A New Year's Romance.

The swish of a blue dress, a faint breath of violets, as in passing, and he felt rather than saw Marie Summerfield go by.

Standing a little apart from the knots of merry young people thronging the pleasant rooms, he was conscious of a thread of pain running through the last night of the old year, touching only Miss Summerfield and himself.

By he I mean Leigh Reyburn, the owner of the old-fashioned, low roomed grange, beneath whose roof the young people of Gladbrook had gathered to keep a merry watch-night. With music and laughter and gay repartee they meant to dance a welcome to the joyous New Year without much thought for the stalled [illegible] which had served them so faithfully.

But Leigh [illegible] imploring glances after the blue gown, all to no purpose. Marie [illegible] ed with the [illegible] Ma[illegible] Davenport and [illegible] her [illegible] and [illegible] able.

[illegible]

He caught his breath a little. He could not tell just how it came about, never clearly understanding, but that night so much like this, and New Year's Eve, too, marked the beginning of their diverging paths which came together again after awhile!

Tomorrow was the glad New Year again. Would its happy greetings be only mockery to him?

Suddenly a thought, which had smoldered in his mind for days, flashed up like a gleam of heavenly light, radiating his whole being.

She was coming home tonight on the late train; and he was so hungry to see her; only God knew how famished of heart he was!

He would take the down town train, get off at Rockland when she changed cars for Gladbrook. No one could prevent him from riding home in the same coach with her; and even that would be a blessed comfort. Then, maybe, something would come of it. Who knew?

In fifteen minutes he was inside his great coat, and locking the hall door, with a nervous, glad excitement stealing over him, like the coming of a new day. A ten-minutes' walk brought him to the station.

"Going away for the New Year?" queried the agent pleasantly, handing Reyburn the required pasteboard.

"O, a little way," he replied, absently, pulling on his gloves.

Scarcely had he settled himself in the outward bound train than Joe Antrim thumped him on the shoulder and sang out: "Hullo! Going away on a blow-out, I suppose? Well, so am I. Some are going away, and some are coming home."

In the awkward silence which followed Joe's voluble introduction, he seemed to read Reyburn's thoughts, for, without looking further for reply, he began again: "Miss Summerfield is coming tonight, they say; and they say, too, that she is bringing her best fellow with her. Gladbrook looks for a wedding at the Summerfield home tomorrow. But, of course, I don't know; it is only gossip, maybe."

Having thus delivered himself, Joe Antrim, without waiting for reply, betook himself to the smoker, leaving Reyburn in just the state of mind he intended, half-way between insanity and desperate intent.

But by and by Reyburn's mind cleared to Joe's last sentence. Only gossip. Of course that was all; but Joe was mean to hash it over, to him of all persons, and in such an insinuating manner, too. Well, he would go on to Rockland now if he met her complete bridal party; he would see for himself, and if it was all true, why, he would not go home that night, and perhaps Gladbrook would never see him again.

At Rockland he had only a few minutes to wait between trains, and already the home bound one was waiting on a side track. Purchasing his ticket he ensconced himself where he could plainly see the passengers leave the cross train.

"Now for the bridal party, at least the bride and groom," he said, trying to be jocular with himself, although his face was very white and his mouth twitched nervously.

[illegible]

study. Presently she gasped out: "Then you aren't to be married tonight?"

The interrogation snapped the last thread holding Leigh Reyburn's great love in reserve.

"Marie, darling! Could you — did you think — O, Heaven! as if I could love anyone but you! O, Marie!"

The whiteness of her face was terrible to see, but it all dawned upon her at once.

"I — I — O, Leigh!" she put out both her hands, and two great tears stole down her cheeks to finish the sentence more eloquently than words.

When the train stopped at Gladbrook, a very happy couple alighted. And out across the moonlit snow, from the belfry bars of the gray stone church came the merry chime of bells:

"Ring out the old, ring in the new,
The year is dying, let it go."

"Ring in the new," said Leigh, drawing her arm through his. "The years of misunderstanding are dead; let them go, dearest."

"We will," she answered, softly and happily.

And Joe Antrim laughed in his sleeve, and said to the bright New Year morning: "I am glad I set those two simpletons right by a bit of strategy. A little prevarication, ahem! But all is fair in love and war."

Thoughts for New Year.

"Happy New Year! I wish you a Happy New Year!" The words go ringing through the house, upstairs and down, like some glorious chime. And as I wish to be in the general rejoicing, I, too, wish everyone a Happy New Year, and especially my Household Realm friends.

