



The STORY of CUPID

ST. VALENTINE'S Day perhaps is the least understood of all the days of the year that have special significance. It is popular, it is observed, swains a legion make it the occasion for sending tokens to their lady loves, yet not many know why.

Everybody knows that Christmas means, or independence day, Thanksgiving day, Easter, bit the origin of St. Valentine's day, or even its meaning, is a riddle but few have solved.

It is one of the oldest of the holidays. Only Christmas and Easter go further back into antiquity. These days have been observed ever since there was religion. But all the rest of the holidays are but infants beside the February occasion when betrothed, affianced and beloved love tokens are sent on their sentimental journeys.

St. Valentine's day began somewhere about the opening of the third century. It is a quaint combination of religion and sentiment. It represents the dual worship of a great man of the church and cupid, the mischievous patron and saint of love.

It was a queer beginning for a great holiday that people should have united on the same day to honor St. Valentine and Cupid. No more dissimilar deities could be found.

St. Valentine was an early day martyr. He died for the church and in commemoration of his goodness and piety the Holy See set aside February 14 as the day on which the faithful should do honor to his memory.

On this day it became the custom to hold a love feast, which became known as the Feast of Lupercalia. It was at first a peculiar religious observance modeled somewhat on the love feasts that are still held in many churches, in which members of the congregation break bread with each other, as a sign of peace and good fellowship.

Eventually the young folks passed from the purely religious feature of the holiday, and began to give it a somewhat peculiar tone. From loving your sister as a fellow believer in the tenets of the church was not a far step from loving her with the sort of sentiment that usually leads to the altar.

So in place of merely breaking bread together, according to the simple form of old, the young men inaugurated the custom of sending beautiful gifts to the women of their hearts. It was easy to do this without fear of reproach, for custom prescribed that which came on St. Valentine's day, with all the gentle sentiments of love and Christian brotherhood that the festival inspired.

Thus in a gradual way Cupid had come to usurp the place that St. Valentine had once held all alone, and what was originally a time of prayer gradually transformed itself into the season when love sent out its messengers and pleas.

The wise old fathers of the church fought this merging of the religious with the secular, but the idea had taken a firm hold on the people, and was not to be easily abolished.

For a long time the worship of the day was fairly divided between St. Valentine and Cupid. First, the people would send up a prayer for the martyr. Then, this duty discharged, they would assemble in the public squares, the maids forming in line, and youths standing by in laughing eagerness.

One by one the girls would file up to a huge wooden box affixed to a pole and drop in the opening a slip of paper with her name written thereon. When every girl had deposited her slip, the youths would file up and draw each one a slip. With palpitating hearts would they read the names drawn, for to the maiden thus given to them by good St. Valentine they must be faithful for one year.

Frequently the girl thus drawn, known as a "valentine," became the wife of the man to whose lot she had fallen, before the expiration of the year of service. The custom lasted through many centuries.

St. Valentine gave the excuse for these sentimental exchanges, but Cupid reaped the actual profit. In point of antiquity, Cupid was far the senior of St. Valentine, though the latter is also pictured in the dignity of a gray beard, while Cupid is a mere sprig of a boy, with bow and arrows. St. Valentine's era was some 20 centuries back. Cupid reaches into the dimmest mist of the antiquities. In fact, there never was time when Cupid did not exist.

The little god himself sent the first valentine of which there is any record, though it wasn't the kind of mischievous that now comes through the mails in a big square envelope.

The first valentine was a rather crude sort of love message, for it gave pain, but Cupid had an excuse. He lacked other means of reaching the affections of the obdurate Psyche,

WRITTEN BY ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Springfield Feb. 8, 1859
Dear Sir
I have been scanning your Bulletin and enjoying the case some today. There is some confusion in the description of the bow as given in the Bulletin, which I suppose comes by mistake. It enables me to correct the, before flying the Bulletin, some on an exactly accurate description of all the things. I do not think any correction will be necessary among the anti, and consequently, no bow in a century except the ordinary bow for cost, a bow for which I have written some you. Have the bow, filled, and mounted by some one for whose responsibility you can stand, and send it back to me. Was our man actually in possession of the bow at the time it was conveyed by Henry to "Dear Sir"? Are we obliged to put "Dear Sir" on the anti? Can we not put on "Dear Sir"? Please excuse these questions when you write me.
Yours as ever
Abraham Lincoln

An autograph letter of Abraham Lincoln, writer more than half a century ago to his life-long friend, Thomas J. Turner, of Freeport, Ill., afterward a colonel in an Illinois regiment, is here reproduced as an object of national interest.

