O. Henry Stories

V. A Retrieved Reformation.

(Convright by Doubleday, Page & Co.)



the prison shoe shop, where Jimmy Valentine was assiduously stitching uppers, and escorted him to the front office. There the warden handed Jimmy his par-

don, which had been signed that morning by the governor. Jimmy took it in a tired kind of way. He had nerved nearly ten months of a four year sentence. He had expected to play only about three months at the ongest. When a man with as many friends on the outside as Jimmy Valcotine had is received in the "stir" it is hardly worth while to cut his hair.

'Now, Valentine," said the warden, "you'll go out in the morning. Brace ue and make a man of yourself. You're not a had fellow at heart. Stop cracklog safes and live straight."

"Me?" said Jimmy in surprise. "Why, I never cracked a safe in my "Oh, no," laughed the warden, "Of course not. Let's see, now. How was

R you happened to get sent up on that Springfield Job? Was it because you wouldn't prove an allbl for fear of compromising somebody in extremely high toned society? Or was it simply a case of a mean old Jury that had it in for you? It's always one or the other with you innocent victims."

"Me?" said Jimmy, still blankly virtuous. "Why, warden, I never was to Springfield in my life!"

ske him back, Cronin," smiled the "and fix him up with outgoing clothes. Unlock him at 7 in the morning, and let him come to the buil pen. Better think over my advice, Val-

At a quarter past 7 on the next morning Jimmy stood in the warden's outer office. He had on a suit of the villatinously fitting, readymade clothes and a pair of the stiff, squeaky shoethat the state furnishes to its disciorged compulsory guests.

The clerk handed him a ratiroad

ticket and the five dollar bill with which the law expected him to rehabilitate himself into good citizenshi and prosperity. The warden gave him a cigar and shook hands. Valentine, 9762, was chronicled on the books "Pardoned by governor," and Mr. James Valentine walked out into the

Disregarding the song of the birds. the waving green trees and the smell of the flowers, Jimmy headed straight for a restaurant. There he tasted the first aweet Joya of liberty in the shape of a brolled chicken and a bottle of white wine, followed by a cigar a grade better than the one the warden had given him. From there he proceeded leisurely to the depot. He tossed a quarter into the hat of a blind man allfling by the door and boarded his Three hours set him down in a tii(le town near the state line. He went to the cafe of one Mike Dolan and shook hands with Mike, who was wione behind the bar.

Sorry we couldn't make it sooner, Jimmy, me boy," said Mike. "But we had that protest from Springfield to back against, and the governor nearly balked. Feeling all right?"

"Fine," said Hmmy. "Got my key?" He got his key and went upstairs, untocking the door of a room at the rear. Recrything was just as he had left it.



Colonido . He Gazed Fondly at the Finest Set of Burglar's Tools in the World.

There on the floor was still Ben Price's collar button that had been torn from that eminent detective's shirthand when they had overpowered Jimmy to arrest

Pulling out from the wall a folding bed, Jimmy slid back a ponel in the wall and dragged out a dust covered nult case. He opened this and gazed fondly at the finest set of burglar's set, made of specially tempered steel. the latest designs in drills, punches, him to have made at -, a place where | member,

they make such things for the profes-

In half an hour Jimmy went downstairs and through the cafe. He was now dressed in tasteful and well fitting clothes and carried his dusted and leaned suit case in his hand. "Got anything on?" asked Mike Do-

"Me?" said Jimmy, in a puzzled tone. "I don't understand. I'm representing the New York Amalgamated Short Snap Biscult Cracker and Frazzled Wheat company,"

This statement delighted Mike to such an extent that Jimmy had to take a seltzer and milk on the spot. He never touched hard drinks.

A week after the release of Valentine, 9702, there was a nest job of safe burglary done in Richmond, Ind., with no clew to the author. A scant \$800 was all that was secured. Two weeks after that a patented, improved, burglar proof safe in Logansport was pened like a cheese to the tune of \$1,500 currency; securities and silver untouched. That began to interest the ogue catchers. Then an old fashloned ank safe in Jefferson City became active and threw out of its crater an ruption of banknotes amounting to \$5,000. The losses were now high nough to bring the matter up into Ben Price's class of work. By comparng notes a remarkable similarity in the methods of the burgiaries was noticed. Ben Price investigated the scenes of the robberies and was heard to remark:

"That's Dandy Jim Valentine's autoruph. 'He's resumed business. Look at that combination knob-jerked out as easy as pulling up a radish in wet weather. He's got the only clamps hat can do it. And look how clean those tumblers were punched out! Jimmy never has to drill but one hole. guess I want Mr. Valentine, He'll do his bit next time without any hort time or clemency foolishness."

