

# THE RED AND THE WHITE ROSE

A STORY FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE.

By F. A. MITCHEL.  
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BEATRICE MARTINDALE was tired out with the holiday gayeties, and to cap the climax now came an invitation to attend a New Year's eve party. It was not a small affair to see the old year out, but a ball. True, at midnight each guest was to stand, glass in hand, and drink to the new year, but there was to be dancing in both years and no breaking up before dawn.

The New Year's party was to be an especially eventful one to Miss Martindale in this—she had agreed on New Year's eve to give Simon Munger an answer to a proposal of marriage he had made her. He had been promised that he might call upon her for the purpose of receiving it, but when invitations for both came for the ball she told him that she would give it to him on that occasion.

Miss Martindale felt that she should accept Mr. Munger because he was rich. Nevertheless she didn't wish to accept him, because that scapegrace, Tom Oakley, had stolen her heart.

"I fear," said Mr. Munger, "that I may not have an opportunity to get your reply at the ball."

"You'll need none," she said. "A ball is not the place in which to talk



"I couldn't give you up," he said. about such matters. I'll indicate my reply by a sign."  
"What sign?"  
"Well, let me see. If it is 'Yes' I'll wear a red rose in my hair; if 'No,' a white one."

How Tom Oakley got hold of this agreement no one ever knew. His sister was the intimate friend of the bosom friend of Miss Martindale, and some say that the intelligence came to him through this chain of girls. But it doesn't matter how he got it. The important fact is that he knew all about it, and he knew as well that if the lady's answer was "Yes" it would not be because she loved Mr. Munger, but because he, Tom Oakley, was not exactly an eligible party. Furthermore, he realized that a crisis in his life was at hand which might make or mar him. If Munger's reply was "No" there was still hope for him. If it was "Yes" he felt sure the lady would not go back on her word.

Now, though Tom wasn't invited to the ball, he felt that he must be there. So on New Year's eve he put on a dress suit that was getting threadbare, together with all the assurance he could call up, and shortly before midnight, when the affair was in full swing and the presence of an uninvited guest was not likely to be noticed, he walked in among the dancers, casting his eyes about him for the girl he loved.

Not seeing her, he strolled through the rooms, hoping to find her. He saw Munger among the revelers and knew that he and Beatrice were not together. Entering a little room which was apparently vacant, he saw a foot laced in a kid slipper peeping from behind a curtain. Cautiously approaching, he espied the girl he sought sitting on a window seat asleep. There was a troubled expression on her face. In her hand she held a red and a white rose. Tired out with the holiday festivities, she had sought a secluded spot wherein to make up her mind, and nature had given her slumber.

Persons approaching caused Mr. Oakley to move on, and his mind moved on too. It was but some twenty minutes to 12 o'clock, and he knew that just before 12 the guests would be assembled in the supper room, the electric lights would be turned off for the last sixty seconds of the old year and when they were turned on again his rival would be looking for the token of his acceptance.

Either some one must have aroused Miss Martindale or she must have awakened herself, for at five minutes before 12 Tom saw her in the supper room standing with the others holding a glass in her hand.

Now, during the previous ten or a dozen minutes Tom had procured something that he carried up his coat sleeve. It was not the ace of hearts, but it was nevertheless a trump. Sliding around by the wall, he managed just before the lights were turned out to obtain a position directly behind Miss Martindale, she being unaware of his presence there. When darkness came he felt her back hair and by the sense of touch knew that she was putting a rose there. He waited till she had time to fix it in the coil, then took it out and pulling a rose from his sleeve put it in the place of the one he had removed.



Suddenly a burst of light showed Mr. Munger, who was awaiting the announcement of his fate on the other side of the room, a white rose in Miss Martindale's hair. He immediately left the premises and returned to his home. Tom Oakley looked down at what he held in his hand and saw a red rose.

"Beatrice!" he said. Miss Martindale turned and saw him behind her.  
"Come with me," he continued. "I have something important to say to you."

She put her hand up to her hair and, feeling a rose there, slipped the hand through his arm, and he led her to the window where he had found her asleep.

"I couldn't give you up," he said, "without a fight. I stood behind you just now, removed the rose that was to have accepted Munger and put a white one in its place. Say the word and I will go at once to find him and tell him that the token was not the one intended."