Why should we not rejoice and be happy together? The old year was a happy one, but may not the new year be happier still? Is not this the season for new beginnings?

When the old page of life is blotted and soiled with mistakes and erasures, we are glad to get to the bottom of the page and turn a clean, fresh leaf, and one of the greatest charms of the new year is, that it marks a time for turning over a new leaf. The old year may have been one of hope and disappointment, but the beginning of the new year is full of hope and anticipation. It is a chance to commence over again. No wonder then that it is a season of good resolutions as well as happy wishes; yet these same good resolutions are often the very rocks upon which many bright hopes are shipwrecked.

Do not "swear off" on too many faults at once. It is dangerous, and I will tell you why.

In the first [illegible] of a new beginning our hopes run high and we feel equal to anything. I doubt whether there are as many noble thoughts in mind on any other day in the year as upon New Year's day. Mistakes are to be remembered, faults are to be left in the background, and bad habits cast to the four winds. There is no thought of failure. Is not this a new beginning? Good resolutions are made by the yard, and the first days of the new year are full of energy and noble purposes. We are treading upon clouds.

But alas! for poor, weak human nature. Our clouds part in the middle and we come down with a thump. The mistakes which we thought could be so quickly remedied loom up before us like mountains. Faults stubbornly refuse to stay in the background, and habits cling to us [illegible]. Is it any wonder that we are weak and disheartened [illegible]

[illegible]

A Whirl of Revelry.

[illegible]

Driving Out "Evil One."

[illegible]

The Japanese New Year [illegible] the Chinese [illegible] of January. [illegible] The ceremony of [illegible] throwing is a leading feature in the preparation for this holiday. There is a superstition prevalent among the Japanese that there may be evil spirits in the house which must be driven out before the dawn of the new year.

Accordingly, on the last night of the old year the house is swept and cleaned and the windows are hung with ferns. Then the house father, arrayed in his very best clothes, goes through all the rooms, the little ones of the family [illegible]

[illegible]

Even the Worm Will Turn.

[illegible]

Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list:

No. 4.

Tenant house and two lots with 100 feet frontage on Saginaw St., and 9? feet deep. Cellar, well, cistern, etc. Price $550. Electric cars pass the door.

No. 1

[illegible]

No. 3.

[illegible]

No. 5.

Elegant house and lot 66 feet front and 20 rods deep on Maple Ave. East, [illegible] Fine barn and every modern convenience. Furnace, bath, closet, etc. [illegible] for what the buildings cost. [illegible] improved city property for portion of the purchase price.

No. 6.

The VanEvery farm on the north shore of Wing Lake, [illegible] two good houses, [illegible] barns, fine lake frontage, [illegible] acres fine orchard, 16 acres timber. Excellent fishing, boating and bathing. Terms easy.

No. 7.

The J. K. Quick homestead in Birmingham with 14? feet frontage on Saginaw St. and about 150 feet deep. New modern dwelling, good barn, fine lawn, shrubbery and small fruit. Electric cars pass the door every half hour for Detroit and Pontiac. [illegible] Owner [illegible] We will make it an object for anyone to investigate this bargain. Make us an offer.

No. 8.

One of the best farms in Oakland county. It is almost enough to say when we tell you that it is the John [illegible] farm in the town of Troy. 120 acres, excellent buildings, two good flowing wells. Carp pond well stocked. 9 miles of tile, fine orchard, 5 miles from Birmingham, 2 miles straight south of Troy corners, where there is a church, store, postoffice, school, etc. Price low and terms easy.

No. 9.

Excellent farm on Gilbert Lake, about three miles from Birmingham. Good buildings, fences in good shape and everything in good repair. Lovely location on the lake and fine fishing, boating and bathing. 1?? acres of as fine farming land as there is in the county of Oakland. Will exchange in part for good improved city property. Thirty acres of good heavy timber. Terms very easy.

No. 10.

Large roomy two story house on Townsend St. in Birmingham, good barn, city water and all ordinary conveniences, 1?? feet front and 103 ft. deep. Small fruit and good neighborhood.

No. 11.

The old Shutes farm in the township of Troy, one mile east of Birmingham, 50 acres, all cleared, 7 acres of the finest orchard, good house and two barns. All the advantages of the village and none of the inconveniences. There are other things, too. Come and find out all about it.

No. 12.

The Bailey farm in the town of Troy, 12? acres. Good farm house and farm buildings, flowing well at the barn which is the wonder and pride of Troy, 20 acres good beech and maple timber, 4 acres fine grafted orchard. Circumstances render it advisable to sell at once and the man who comes first will secure one of the best bargains in the country. Look it up.

