"Among the Clouds," containing our names, and examine the curious old stone foundation of the building. From this place we go over to the Signal Station, where two men stay throughout the year, undergoing many hardships.

Toward sunset the clouds break away for a minute now and then, and we gain glimpses of the other peaks in the range, and once we see the sun himself shining through a hollow cylinder of vapor, appearing like a raging fire in the distance. About nine o'clock the moon dispels the clouds a little, giving us a few glimpses of moon-lit earth below. And looking off westward, we see the electric lights at the Maplewood, Bethlehem, about twenty miles distant. We now retire with the fond hope that the moon will scatter the clouds before morning dawns.

About an hour after midnight I am awakened by a bright light in the room. I jump up, thinking it must be day, but looking out, I am spell-bound with astonishment. The clouds, as if crouching in fear of the moon, have settled down over the land into a mid-air sea. The mountain peaks loom up in little islands here and there. The moon shines across the foamy surface, and sheds its glittering light upon this upper ocean. All is hushed in awful silence. The moon appears a nearer, brighter friend than ever before, and it seems that I could gaze forever on this delightful scene. But no, I must return to sleep to be prepared for the sunrise; and I wonder if that by any possibility can be more entrancing than this moonlight.

The faint light in the east has appeared, the dawning has begun to strengthen, the house is all astir holding its breath to witness the sunrise; so I dress and go out upon the dripping rocks, where soon all assemble with thickest garments to gaze off upon the brightening east. The same white sea stretches towards the eastern horizon as that of the night previous. The gently undulating plain of waves seems to be waiting motionless, like the spectators, for the sun's advent.

But on the western side the clouds have all departed, and valley and mountain, each in turn, stretch on and on, till the eye can no more distinguish. We ascend the observatory; and from the watch-tower of New England, the highest lookout of the Pilgrim's rocky land, we survey first the east, with its increasing glory, then the west, with its lights and shades. Now the sky is illumined far into the zenith with rosy tints; each moment the shades are changing, until at last the sun surmounts the broad expanse and shines with great brightness across the level sea of cloud. We are exalted above the summit and seem to mount into the upper air.

We turn our eyes to the west, and behold a wonderful sight to the uninitiated, for we see the shadow of the very mountain on which we stand, approaching nearer and nearer.

Our time is almost over; we must eat our breakfast and be ready to take our train. It is hard to leave such beauty, but it is best to leave while the vision is still present, before clouds creep over the face of our ideal, and sadden our hearts.

The whistle sounds, we take our seats, and the faithful engine bears us down from this elevating spot, down to the plain of mortals. But, be our life shorter or longer, the pleasure of the trip and the never-fading picture of that sunrise on Mt. Washington will always be present to cheer a gloomy day.

I. O.

The Chicago Fire Insurance Patrol.

[April read before the meeting of the Class of '85, Feb. 9, '84.]

In October, 1871, about a week "before the fire," the agents of the fire-insurance companies doing business in Chicago organized a company of eight men, provided with two horses and a wagon, whose duty it was to run to fires, and while the city fire department was at work protect with suitable covers goods which, left exposed, might be badly damaged by smoke and water; in this way they hoped to lessen their enormous losses on goods not in the least burned, but ruined by being wet and smoked. The scheme succeeded so well that there are now three stations of this Fire Patrol in different parts of the city, supported entirely by assess-