She pulled the flower from her hair and looked at it.  
"Oh, Tom!"  
"Shall I go?"

She stood irresolute. Gradually her head sank on his breast, he put an arm about her waist, and the red rose dropped on the floor.

## WHY JAN. 1 STARTS YEAR.

That Date Fixed by King Numa of Rome 700 Years Before Christ.

Legend ascribes the fixing of Jan. 1 as New Year's to King Numa Pompilius, who is supposed to have reigned in Rome 715-672 B. C. He it was who is believed to have founded the temple of Janus and many other Roman institutions. The reason given for Jan. 1 is connected with Janus Bifrons, the two faced god, the idea being that at that time the year looked both forward and backward. According to our calendar Jan. 1 is ten days too late for this interesting two faced observance, but what is a matter of ten days more or less to a legend more than 2,500 years old?

Numa was a most interesting king, according to traditions, noted alike for his wisdom and piety. He succeeded Romulus, gave the Romans their ceremonial law and, with the help of the sacred nymph Egeria, rounded the religious institutions of the people. He reigned for thirty-nine years, and this period was a golden age of peace and prosperity. He stands out in Roman legends as little less than an aviator. So the date of Jan. 1 as New Year's comes from ancient and honorable parentage.

1913 JANUARY 1913						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



AVIATORS should resolve to quit falling out in winter. Frozen ground is hard. Skaters should resolve to keep away from air holes and thin ice, not only because the water is cold, but it muzzes up the skating pond. This also applies to politicians. Porch climbers and yeggmen should resolve to wipe their feet and wear gloves. Leaving tracks and finger prints is a bad habit. Those on the water wagon should resolve to stay on at least two full days—no double entendre intended on the word "full." This "off again, on again" habit is apt to stretch the conscience. Those not on the water wagon should resolve to learn the song of "Stick, Brothers, Stick," before climbing aboard. Those making dates should resolve to quit using the general delivery at the postoffice. Uncle Sam is taking up the role of a stern parent and may ask questions. Grocers' boys should resolve to quit kissing the hired girls. The delivery business is apt to take too much time from their social pleasures and to tear them away before they are really through. Telephone girls should resolve to quit saying "Line is busy" and "They don't answer." It may grow into a habit. Old maids should resolve to forget it in 1913. By continuing to write it 1912 they can think it is still leap year.

All other persons should resolve to stop writing it 1912. It spoils stationery—and tempers. Women with abundant hair should resolve to quit boasting that it "falls to the floor" when let down. People may think it false. Stenographers should resolve to stop using paint. It is sometimes embarrassing for an employer to take a complexion home on his coat. Trust magnates should resolve to quit leaving their letter files where the editor may get hold of them. It is liable to overtax the explanation facilities of their political friends. Balldheads in the front row at the chorus should resolve to quit studying anatomy. That is a proper subject only for surgeons. Shopgirls should resolve to quit talking about their best young men while waiting on customers. The customers may become so interested that they will forget to make purchases. Floorwalkers should resolve not to take too lofty and patronizing a tone with mere men customers. Men who have to shop feel small enough anyway. Everybody should resolve to quit telling his troubles to other people. They may not only have troubles of their own, but may forget to keep the secret. The average citizen should resolve to quit talking politics. Election is over.

NEW YEAR'S IN RUSSIA. In some of these has only a religious observance. The same is true of Easter. Other holidays are for the most part national in character and are confined to their own countries. But New Year's in some form is celebrated in all lands and in not a few is the chief holiday of the year. It is not observed always on Jan. 1, the Chinese and Jewish New Year's being notable exceptions and the Russian festival being held on what to us is Jan. 12, owing to a difference in the calendar. Especially is the beginning of the year a time of festival in the orient. Nobody knows just how old the custom is, but it probably antedates history. In most Asiatic countries New Year's eve is a time for settling debts, wiping the slate clean for the succeeding twelvemonth. Ten drinking is naturally one of the chief forms of observance in China and Japan. There it is an art, and the ceremonial on New Year's is intended to outrank anything else in the pink tea line. The Japanese tea room is hidden away in some secluded part of the garden, and only a few of the elect are admitted. This, of course, refers to the private tea rooms, the public ones being frequented by Mr. Common People and all his wife's relations. The Japs eat from a large variety of dishes on this day, pliously offering samples of the foods to their gods. The day in Nippon is celebrated on Jan. 1, as with us.

