

slipped-slowly-down-down. Black shook himself from of him impatiently and wheeled to meet his great enemy "Quits at last!" he said, with an

ugly smile. Quits indeed! For Jim, raising himself slightly, was able to draw at last; and even as he spoke, the outlaw fell. "Jim, my boy," said Langford, huskily. He was kneeling, Jim's head in his

"Well, boss," said Jim, trying to smile. His eyes were clear.

"It was my affair, Jim, you ought not to have done it," said Langford brokenly.

"It's all right-boss-don't you worry-I saw you-in the hall that night. You are-the boss. Tell Mary so. Tell her I was-glad-to go-so you could go to her-and it would be-all right. She-loves you-boss-you needn't be

"Jim, I cannot bear it; I must go in your stead."

"To Mary-yes." His voice sank lower and lower. An added paleness stole over his face, but his eyes looked ipto Langford's serenely, almost happily.

"Go-to Mary in my stead-boss," he whispered. "Tell her Jim gave his boss-to her-when he had to go-I used to think it was 'Mouse-hair'-I am glad it is-Mary-tell her good-bye -tell her the Three Bars wouldn't be the same to Jim with a woman in it anyway-tell her-

And with a sigh Jim died.

#### CHAPTER XXII. The Party at the Lazy S.

Mary stared thoughtfully into the mirror. It was a better one than the sliver into which she had looked more than a year before, when Paul Langford came riding over the plains to the Lazy S. A. better house had risen from the ashes of the homestead laid waste by the cattle rustlers. Affairs were well with George Williston now that the hand of no man was against him.

He prospered. Louise stepped to the door.

"I am in despair, Mary," she said whimsically, "Mrs. White has ordered me out of the kitchen. What do you think of that?"

"Louise! Did you really have the hardihood to presume to encreach on Mother White's preserves-you- a mere bride of five months' standing? You should be grateful she didn't take the broom to you."

"She can cook," said Louise laughing. "I admit that, I only offered to peel potatoes. When one stops to consider that the whole county is coming to the "house-warming" of the Lazy S, one can't help being worried about potatoes and such minor things."

"Do you think the whole county is coming, Louise?" asked Mary.

"Of course," said Louise Gordon, positively, slipping away again. She was a welcome guest at the ranch, and her heart was in the success of tonight's party.

Mary had dressed early. As hostess, she had laid aside her short skirt, leather leggings, and other boyish "fixings" which she usually assumed for better ease in her life of riding. She was clad simply in a long black skirt and white shirt-waist. Her hair was coiled in thick braids about her wellshaped head, lending her a most becoming stateliness.

Would Paul Langford come? He had been bidden. Her father could not know that he would not care to come. Her father did not know that she had sent Langford away that long-ago night in December and that he had not come back-at least to her. Naturally, he had been bidden first to George Williston's "house-warming." The men of the Three Bars and of the Lazy S were tried friends-but he

would not care to come. Listen! Some one was coming. It was much too soon for guests. The early October twilight was only now creeping softly over the landscape. It was a still evening. She heard distinctly the rhythmical pound of hoofbeats on the hardened trail. Would the rider go on to Kemah, or would

he turn in at the Lazy S? "Hello, the house!" hailed the horseman, cherrily, drawing rein at the very door. "Hello, within!"

The visitor threw wide the door, and Williston's voice called cordially:

"Come in, come in, Langford! I am glad you came early."

"Will you send Mary out, Williston? I need your chore boy to help me water Sade here.

The voice was merry, but there was a vibrant tone in it that made the fistening girl tremble a little. Langford never waited for opportunities.

He made them. Mary came to the door with quiet self-emposure. She had known from the first the stranger was Langford. How like the scene of a summer's day more than a year past; but how once-the boys will have to step live far sweeter the maid-how much ly.' more it meant to the man now than

"Father, show Mr. Langford in," new foreman." be glad to take Sade to the spring." said, smilingly. "By that time George stand and suck

"I said 'help me,' " he corr ctel. "The spring is down there," she directed. "I think you know the way."