Ben Price knew Jimmy's habits. He ad learned them while working up he Springfield case. Long jumps, quick getaways, no confederates and taste for good society-these ways had belped Mr. Valentine to become noted as a successful dodger of retrioutlon. It was given out that Ben Price had taken up the trail of the dusive cracksman, and other people with burgiar proof safes felt more at

One afternoon Jimmy Valentine and ds suit case climbed out of the mail back in Elmore, a little town five miles. off the railroad down in the blackjack ountry of Arkausas. Jimmy, looking lke an athletic young senior just home from college, went down the board ddewalk toward the hotel.

A young lady crossed the street, passed him at the corner and entered door over which was the sign "The Elmore Bank." Jimmy Valentine looked into her eyes, forgot what he was and became another man. She lowered her eyes and colored slightly. Young men of Jimmy's style and looks vere scarce In Elmore.

Jimmy collared a boy that was loafng on the steps of the bank as if he were one of the stockholders and began o ask him questions about the town, ceding him dimes at Intervals. By and by the young indy came out, looking royally unconscious of the young man with the suit case and went ber

"Isn't that young lady Miss Polly Simpson?" asked Jimmy, with specious gulle:

"Naw," said the boy; "she's Annabel What'd you come to Elmore for? Is that a gold watch chain? I'm going o get a buildog. Got any more

Jimmy went to the Planters' hotel, egistered as Ralph D. Spencer and engaged a room. He leaned on the deak and declared his platform to the clerk. for a location to go into business. How was the shoe business now in the own? He had thought of the shoe bricks." usiness. Was there an opening?

The clerk was impressed with the lothes and manner of Jimmy. He duself was something of a pattern of ashion to the thinly gilded youth of Elmore, but he now perceived his

he people very sociable.

Mr. Spencer thought he would stop and funny clock and knobs. ever in the town a few days and look p his suit case himself. It was rather

Mr. Rafph Spencer, the phoenly that rose from Jimmy Valentine's ashesishes left by the flame of a sudden and alterative attack of love-remained in Elmore and prospered. He opened a shoe store and secured a good run'

Socially be was also a success and nade many friends. And he accomdished the wish of his heart. He met Miss Annabel Adams and became more and more captivated by her charms.

At the end of a year the situation of Ralph Spencer was this-be had won the respect of the community, his shoe store was flourishing, and he and Anunbel were engaged to be married in tools in the east. It was a complete two weeks. Mr. Adams, the typical, plodding, country banker approved of Sponcer. Ahnabel's pride in him albraces and bits, jimmies, clamps and most equaled her affection. He was as augers, with two or three novelties, in much at home in the family of Mr. vented by Jimmy himself, in which he Adams and that of Annabe's martook pride. Over \$900 they had cost ried sister as if he were already a

One may Jimmy sat down in his room | the door! Oh, break it open! Can't and wrote this letter, which he mailed you men do something?" to the safe address of one of his old friends in St. Louis;

friends in St. Louis:

Dear Old Pal-I want you to be at Sullivan's place, in Little Rock, next Wednesday hight at 2 o'clock. I want you to wind up some little matters for me. And, also, I want to make you a present of my kit of tools. I know you'll be glad to get them-you couldn't duplicate the lot for a thousand dollars. Say, Billy, I've quit the old husiness-a year ago. I've got a nice store. I'm making an honest living, and I'm going to marry the finest girl on sarth two weeks from now. It's the only life. Billy—the straight one. I wouldn't touch a dollar of another man's money now for a million. After I get married I'm going to sell out and go west, where there won't be so much danger of having old scores brought up against me. I tell you, Billy, she's an angel. She believes in me, and I wouldn't do another crooked thing for the whole world. Be, sure to be at Suily's, for I must see you. I'll bring along the tools with me. Your old friend. JIMMY.

On Monday night after Jimmy wrote this letter, Ben Price jogged unobtrusively into Elmore in a livery buggy. He lounged about town in his quiet way until he found out what he wanted to know. From the drug store across the street from Spencer's shoe store he got a good look at Ralph D. Spen-

"Going to marry the banker's daughter, are you, Jimmy?" said Ben to him-

self softly, "Well, I don't know!" The next morning Jimmy took breakfast at the Adamses. He was going to Little Rock that day to order his wedding suit and buy something nice for Annabel. That would be the first time he had left town since he came to Elmore. It had been more than a year now since those last professional jobs," and he thought he could safely renture out