The Chinese New Year, which is based on the moon and occurs in January or February, is like a prolonged and glorified Fourth of July, or rather as the Fourth was before it became safe and sane. It lasts for several days and is full of color, noise and action from start to finish. Firecrackers, Chinese lanterns, tea, feasting and carnival all play their part, and the new year is initiated in a way to put vigor into his young life. The popular greeting is "Kungchi," which is to say, "I humbly wish you joy," or "Shub-lit," "May joy be yours!" From this it will be seen that the Chinese have a "hi" old time. Not only do lanterns, but artificial flowers and red mottoes ornament the houses. Even in the United States the laundries are abandoned while the Celestials pay ceremonial calls and decorate everything in sight with red paper. Europeans also paint the town red on New Year's, only they do it in a different way.

New Year's is celebrated for thirteen days in Persia and is the most important festival of the year. It furnishes a precious opportunity for the beggars who camp on a man's doorstep and blow horns until he gives a present. The festival is called "No Roof" and combines our Christmas and Easter. Sweets are prepared long in advance, and eggs are boiled and colored. The observance begins on March 25, and for thirteen days thereafter business is suspended. Presents are given, among them being a coat of honor for important persons, for which a price is often exacted, much in excess of the value of the garment. Another "No Roof" custom is for delegations of Persians to visit the tombs of the departed and send up walls both loud and long.

New Year's is a great day for the children in the country towns of Russia. The boys carry peas and wheat, showering those they like with wheat and those they dislike with peas. Various domestic animals are gayly decorated and led about the streets. There is also a ceremony of changing water into wine, which is harmless enough, since it does not increase the wine supply. The great feature of the German New Year's is "Sylvester Abend," corresponding in some measure to our watch parties, except that more liquid refreshment is absorbed. The punch bowl is the center of attraction, but the punch is usually made of a mild Rhine wine and does little if any harm. It fares it with the man wearing a high hat on this night, for it is smashed with great enthusiasm. In Frankfort on the Main a pretty custom is observed. Promptly on the first stroke of 12 every shutter in town flies open and a head appears with the shout, "Prosit Neujahr!" It is as quick-



Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA. Fashion begets a lot of new wrinkles. Often when love at first sight leads to marriage, second sight is apt to lead to divorce. The man who can always tell you what is going to happen, can also tell you afterward why it didn't.

## NEW YEAR'S IN OTHER LANDS

NEW YEAR'S is the most universally celebrated of holidays. Christmas is practically confined to Christian countries and in some of these has only a religious observance. The same is true of Easter. Other holidays are for the most part national in character and are confined to their own countries. But New Year's in some form is celebrated in all lands and in not a few is the chief holiday of the year. It is not observed always on Jan. 1, the Chinese and Jewish New Year's being notable exceptions and the Russian festival being held on what to us is Jan. 12, owing to a difference in the calendar. Especially is the beginning of the year a time of festival in the orient. Nobody knows just how old the custom is, but it probably antedates history. In most Asiatic countries New Year's eve is a time for settling debts, wiping the slate clean for the succeeding twelvemonth. Ten drinking is naturally one of the chief forms of observance in China and Japan. There it is an art, and the ceremonial on New Year's is intended to outrank anything else in the pink tea line. The Japanese tea room is hidden away in some secluded part of the garden, and only a few of the elect are admitted. This, of course, refers to the private tea rooms, the public ones being frequented by Mr. Common People and all his wife's relations. The Japs eat from a large variety of dishes on this day, pliously offering samples of the foods to their gods. The day in Nippon is celebrated on Jan. 1, as with us.