She turned to enter the house. For an instant, Langford hesitated. A shadow fell across his face. want you to come, Mary," he said, simply. "It is only hospitable,

you know." "Oh, if you put it in that way-," she started gayly down the path. He followed her more slowly. A

young moon hung in the western



sky. The air was crisp with the coming frost. The path was strewn with dead cottonwood leaves which rustled dryly under their feet.

At the spring, shadowed by the biggest cottonwood, she waited for him.

"I wish my father would cut down that tree," she said, shivering. "You are cold," he said. His voice

was not quite steady. He took off his coat and wrapped it around her, despite her protests. He wanted to hold her then, but he did not, though the touch of her sent the blood bounding riotously through his veins. "You shall wear the coat. I-do not

want you to go in yet.'

"But Sade has finished, and people

will be coming soon." "I will not keep you long. I want you to-Mary, my girl, I tried to kill Black, but-Jim-" his voice choked a little-"if it hadn't been for Jim, Black would have killed me. 1 thought I could do it. I meant to have you. Jim said it was all the same-his doing it in my stead. I same. Is it, Mary?"

She did not answer for a little while. How still a night it was! Lights twinkled from the windows of "It is the same," she said at last, brokenly.

Her eyes were heavy with unshed tears. "But I never meant it. Paul. I that you or-Jim should take life or -or-give yours. I never meant it!" His heart leaped, but he did not touch her.

"Do you love me?" he asked. She turned restlessly toward the

"My father will be wanting me," she

said. "I must go." "You shall not go until you have

You never have, you know. Do you love me?" "You have not told me, either," she

resisted. "You are not fair." He laughed under his breath, then bent his sunny head-close.

"Have you forgotten so soon?" he whispered.

Suddenly he caught her to him strongly, as was his way. "I will tell you again," he said, soft-

ly. "I love you, my girl, do you hear? There is no one but you in all the

then he kissed her-the little mancoated figure in his arms. "I love you." he said.

She trembled in his embrace. He kissed her again. "I love you," he repeated.

She hid her face on his breast. He lifted it gently. "I tell you-I love you," he said.

She pressed her lips to his, once, soft-"I love you," she whispered. "My girl, my girl!" he said in answer. The confession was far sweeter than he had ever dreamed. He held her cheek pressed close to his for a

He placed her arms around his neck

"The Three Bars is waiting for its mistress," he said at last, exultantly "A mistress and a new foreman all at

"A new foreman?" asked Mary in surprise. "I did not know you had a

ne said, smiling a welcome. "I shall have one in a month," he TERMS:-\$10 to insure colt to Don't turn a hungry man away. Look She took hold of the bridle rein Williston will have sold the Lazy S trailing to the ground. Langford for good money, invested the proceeds

in cattle, turned the whole bunch in to range with the Three Bars herds, and CROP REPORTS Nov. 1 he will take charge of the ly affairs of one Paul Langford

is wife of the Three Bars." ally, Paul?" The brown eyes with pleasure.

ally, Mary." my father consented?" but he will when he finds I do without him and when-I his daughter.'

beats on the sod! The guests

ming at last. The beats rang and nearer. From Kemah, they were coming. All the ranchmen and home : bood with their families and all table cowboys had been bidden 1 th !rolic. The stableyard was filling. Hearty greetings, loud talking and laughter floated out on the still

Laughing like children caught in a hands and ran swiftly to the house. Breathless but radiant, Mary came forward to greet her guests while

Langford slipped away to put up Sade. The revel was at its highest. Mary and Louise were distributing good things to eat and drink to the hungry cowmen. The rooms were so crowded | O. K. many stood without looking in at the Langford stood up. A sudden quiet

fell upon the people. "Friends and neighbors," he said, shall we drink to the prosperity of the Lazy S, the health and happiness

of its master and its mistress?" The health was drunk with cheers

stood. "Friends and neighbors," he said drink to one-not with us to-night-a with favorable weather. brave man-" in spite of himself his voice broke-"let us drink to the memory of Jim Munson."

Silently all rose and drank. They were rough men and women, most of them, but they were a people who held ing that final scene on the island in which a brave man's life had closed. vanced to be hurt much by recent cold Few there would soon forget Jim Munson, cow-puncher of the Three

There was yet another toast Langford was to propose to-night. Now DEDIGATION SERwas the opportune time. Jim would have wished it so. It was fitting that this toast follow Jim's-it was Jim who had made it possible that it be given. He turned to Mary and touched her lightly on the shoulder.

