STRANGE BUT TRUE.

THE STORY OF OLD REGINALD AND THE HONEST BURGLAR.

[CONCLUDED]

"The cream jug is electro. The coffee pot with sugar basin and salver may be worth five and forty pounds."
"That's near enough. I'll take 'e m.
Here is a flimsy for fifty quid."
And he handed Old Reginald a bank note for that amount.

"Still I don't quite understand---"I wan't you guv'nor, to be so good as to leave your bedroom window open tonight and place that salver and them silver traps where I can get them handy. I shall have cracked my crib, bagged my swag, and made myself safe until my turn comes round again."

"Certainly," said Old Reginald, holding up the note to the light. "But let Sewer me ask, how can you afford to pay, so handsomely for your depredations?"

There are a dozen on us, air. Each of us cracks a crib once in four months and each swage at least fifty pounds worth-often more, but at least that. After each plant, the profits are divided. Last quarter, the tweive cribs we cracked brought us in eleven hundred pounds -that's ninety pounds odd a piece. When my turn comes, I pay a fair price for the fifty pounds worth I swag (for i have been honorably brought up) and I gets forty pounds to the good. And forty pounds a quarter is a hun- are especially adapted for dred and sixty pounds a year. And I lives on it. Sometimes it's more-now

and then it's less, but wotever it is, I lives on it." And the honest fellow took a receipt for the note and departed. Old Reginald was as good as his word. He left his bedroom window open and placed the salver where the Honest Hurgiar could readily find it. The

Honest Burgiar was as good as his word, and at two o'clock in the morning he came and found it. So fag all was simple and straightforward-enough. Bus now comes the curious and incredible part of my story. The fifty pound note was part of the proceeds of a previous burglary. The

number of the note was known, and traced to Old Reginald who had to account for its being in his possession.

Now the twelve burgiars had in the meantime been arrested by the police (this is also incredible) and were con-demand to penal servitude for life. So Old Reginald had no hesitation in stating the facts as I have stated them.

No one believed him as no one will believe me. So he appealed to the Honest Bur

But the Honest Burglar having dis-covered that the whole thing, coffee pot, salver and all, was the commonest electro, was so shocked at Old Reginald's dishonesty, that not only did he feeline to corroborate his story, but actually, and, I think, very properly, identified him as an accomplice. And Old Reginald was also sentenced

to penal servitude, and he and the Hon-eas Burglar worked for many years together on the same works and had many opportunities of talking the matter over from its moral, social, and political points of view.—London Pun.

[From Scribner's Monthly.] THE STORY OF A VALENTINE.

When my friend Captain Terrible, U. S. N., dines at my plain table, I am always a little abastred. I know that he has been accustomed always to a variety of wines and sauces, to a cigarette after each course, and a cookery The Celebrated Wood Cookthat would kill an undeveloped Ameri can. So, when the Captain turns the castor round tares times before select-ing his condiment, and when his eyes seem to be seeking for Worcestershire sauce and Burgundy wine, I feel the poverty of the best feast I can furnish

I am afraid veteran magazine readers will feet thus about the odd little story I have to tell. For I have observed of late that even the short stories are highly seasoned, and I cannot bear to dis- FOR SALE IN SALT LAKE CITY BY appoint readers. So, let me just honestly write over the gateway to this story a warning. I have no Cayenne pepper.
No Worcestershire sauce. No cognac. Co-operative Mercantile Instin No broken hearts. No lovers' quarrels. No angry father. No pistois and coffee.

No arsenio, No laudagum. No
shrewd detectives. No trial for murder. No "heartless coquette." No "deep-dyed villain with a curing mustache." Now if, after this warning, you have the courage to go on, I am not respon-

Hubert said I might print it if would disguise the names. It came out quite inchentally. We were discussing the woman question. I am a "woman's righter." Hubert—the Rev. Hubert Lee, I should say, pastor of the "First Church," and, indeed, the only church in Allenville—is not, though I flatter myself I have made come impression on him. But the discussion took place in Hubert's own house, and, wishing to give a pleasant turn at the end, I suppose, he told me how, a year and a half before, he had "used up" one woman's rights man, who was no other than old Dr. Hood, the physician, who has had charge of the physical health of Hubert and myself from the

health of Hubert and myself from the beginning. Unlike most of his profession, the doctor has always been a radical, and even the wealth that has come in upon him of late years has left him quite as much of a radical, at least in theory, as ever before.

Indeed the old doctor is not very inconsistent in practice, for he has educated his only daughter, Cornella, to his own profession, and I believe she took her M. D. with honors, though she has lately spoiled her prospects by marrying. But socially he has become a little aristocratic, seeking an exclusive association with his wealthy neighbors. And this does not look very well in one who, when he was poor, was practically bitter on "a purse proud to the Time to Buy! The Note is the in one who, when he was poor, was practically bitter on "a purse proud aristogracy." I suppose Hubert felt this. Certainly I did, and therefore I enjoyed the conversation that he repeat-

enjoyed the conversation that he repeated to me all the more.

It seems that my friend Hurbert had been away at the seminary for three years, and that having at last conquered in his great battle against poverty, and having gained an education in spite of difficulties, and having supplied a city church acceptably for some months during the absence of the paster in Europe, he came back to our native village to he came back to our native village to rest on his laurele a few weeks, and decide which of the three rather impecunious calls he would accept. When just about to leave he took it into his head for some reason to "drop in" on old Doctor Hood,

Doctor Hood.

It was nine e'clock in the morning, and the Doctor's partner was making morning calls while the old gentleman sat in his office to attend to any that might seekhis services.

This particular morning happened to be an unfortunate one, for there were no agus shaken patients to be seen, and

no ague shaken patients to be seen, and there was not even a case of minor surgery to relieve the tediousness of the morning office-hour. Perhaps it was for this reason, perhaps it was for the sake of old acquaintance, that he gave Hubert a most cordial reception, and launched at once into a sea of vivacious Cornella, who was in the office, d harself on the ground that she amming for her final examinand sealed herself at the window or book.

m affaid I take your time, die aid Hubert. , no, I am giving up practice to stoor, Dr. Henk, and shall give i him in a year or two." him and Miss Chrystia!" querie to laughing. For it was current

To be continued.

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