and Zoh against James Mathers for the sum of \$45.51 and \$3.33 costs, against the defendant, before A. G. Scott, a justice of the peace in and for Lancaster county, Nebraska, on the 27th day of May, 1875, has become dormant by lapse of time, and is unpaid. It is therefore ordered by me that unless you appear at my office on March 19th, 1890, at 4 p. m., and show cause against said revival, the said judgment will stand revived. S. T. COCHRAN, Justice of the Peace. Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 6, 1890.

WEDDING

INVITATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, BALL PROGRAMS, MENUS, ETC.

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