"Will you come, Mary?" he said. She went with him, wonderingly. He led her to the center of the room. His arm fell gently over her shou!ders. Her cheeks flushed with the sudden knowledge of what was coming, but she looked at him with perfect trust and unquestioning love.

rang out so that all might hear, "I ask you to drink to the health and happiness of the future mistress of the Three Bars!"

THE END.

### A Silly "Spook" Story.

onto the old Lloyd farm near Wyoming people, was of especial interest and was Just what is the reason for this we can came to night to ask you if it is the was in town Tuesday and visiting with listened to by both young and old with hardly tell, yet many attribute the dethe editor's family. In the course of the utmost of interest? With this ser- crease to the financial flurry, which I conversation, the murder of Della vice concluded the series of meetings believe is yet in its infancy. This is Lloyd by her sisiter, Lucy, was men-celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of absolutely the dullest season we have tioned. It was suggested by a lady the founding of the church at that place. ever seen on the Missouri Pacific present who is rather timid, that she The membership here are to be congrat- system." would dislike to live there if she be- ed upon the finely appointed program, lieved in spooks. When Dave made which was fully presented to a successwas wild that night, but I never meant the remark that his little daughter, ful finish. That they have on this the Minnie, 11 years old, declared she saw birthday of the organization succeeded a ghost cross over the cellar door twice in clearing the church of debt, and and it frightened her so that she cover- placed them in a position to do better nothing new being discovered since the ed up her head. And it is almost im- work for the cause, is great cause for last attempt, they met with similar sucpossible to get the child to remain alone feeling a pride in the successful issue now-even in daylight.

Of course there are few persons who believe in ghosts; but you would have hard work making the child believe told me," he said. "You must tell me, that she did not see a real ghost.

J. H. Miller who lived in the house at the time of the murder and who recently vacated never save anything like ghosts; but they never liked to sit in that room on account of the tragedy which was enacted in it-Nehawka Register.

### Base Ball Team Started.

Earl C. Wescott was elected manager and Will Fitzgerald captain of the Red Sox team for the 1908 season. The fair head bent closer and closer, About fifteen men will try. for the team and the boys ought to have the support of all the base ball fans this year. The team is open for games and Glenwood will probably be the first atracttion next Saturday, May 16.

# THE **CELEBRATED STALLION**

(FORMERLY OWNED BY L. G. TODD)

Will make three days of the week -Thursday, Friday and Saturday, question come and gulp down with

DAVID NURRAY.

# ARE PLEASING

### **Burlington Traffic Depart**ment Reports Show Great Improvement.

The crop report for the Burlington's Lincoln division issued from the office Three Bars trail, from across of J. D. Cox, division freight agent:

> "Following is the crop report for week ending May 8th. Inasmurh as conditions over entire grain belt on this division are the same, I am giving territory as a whole:

"From one to three inches of rain fell over entire territory. Lines north of Aurora and west of Ravenna were prank the two at the spring clasped needing rain pretty badly. This past week these lines were favored with a good soaking rain of about two inches. Soil is in very good condition.

"Wheat and oats still looking fine. Oats need warmer weather, but with good rain past week will pull through

"Corn ground all prepared and ready doors and windows. The fragrance of | for planting; in fact some planting done, hot coffee drifted in from the kitchen. but cold, wet weather has retarded farm work. Most farmers are waiting for warmer weather for planting. From reports, would state that with favorable weather all corn will be planted by end of next week.

"Alfalfa was hurt some by cold and noisy congralulations. Conversa. weather. Some reports show alfalfa tion began again, but Langford still hurt seriously, while others only in slight degree. With warm weather, alfalfa will show great improvement. again. His voice was grave. "Let us Do not think damage will be noticeable

> flicting reports as regards this crop. It is impossible to estimate damage by

frost to the fruit at this time. "Pastures coming to the front fast. Many stood with dimmed eyes, pictur- all kind will make wonderful growth, city in the evening.

"Garden truck not far enough adsnap. Very little damage to gardens."