After breakfast quite a family party went downtown together-Mr. Adams. Annabel, Jimmy and Annabel's married sister with her two little girls, aged five and alne. They came by the hotel where Jimmy still boarded, and beran up to his room and brought along his suit case. Then they went on to knew the hank. There stood Jimmy's horse litated. and buggy and Delph Gibson, who was going to drive him over to the railroad

All went inside the high, carved oak rallings into the banking room. Jimmy included, for Mr. Adams' future son-in law was welcome anywhere. The



Adams. Her pa owns this bank. With That Act Raigh D. Spencer Passed Away.

clerks were pleased to be greeted by the good looking, agreeable young man his acting. At last he gave a hoarse, who was going to marry Miss Annabel. mournful cry, looked at them sadly Jimmy set his suit case down. An and then ceased to mourn or writhe. nabel, whose heart was bubbling with In a never to be forgotten moment of happiness and lively youth, put on Jim- horror and socrow his friends realized He said he had come to Eimore to look my's hat and picked up the suit case. that Oswald was dead.-"Souvenirs 'Wouldn't I make a nice drummer?" sald Annabel. "My, Ralph, how heavy it is? Feels like it was full of gold

gerting awfully economical."

thortcomings. While trying to figure new safe and vault. Mr. Adams was ner he looked for the sketch. It was very proud of it and insisted on an in- gone. Angry at the theft, the artist hand he cordially gave information, spection by every one. The vanit was called the landlord and made compared the best was a small one, but it had a new patented plaint, but no trace of the book was ng In the shoe line. There wasn't an door. It fastened with three solid steel exclusive shoe store in the place. The bolts thrown simultaneously with a sin dry goods and general stores handled gle handle and had a time lock. Mr. hem. Business in all lines was fairly Adams beamingly explained its workrood, Hoped Mr. Spencer would de- ings to Mr. Spencer, who showest a dde to locate in Elmore. He would courteous but not not intelligent interind it a pleasant fown to live in and est. The two children, May and Agatha. were delighted by the shining metal

While they were thus engaged Ben ever the situation. No, the clerk Price sauntered in and leaned on his trade nor my habit, and I beg you to seedn't wall the boy. He would carry albow, looking casually inside between accept as a source of my erime and he rallings. He told the teller that he lidn't want anything; he was just waitng for a man be knew.

Suddenly there was a scream or two rom the women and a commotion. Esperceived by the elders, May, the ine-year-old girl, in a spirit of play, had shut Agatha in the vanit. She had then shot the bolts and turned the een Mr. Adams do.

The old banker sprang to the handle tid tugged at it for a moment. "The bor can't be opened," he grouned 'The clock hasn't been wound nor the bination set.

Agatha's mother screamed again bys-"Hush!" said Mr. Adams, raising his rembling hand. "All be quiet for a noment. Agathat" he called as loudly is he could. "Listen to me." During the following silence they could just hear the faint sound of the child wildly shricking in the dark vanit in a panic

of terror. "My precious durling?" waited the mother. "She will die of fright! Open | making glores.

"There isn't a man nearer than Little Rock who can open that door," said Mr. Adams to a shaky voice. God, Spencer, what shall we do? That child-she can't stand it long in there. There isn't enough air, and, besides, she'll go into convulsions from fright." Agatha's mother, frantic now, ben

the door of the vault with her bands Somebody wildly suggested dynamite Annabel turned to Jimmy, her large eyes full of anguish, but not yet despairing. To a woman nothing seems quite impossible to the powers of the man she worships. "Can't you do something, Raiph?

Try, won't you?"

He looked at her with a queer soft mile on his lips and in his keen eyes. "Annabel," he said, "give me that one you are wearing, will you?"

Hardly believing that she heard him aright, she unplaned the bad from the osom of her dress and placed it in his hand, Jimmy stuffed it into his vest pocket, threw off his cont and pulled up his shirt sleeves. With that act Ralph D. Spencer passed away. and Jimmy Valentine took his place, "Get away from the door, all of

u," he commanded shortly. He set his suit case on the table and pened it out flat. From that time on ne seemed to be unconscious of the resence of any one else. He laid out he shining, queer implements swiftly and orderly, whistling softly to him-self, as he always did when at work. In a deep silence and immovable the others watched him as if under a spell. In a minute Jimmy's pet drill was biting amoothly into the steel door. In ten minutes-breaking his own burglarious record-he threw back the oolts and opened the door.

Agatha, almost collapsed, but safe, was gathered into her mother's arms. Jimmy Valentine put on his coat and walked outside the railings toward the front door. 'As he went he thought he heard a far away voice that he once knew call "Ralph!" But he never hes-

At the door a big man stood somewhat in his way. "Hello, Ben!" said Jimmy, still with his strange smile. "Got around at last, have you? Well, let's go. I don't

know that it makes much difference now. And then Ben Price acted rather strangely.