The value of this letter to the families to whom it has descended—like an apostolic succession—may be estimated from the fact that it has passed from dead to dead to be a sacred charge in the Turner generations, the

Famous Illinois Tavern. As Wallace Saw Lincoln.

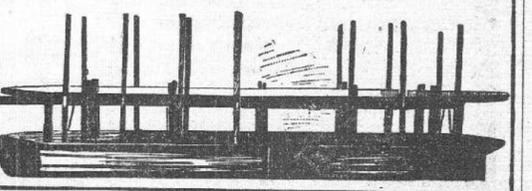
Where Lincoln, When a Circuit Riding Lawyer, Swapped Stories.

With the demolition of the old Kelley tavern, torn down to make room for a barn, there passed one of the famous old hostilities of Illinois. Built in 1829, the old tavern became the stopping place of all west bound travelers, it being the only hotel between Danville and Urbana on the state road.

For years it enjoyed great popularity, especially during its ownership by Joseph Kelley, who operated it from 1840 until 1864. During the '50s it was the regular stopping place of the old time circuit riding lawyers, among whom were Abraham Lincoln and Judge David Davis. Both Lincoln and Davis were warm friends of Kelley, whose ready wit and great fund of stories made him a favorite with both men.

Often Lincoln's coming, being heralded about the surrounding country, drew scores of farmers to the hotel, and not infrequently residents of Urbana drove down to enjoy the contest between the two great story tellers. However well equipped with new material was Mr. Kelley he always found himself vanquished by Mr. Lincoln, whose fund of anecdotes seemed inexhaustible. Old residents say that the two champions frequently told stories almost all night, Lincoln sitting in an immense armchair, with wide rockers and a buffalo robe cushion, known to the household as "Abe's chair." The old chair is still in the possession of the Kelley family, one of its most cherished heirlooms.

MODEL OF LINCOLN'S ONLY PATENT



One of the most valuable of the government's unique collection of patent models, the finest in the world, is No. 6,469, granted May 22, 1849 to Abraham Lincoln for method of lifting vessels over shoals. The device consists of the application to a river steamer, of two or more collapsible floats made

Lincoln Eminently Fair.

Gen. Taylor was triumphantly elected, and it became Lincoln's duty, as a member of congress from Illinois, to recommend certain persons to fill government offices in that state, says Helen Nicolay in St. Nicholas. He did this after he returned to Springfield, for his term in congress ended on March 4, 1849, the day that Gen. Taylor became president. The letters that he sent to Washington when forwarding the papers and applications of people who wished appointment were both characteristic and amusing; for in his desire not to mislead or to do injustice to any man, they were very apt to say more in favor of the men he did not wish to see appointed than in recommendation of his own particular candidates.

This absolute and impartial fairness to friend and foe alike was one of his strongest traits, governing every action of his life. If it had not been for this, he might possibly have enjoyed another term in congress, for there had been talk of reelecting him. In spite of his confession to Speed that "being elected to congress, though I

MOUNTAIN GUIDES FAIL HER.

Miss Peck Will Make Another Attempt Upon the Highest Andean Peak.

Miss Annie Peck, whose chief pleasure is climbing mountains, has returned to New York from Peru, beaten in her attempt to climb the highest of the Andes, beaten not by the mountain itself, but the worthlessness of the men she employed as guides and porters on the expedition. She is convinced that she would have reached the summit but for the faults of her men and says she is going back with Swiss mountain men to make another attempt.

As it was she reached a height of 18,000 feet, being then about 2,000 feet above the summit. This was at her first attempt. One of her men deserted and the rest got drunk on the alcohol which was carried as fuel for cooking. Besides they were all afraid of the trip and especially as they approached the top of the mountain, of which they have a superstitious dread.

The second attempt was like the first, except that the men gave out sooner and so less progress was made before the attempt had to be abandoned.

FEARFUL BURNING SORES.