# **VICES CONCLUDED**

### of the Jubilee Celebration.

Yesterday the Rev. J. L. Sexton preached the dedication sermon for the Presbyterian church, and in the evening Rev. E. H. Kearns delivered an ad-"Friends and neighbors," his voice Endeavor, the last services of the series. in the minds of his hearers but that the speaker was well acquainted with his subject. In the evening the speaker's business during the past few months, subject was "The Guidance of God." an official said: "The decrease in ship-D. H. Fries who just recently moved This being an address to the young ments of the M. P. have been startling. issue of the event.

### "Mothers' Day" in Plattsmouth.

The day was observed in this city so far as it could possibly be. The scarcity of white flowers prevented many from wearing the emblem who desired to do so. Another year it will be somewhat different in this respect. The idea is a noble one, and originated with club women in New York. The country at once recognized its fine sentiment, and in a few days instead of being local to Gotham it became general. The papers took the matter up editorially, and tender and eloquent tributes have been paid it by the foremost writers. The object is honoring the best woman that ever lived-your mother, and the observance, the wearing of a white carnation. When the mother love is touched the heart of every one is tenderly Missouri Pacific, is past finding out. opened to reverence her, whether alive or sleeping in the silent tomb. The day will constantly grow to be of more interest until it becomes one to be celebrated by every man, woman and child in the land. Long live "Mothers' Day."

### True Christian Spirit.

The Fremont Herald truthfully remarks: "Do you feed tramps? We do. That is, if a fellow really looks hungry he can always get a "handout" at our back door. And they are coming pretty regular nowadays. Men with wan face, gaunt and hungry beyond grateful looks all the bread and butter and preserves and cold meat on hand. him over carefully, and if his breath is right and he is hungry, feed him. It is

# Best in the World

### GO WITH US TO THE GREAT PANHANDLE OF TEXAS ON TUESDAY, MAY 19th!

A special car will be run from Omaha to Kansas City over the Missouri Pacific, and from there to Frisno, Texas over the Santa Fe. Special half-fare rate for the round trip. Come and go with us and see the greatest country on earth, and we know you will buy. We will trade for anything you have. Call on

FRANK STANLEY, Plattsmouth, Nebraska

### **CANNOT RIDE** ON FREIGHT

### The M. P. to Continue Their 'Retaliation'' Scheme.

It is evident from the attitude of the Missouri Pacific railroad officials toward their patrons, that they intend to do everything in their power to make the Witness by hand and official seal til fs 30 h day of April, A. D., 1908. It is evident from the attitude of the situation unpleasant. The latest evidence of this fact is apparent in the refusal to let passengers ride on freight trains. An order was put into effect a "Fruit badly damaged by frost. Con- few days ago that passengers should not be allowed to ride on local freight personal bravery among the virtues. With a little warm weather, grasses of No. 164 which runs south from this

its power to make passenger traffic unpleasant. First they took out the electric light service in the coaches and replaced it by an inferior system; then replaced it by an inferior system; then they took off trains wherever it was possible to do so; they closed stations and reduced wages, and now they re- Notice of Application for Liquor License fuse to let persons ride on freight NOTICE is hereby given to all persons intrains." When asked why the road of their legislation against the rail-

Complaints have been filed with the State Railway Commission but that body has been too busy to get to these dress at the meeting of the Christian matters. It is claimed that since the Commission has forced the M. P. to The subject of the morning service was | make improvements in their road bed, "The Conditions of Life," and was it will be possible for it to restore the handled in a matter that left no doubt accommodations, which the road has taken from the people.

With reference to the decrease in

#### Another Missouri Pacific Wreck. Last evening two Missouri Pacific

trains wanted to pass on the same track, just this side of Gilmore Junction, but cess which have attended other efforts in the past. The road was blocked for some time, and the midnight passenger due at this place at 11:59 was delayed for some time, hoping that the wreckage would be cleared away, but it was not, and the train was run by the way of Louisville and Weeping Water, carrying with them a large crowd of young people from this place, who had two hours to wait at Union for the train

Some half-dozen, among whom were Robert Sherwood, jr., V. C. Ahlstrand, Will Murray, Misses Mable Trussler, Hermia Spies and Hannah Black, had an opportunity to watch it rain all night. They came in this morning feeling very sore at the Missouri Pacific, and it would seem justly too. This is