"Guess you're mistaken, Mr. Spener," he said. "Don't believe I recognize you. Your buggy's waiting for you, ain't It? And Ben Price turned and strolled down the street.

Tragic Joking.

Oswald's friends were niways on the pokout for some ruse. He once notifled them that on New Year's day he should get the best of them all in some Joke, and New Year's morning each re-ceived this notice; "Remember." They were on their guard.

As they were leaving a house where they had breakfasted Oswald slipped on the steps and fell on his back on the sidewalk. His friends rushed to his assistance, but paused before they

"This is his ruse," some one said, Clearly the man who was so proud of his talent for inlinlery was bent on deceiving them all into thinking him a dying man, for he lay there moaning pitifully, his face drawn and twist-

ed as if with terrible pain. His friends stood around and made lokes and puns and hummed lines of comic songs, assuring him all the while that they were not deceived by d'un Vieux Librarie."

Fair Exchange, Yet a Robbery. While Gustave Dore was at Ischl "Lot of nickel plated shoe horns in and wandering about the mountains there," said Jinmy coolly, "that I'm be became much interested in a coungoing to return. Thought I'd save ex- try wedding and sketched it on the press charges by taking them up. I'm spot. He put the sketch into a book into the pocket of his paletot and went The Elmore bank had just put in a back to the hotel to diuner. After dinfound. From Isehl Dore went to Vienna, and there he found a letter and a purcel awaiting him. The letter, which was anonymous, read thus;

"Sir, I stole your book at Ischl. The sketch was so charming that I could not resist the temptation of having it & in my possession, and I knew very well you would never consent to sell it to me. But theft is neither my accept as a souvenir of my crime and my eathusiasm for your falent the nelly today denied a notion to quash the murder indistance against Welliam walking stick which will reach you at the same time as this letter." Orpet, accused of poisoning his sweet-heart, Marian Landsort, and tentative-ly set the case for trial April 10. The cane was one with a massive

gold head, in which was set a gem of

sewn together and hemmed, and the

places where the buttonholes are to be

formed are strengthened with called

or linen. The paper is very strong and

a garment has been worn a few hours

it will interfere with the perspiration

made of cotton fabric. The paper i

becoming wet the paper is difficult to

tear. When an emleavor is made to

Keep the Paper Underclothing. Underclothing made of finely crisped or grained paper is manufactured in Stomach Right Japan. After the paper has been cut to a pattern the different parts are

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New York, Mar. 18 .- Wall street has haken off its pessimistic humor and it its place taken on a lift of optimism, ac-companied by a general increase of ac-tivity. This, was due mainly to developments in our foreign relations which as usual, seem to control financial op-O SURROUND yourself with Comfort -- a the moment is less serious than at one time feared, and served to divert attenday -- a Week -- all time -tion from our German negotiation which had been decidedly upon the pub e nerve. What the outcome of exist ing confusion in Mejeo will be, is be-cond prediction. A long and irritating struggle may be imminent, and the prin-cipal effect of recent developments NORTONIA The house of Gracious Service -- of Unobtrusive as been to powerfully stimulate the preparedness movement; the country being ridiculously unready to carry on an important campaign even in Mexico should that become necessary. As an illustration of the division of market options of the division of market options. The home of the Satisfied Guest - where delicious Viands with the natural HOME-LIKE flavor comtion, some stocks, especially munitions advanced on the theory that war with Mexico was probable and would be all the leading states of the United pel friendship.
Rooms with privilege of bath \$1
or more the day. Rooms with
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rice extreme aggressiveness of submarice warfare, also exerted a favorable effect.

The European war is on tottering legs and I anticipate that this summer will close up hostilities, and that a start for fiual settlement all around will be made. None of the big nations will get away with any increased territory. The only change in that respect will be some slicing up of the smaller nations, which will make for a more permanent peace, when it comes. This war will accomplish one great result. That is, it will show that all the nations involved have put up an amazing fight, and that the bravery of all has been equally creditable to their colors. None has shown a white feather anywhere. They have shown beyond cavil that their soldiers and people are made of the same valiant material as are those of this country, as evidenced in our Civil war, both. DR. STONE'S DRUG STORE The only eash drug store in Oreowes no one, and no one owes it carries large stock; its shelves, counters and show cases are loaded with drugs, medicines, notions, and toilet articles. Dr. Stone is a regu-lar graduate in medicine and has had many years of experience in the practice. Consultations are free. Pre-scriptions are free and only regular