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## In Wages or Profit

health, sooner or later, shows its value. No man can expect to go very far or very fast toward success—no woman either—who suffers from the headaches, the sour stomach and poor digestion, the unpleasant breath and the good-for-nothing feelings which result from constipation and biliousness. But just learn for yourself what a difference will be made by a few doses of

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Tested through three generations—favorably known the world over this perfect vegetable and always efficient family remedy is universally accepted as the best preventive or corrective of disorders of the organs of digestion. Beecham's Pills regulate the bowels, stir the liver to natural activity—enable you to get all the nourishment and blood-making qualities from your food. As sure as you try them you will know that—in your looks and in your increased vigor—Beecham's Pills

## Pay Big Dividends

The directions with every box are very valuable—especially to women. Sold everywhere. In boxes 10c., 25c.

## Want Western Man for Secretary of Interior

Helena, Mont., Dec. 31.—Believing the liberal and fair treatment accorded settlers and the domestic irrigation policy of the Canadian Interior Department is largely responsible for the exodus of farmers of the United States, the Northwest Development League, over the signatures of its officers, today sent a long telegram to President-elect Wilson, urging a Western man for the interior portfolio. While mentioning no names, two governors in the territory of the league have been mentioned for secretary of the interior and the league's telegram to the president-elect may be taken as endorsement of either Governor Norris, of Montana, or of Governor Burke, of North Dakota. President Penwell would not say the league had anyone in mind, but simply "we want a western man who understands the problems of the west—some one who will, when it is already within the power of the interior department, match the policies of a foreign country and help develop and settle our lands."

The telegram follows: Hon. Woodrow Wilson, President-Elect, Princeton, N. J.: W. W. Scott, superintendent of Immigration Department of Interior, Dominion of Canada, informs us 121,000 people came to his country from the United States last year, and estimates more will go the coming year. An estimate of their wealth by Mr. Scott places the same at \$150 per capita. With equal opportunities, so far as land is concerned, on this side of the

ly withdrawn, and the shutters are re-closed before the clocks have finished booming the hour. The French give Christmas a religious observance, so that New Year's is the great popular holiday. Gifts are exchanged and calls are made on Jan. 1 and all through the month. The English observance of New Year's is not largely different from ours, except that the old year is swept out by men and boys dressed as chimney sweeps and is rung out with muffled bells, which change to a clear and joyous note at the stroke of 12. It is to this custom that Tennyson refers in his "In Memoriam," so often quoted, "Ring out the old, ring in the new."

The crowds before St. Paul's in London on New Year's eve are even greater and more noisy than those before Trinity, New York, though people who have only heard the Gotham din may deem this impossible. New Year's is celebrated for thirteen days in Persia and is the most important festival of the year. It furnishes a precious opportunity for the beggars who camp on a man's doorstep and blow horns until he gives a present. The festival is called "No Roof" and combines our Christmas and Easter. Sweets are prepared long in advance, and eggs are boiled and colored. The observance begins on March 25, and for thirteen days thereafter business is suspended. Presents are given, among them being a coat of honor for important persons, for which a price is often exacted, much in excess of the value of the garment. Another "No Roof" custom is for delegations of Persians to visit the tombs of the departed and send up walls both loud and long.

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Development of our agricultural resources is the special work of this organization of commercial entities of the west. We want the help of your administration, and urge you to consider western men whose public services might suggest themselves to you before you name the secretary of the interior.

Figures Show Prosperity. The New Year's Oregon thus shows up some of the things showing Portland's wonderful progress: Portland's greatest expansion was reached in 1912, as indicated in the following statistics: Bank clearings, \$597,087,865.12, against \$557,464,848.17 in 1911. Postal receipts, \$1,108,128.42, against \$1,004,428.71 in 1911. Building permits, \$14,781,757 against \$19,152,377 in 1911. Lumber shipments, 276,942,223 feet, against 196,461,940 feet in 1911. In railroad activity, including new construction and betterments of the various roads, the total expenditure reached \$15,099,000. The cost of prospective railroad construction in 1913 is estimate at \$20,000,000.



## IT'S DADDY TALKING

"Hush, children; it's daddy talking." "Yes, Jim; we are all well and the children have been real good. How have you been? Coming home tonight? That's fine! It will seem good to see you again."

The business man who is obliged to be away from home brings joy to the family circle by cheery words over the telephone. The local and long distance Bell Telephone service keeps him always in touch with home conditions.

EVERY BELL TELEPHONE IS A LONG DISTANCE STATION. The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company