#### Legal Notice.

The State of Nebraska, in County Court for County of Cass. In the matter of the estate of Margaret A. Pat-

All persons interested or concerned are here-by notified that a petition has been filed in said court, praying for the appointment of Mae Patterson, administratrix of the estate of Margaret A. Patterson, deceased, late of said county and state, and that a hearing will be had on said petition at the office of the County Indge at the court house in the city of Platts. Judge at the court house, in the city of Platts

ALLEN J. BEESON. W. C. RAMSEY, Attorney for the Estate. First Publication April 30, 1908,

### Notice of Application for Liquor

License. not be allowed to ride on local freight trains after that date and notices were posted in the depots. This inconvenience will be hardly bearable on train No. 164 which runs south from this city in the evening.

A conductor on a local train said:

"The M. P. is doing everything in the conductor of the distribution of the conductor of the conduct

At Avoca, Neb., April 27, 1998.

Last Evening Concludes the Services should do this, he continued: "The officials do this to make the people sick of Nebraska, as required by law, signed by the required number of resident free-hold-ers of the said city, setting forth that the ap-plicant is a man of respectable character and standing and a resident of the state of Nebras ka, and praying that a license may be issued to the said H. E. Rand for the sale of malt, spirituous and vinous liquors for the per-iod of one year from the date of the hear-ing of said application in a building situated on the north part of lot one hundred and eighty (180), of the said city of Louisville, Nebraska, H. E. RAND, Applicant

April 23, 1908.

### NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

STATE OF NEBRASKA, SS In County Court,

In the matter of the estate of Benjamin Ran-All persons interested in the above estate are hereby notified that on May 29th, 1908, at 10 o'clock a.m. of said day, a hearing will be had upon the final account and petition for final settlement and distribution of the estate markettement and distribution of the estate Benjamin Ramard, deceased, at the county court room at Plattsmouth, in Cass county, Nebraska, and which time said final account will be examined and adjusted and the final decree of distribution will be entered, and al-

lowance made for the fees of the administra-tor and his attorney, that all objections must be filed by said time. Witness my hand and seal of said court this 9th day of May, 1908. ALLEN J. BEESON.

Real Estate Transfers. F. M. Svoboda to James Svoboda, lot 4, blk 1, Stiles' add to Plattsmouth-Consideration.....\$ 300 H. S. Ouch to M. J. Powell, lot 8,

William Elliott to S. W. Ball, pt. lot 187, Louisville-Consideration..... P. A. Jacobson to Fritz Lofgren,

blk 22, Avoca-Consideration. 1200

lots 188 and 189, Louisville-Consideration..... Lucy McVay to C. M. Chriswisser, el nwł. 17-11-13-Consideration 6400 John C. Roddy to M. G. McQuinn,

pt. seł ne ł 31-10-14-Consideration ..... 372 Isaac Stone to P. J. Lenick, lots 6, 7 and 8, blk 1, Alvo-Consid-

eration ..... 1100 C. A. Latta to W. G. Boedeker, lot 2, blk 13, Latta's add. to Murray-Consideration..... 250

Sheriff C. D. Quinton was a visiter similar to the trick which was played in Omaha this afternoon, where he had upon about a hundred people at Nehawka's me business matters to look after, some time since. Verily, the motives and afterwards will attend the "Jester" which actuate the management of the this evening by Maude Adams. He was accompanied by Miss Mary Karvonek.

## OPPORTUNITY

Knocks at the door of every one, and there is a tide in all our lives, which taken leads to fortune. We have that opportunity now in the shape of a horse ranch containing a full section and an extra eighty, with thoroughtly first class improvements, a modern dwelling, barns, granaries, other out buildings, well fenced, all buildings nearly new, water piped into all barns, feed lots, house and every field. This place, which is now being used for the purpose of breeding horses and raising mules is paying some \$8,000.00 per year, and has improvements to the amount of \$6,000 and is being sold on account of the death of the wife of the owner. This will go at a figure which will make a good profit

and a good per cent income on the investment. M. S. BRIGGS, Plattsmouth, Nebr.