No. 13.

[illegible]

No. 14.

Two hundred and fourteen acres in sections 13 and 18 Southfield, with finest farm buildings in the township. Large and productive orchard of all kinds of best varieties of fruit. 30 acres of very heavy timber. Will sell or exchange for city property and will divide the two farms if required. Buildings on each tract. Price as low as any on our list, all things considered. Ask us about it.

No. 18.

A small farm of five acres, being part of the [illegible] $1,200. [illegible] pure water [illegible] the barn [illegible] other purposes [illegible] excellent soil [illegible]

No. 19.

A farm of [illegible] in the township of Ross[illegible] cleared. [illegible] Barn worth [illegible] per acre, [illegible] at 6 per [illegible] for a poor [illegible] short time.

No. 20

This includes [illegible] of the [illegible] addition [illegible] face out [illegible] D & P [illegible] on easy [illegible] We also [illegible] 31 and 32, [illegible] Oak, at $20 per lot.

No. 21

The Corson Homestead on Maple Ave., consisting of lots 6, 7 and 8 of Willits's plat, being 3? x 116½ feet each, 100 feet front on Maple Ave. one of the most valuable residence portions of the village. A good comfortable house and good barn, with a pie room for a garden. Fine shade trees and best neighborhood in the village. Frontage along this locality on Maple Ave. is worth $1 per front foot, that would make $4,50?. Now, owing to the fact that Mr. Corson wishes to sell and sell right away, he will take $3,500, and it ought to be spot cash at that, but that can be arranged so that the terms need not worry you at all.

No. 22.

One hundred and [illegible] township of [illegible]

No. 25.

The Torrington place [illegible]

No. 2.

Farm of 30 acres, well fenced, well watered—never-failing stream; 10 acres timber, [illegible] miles from Bloomfield Center and electric railway to Detroit and Pontiac. Terms easy.

No. 23

It was formerly known as the "Wilde Farm" and contains about 100 acres of excellent land, well adapted for grazing or crops. It has about three quarters of a mile frontage on both sides of Woodward Ave., adjoining the village of Birmingham on the north. The cars of the Detroit & Pontiac Electric Railway run each way every half hour and the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad traverses the entire length of the farm. It has suitable buildings, good fences and a pretty brook of clear cold water runs through the meadow land, furnishing a never-failing supply for stock. This place must be sold within 90 days and we have put the very lowest possible price upon it which we can entertain. It can be bought for $10,000, one fourth cash and balance on easy terms. Think it over and let us know what your thoughts are, only don't wait too long, for 90 days is the limit.

No. 26

One of the finest farms in the grand old township of Bloomfield, celebrated alike for its fine scenery and productive soil. It is the "Hart farm," about halfway between Birmingham and Pontiac and just far enough from the Electric Railway to take advantage of all its conveniences and not be inconvenienced. 140 acres gravelly loam, [illegible] acres of the best [illegible] land in the state, [illegible] peach trees, [illegible] brick house [illegible] wind mill, barn [illegible] good school near the farm [illegible]

No. 27.

[illegible]

No. 28.

[illegible]

No. 29.

[illegible]

No. 30.

[illegible]

No. 31.

[illegible]

No. 32.

[illegible]

No. 33.

[illegible]

No. 34.

[illegible]

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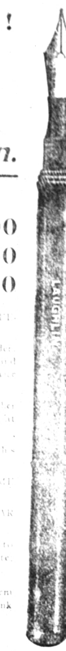

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[illegible]

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[illegible] prevalent [illegible] Varicocele. As it interferes [illegible] loss of semen through the [illegible] in the back, nervousness, [illegible] palpitation [illegible] constipation, and a [illegible] Loss of Manhood. Thousands of young and middle [illegible] Stricture. If you have reason to believe you [illegible] neglect it. [illegible] Don't let doctors experiment [illegible] Our New Method Treatment [illegible] and can never return. We cure [illegible] without operation or loss of time. The treatment [illegible] Send for our Free Illustrated Book on Varicocele, Stricture and Gleet. **We guarantee to Cure or No Pay.**

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All sexual complaints affect these organs, hence the kidneys are a great source [illegible] Have you aching or weakness over the small of the back, tendency to [illegible] frequently, deposit in urine, coldness of hands or feet, a drowsy feeling in [illegible] morning. Don't neglect your kidneys. Our **New Method Treatment** [illegible] to cure any disease of these organs or no pay.

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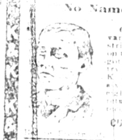

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