Boy in Misery 12 Years—Eczema in Rough Scales, Itching and Inflamed—Cured by Cuticura.

"I wish to inform you that your wonderful Cuticura has put a stop to twelve years of misery I passed with my son. As an infant I noticed on his body a red spot and treated same with different remedies for about five years, but when the spot began to get larger I put him under the care of doctors. Under their treatment the disease spread to four different parts of his body. The longer the doctors treated him the worse it became. During the day it would get rough and form like scales. At night it would be cracked, inflamed, and badly swollen, with terrible burning and itching. When I think of his suffering, it nearly breaks my heart. His screams could be heard downstairs. The suffering of my son made me work of misery. I had no ambition to full to eat, nor could I sleep. One doctor told me that my son's eczema was incurable, and gave it up for a bad job. One evening I saw an article in the paper about the wonderful Cuticura and decided to give it a trial. I tell you that Cuticura Ointment is worth its weight in gold, and when I had used the first box of Ointment there was a great improvement, and by the time I had used the second set of Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Resolvent, my child was cured. He is now twelve years old, and his skin is as fine and smooth as silk. Michael Steinman, 7 Summer Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., April 16, 1905."

State Prison Makes Money.

The Connecticut state prison for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1906, established a new record of revenues. Earnings from productive labor aggregated \$57,411, while receipts from various other sources swelled the total income to \$61,015. This showing, representing nearly 74 per cent of the operating expenses of the institution, surpasses the income exhibit of any previous year, and enabled the prison management, despite the high cost of supplies, to limit to \$22,861 its drafts upon the state treasury.

A Harmless Laxative.

If you must take a laxative, take a harmless one. Lax-Fos does not grip, therefore does not irritate. Irritation is what does the harm. Price 50 cents.

HICKS' CAPUDINE CURES ALL AGES.

Observe what direction your thoughts and feelings most readily take when you are alone, and you will then form a tolerably correct opinion of yourself.—Bengel.

Be honest in your business relations. It pays to be honest.

CHINESE HAD FIRST ZOO.

Institution of Menageries Was Due to Two Incentives.

The Chinese had the first zoo. Menageries are thought to owe their origin partly to the cult of sacred animals and partly to the ambition of rulers to possess specimens of rare and valuable creatures from foreign lands or savage beasts from their own. In the simplest forms zoological gardens were one of the earliest developments of culture, and were familiar to the Chinese, Indians, Greeks, Romans, and pre-Spanish Mexicans in ancient times.

The oldest recorded menagerie is Chinese, dating from 1150 B. C. The den of lions kept by Darius, as described in the book of Daniel, is an example of one of those primitive menageries, while the cult of sacred white horses by the ancient Greeks and Romans and that of so-called white elephants in Burma and Siam are instances of a second type. A live giraffe was received at the menagerie of Schonbrunn as early as 1828.

By Endless Chain.

"Speaking of the endless chain prayer that is going the rounds," said the woman with the cheerful voice, "I can't see what good that can do, unless, maybe, it might start some poor wretch on the road to glory, but I got an awfully nice silk petticoat through an endless chain once. The manufacturers sent letters asking for five names and a ten-cent piece. I sent five names and the ten-cent piece, not thinking much about it, just trying it, and it wasn't long before they sent me this lovely silk petticoat. It was the nicest sort of silk, too. As long as I wore it it didn't crock."

Caution.

Imitations have been placed upon the market so closely resembling Allcock's Plasters in general appearance as to be well calculated to deceive. It is, however, in general appearance only that they compare with Allcock's, for they are not only lacking in the best elements which have made Allcock's so efficient, but are even harmful in their effects. Remember that Allcock's are the original and only genuine prous plasters—the best external remedy known—and when purchasing plasters the only safe way is to always insist upon having Allcock's.

Ownership of National Banks.

The ownership of the national banks of the United States is not in the hands of the rich few, as is commonly supposed, because fully one-half of the banks have a capital of less than \$100,000 each. Twelve per cent have capitalizations of from \$100,000 to \$250,000, while only seven per cent range between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000.

There are more ways than one by which a woman can get even with a man. One way is to marry him, and another is not to.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY
Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. Drug stores return money if it fails to cure. Dr. W. GUYE'S signature is on each box. 2c.