price for medicine. Dr. Stone can be found at his drug store, Salem, Ore. from 6:40 in the morning until 8 at night. Free delivery to all parts of the city and within a radius of 100 miles. CHICHESTER S PILLS
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sterling exchange. Enormous quantities of municious are going to England and France, while Russia and Italy are also his huges. Nation 1 Pilebuck, in Skagit county, where he had burgers. big buyers. Neither England nor France is said to have been employed by the re in a position to pay for these pur Parker-Bell Lumber company. He was chases in merchandise, consequently the governments of these nations are disuraging imports by promoting thrift. and economy in things unnecessary, securities are being returned in larger sums than generally supposed, primar-ily to aid in financing the war; but these help liquidate foreign indebted-ness to the United States.

Commodity prices continue souring upwards. Bradstreet's index number on March 1, stood at 11.3760, a rise of 1 per cent within a year, and 31 per cen since the war begon. London's ind figures indicate a rise of about 28 p cent within the year. The greatest vances in the United States were metals, drugs, chemicals, textiles a oils, while singularly enough the rise food products has been slight and some instances prices are actually low than a year age. The war is, of course, Dor the prime factor in rising prices; a Dor hausted supplies, high freights, traffic congestion, scarcity of labor, redundant ed. congestion, scarcity of labor, redundant money, expansion of credit, trade revival and other factors having all contributed to the present phenomenal advances. Whether the limit has been reached or not, is problematical. The speculative fever has been thoroughly aroused, and as long as demand continues active and money cheap and pleutiful, it will be difficult if not impossible to hold prices down. War and the promote are almost irresisfible influences, although it may be noted that

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peneficial to such issues; while on the States continue to run about 50 per cent. other hand certain industrials and railroads located within Mexico advanced
upon the theory that efforts now being
made to capture Villa would aid at least
in a partial resumption of business in
Mexico, and thus lead to their benefit
News of the war from Europe also
created a more favorable impression, in
that events of the last few days suggested an earlier termination of the
war. A lull in our negotiations with
Germany, the strong defense at Verdun
and the resignation of Admiral Von Tirpitz, who was probably responsible for
the extreme aggressiveness of suhmarine warfare, also exerted a favorable
effect.

ahead of last year, activity being much
greater in the eastern and middle states
than in the west. Bailroad traffic is
still very heavy. With the approach
than in the west. Bailroad traffic is
still very heavy. With the approach
to spring greater activity in this direction is to be anticipated. Bailroads are
operating under more favorable coorditions and not results are decidedly better than a year ago, in the fourth week
of February, 39 roads reported gross
earnings of \$16,500,000, an increase of
\$4,00,000 over the same week a year
ago, or nearly 40 per cent. Many industrials are also doing a very large business, particularly those engaged in the
manipulation of raw materials; and
large profits and increasing dividends

and people are made of the same valiant material as are those of this country, as evidenced in our Civil war, both North and South alike, which is our proud record, and that is convincing proof that there will never be another such war. Neither will there be again, between the great nations of Europe, another such fight as at present, nor should there be hetween other great nations in other parts of the world, as the devastating European war makes it self-evident that there is nothing to be gained in the end from such huge struggles compensatory with the sacrifics of human life, destruction of property, general suffering and dreadful misery entailed thereby throughout the entire world. And all for what? God only knows?

Foreign trade continues active. January exports touched \$331,000,000, or second the same month last year. Imports for January reached \$154,000,000, an increase of \$62,000,000. Exports of manufactures more than doubled and included huge amounts of

shipments One of Saskatchewan Looters Is Arrested

Seattle, Wash., Mar. 24,--P. H. Devfor months to come; one big contract wan parliament, is lodged in the connecting announced this weak. The tor over \$90,000,000 of food products being announced this week. The increase of imports is particularly welsome, inasmuch as it tends to restare a more normal balance in our foreign trade and to prevent another crisis in sterling exchange. Enormous quantities of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to Evaluate and the province of munitions are going to the province of the pro

living on a secluded ranch in the foot-Inspector of Police Fisher, of Saskat-

chewan, assisted by deputy sheriffs from Seattle made the arrest

Bobby Gilkes, the veteran scout of the New Yorks, and assistant to Joe Kelley, is making a tour of the various major league camps getting a line on the players on whom waivers may be asked.

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cheap money are almost irresistible in fluences, aithough it may be noted that in a number of cases, specially in the atcel and textile industries, transactions and in the enterprises have been postponed on account of buyers being unwilling or unable to pay high current prices; while in the present state of optimisms sellers are equally indiaposed to yield.

**Control of the present state of optimisms sellers are equally indiaposed to yield.