Don't be too sure of the man who boasts of being sure of himself.

HICKS' CAPUDINE CURES ALL AGES. And Nervousness. Trial bottle 10c. All drug stores. A. N. K.—F (1907-6) 2164.

Demand for Freight Cars. With 2,000,000 freight cars in use in this country, the daily cry, the hourly cry is "More cars, more cars!" New cars are put in service almost before the paint on them is dry.

NERVOUS HEADACHES

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Will Cure Most Cases and Should Interest Every Sufferer.

Nobody who has not endured the suffering caused by nervous headache can realize the awful agony of its victims. Worst of all, the ordinary treatment cannot be relied upon to cure nor even to give relief. Some doctors will say that if a person is subject to these headaches there is nothing that can be done to prevent their recurrence.

Nervous headaches, as well as neuritis, are caused by lack of nutrition—the nerves are starved. The only way to feed the nerves is through the blood and it is in this way that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have accomplished so many remarkable cures.

Mrs. Addie Merrill, of 39 Union Street, Auburn, Me., says: "For years I suffered from nervous headaches, which would come on me every five or six weeks and continue for several days. The pain was so severe that I would be obliged to go to bed for three or four days each time. It was particularly intense over my right eye. I tried medicines but got no relief. I had no appetite and when the headache passed away I felt as if I had been sick for a month. My blood was thin and I was pale, weak and reduced in weight."

"I read about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in a paper and decided to try them. I first noticed that they began to give me an appetite and I commenced to gain in weight and color. My headaches stopped and have not returned and I have never felt so well as I do now."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all druggists or sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cents per box, six boxes \$2.50, by Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Biliary Colic, Headache, Neuralgia, Stomach, Gravel, Rheumatism, Backache, Pain in the Mouth, Costive Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature. REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

A Positive CURE

Ely's Cream Balm. Is quickly absorbed. Gives Relief at Once. It cleanses, soothes, protects the diseased membrane. It cures Catarrh and drives away a Cold in the Head quickly. Restores the Senses of Taste and Smell. Full size 50 cents, at Drug Gists or by mail; Trial Size 10 cents, by mail. Ely Brothers, 54 Warren Street, New York.

Snowdrift

Hogless Lard. None anywhere near so good, so pure, so economical, so satisfactory. U. S. Government Inspected.

THE VALUE OF PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE

Personal knowledge is the winning factor in the culminating contests of this competitive age and when of ample character it places its fortunate possessor in the front ranks of

The Well Informed of the World.

A vast fund of personal knowledge is really essential to the achievement of the highest excellence in any field of human effort.

A Knowledge of Forms, Knowledge of Functions and Knowledge of Products are all of the utmost value and in questions of life and health when a true and wholesome remedy is desired it should be remembered that Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., is an ethical product which has met with the approval of the most eminent physicians and gives universal satisfaction, because it is a remedy of

Known Quality, Known Excellence and Known Component Parts and has won the valuable patronage of millions of the Well Informed of the world, who know of their own personal knowledge and from actual use that it is the first and best of family laxatives, for which no extravagant or unreasonable claims are made.

This valuable remedy has been long and favorably known under the name of—Syrup of Figs—and has attained to world-wide acceptance as the most excellent family laxative. As its pure laxative principles, obtained from Senna, are well known to physicians and the Well Informed of the world to be the best we have adopted the more elaborate name of—Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna—as more fully descriptive of the remedy, but doubtless it will always be called for by the shorter name of—Syrup of Figs—and to get its beneficial effects, always note, when purchasing the full name of the Company—California Fig Syrup Co.—printed on the front of every package, whether you call for—Syrup of Figs—or by the full name—Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

LOUISVILLE, KY. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., U.S.A. LONDON, ENGLAND. NEW YORK, N.Y.



TO MY VALENTINE

By Miss Kathryn C. Wheeler.

Shy violets coming 'mid the cold of winter,
Opening their timid buds in sweet surprise,
Are not one half as brave, or fair, or lovely,
As those which blossom, dear, within your eyes.

Soft fragrance, falling on the tired senses,
Like summer breath, o'er golden days depart,
Hath not so rare a share of Heaven's sweetness,
As hath your spirit's gentle grace, sweetheart.