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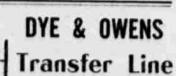
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THE SERVANT'S DUTY

who serve us or follow the directions of those whom we serve, the question of the duties which em-Dr. Oliver McEuen ployee owes to employer is indeed Physician and Surgeon SPECIALTIES: Diseases of women The method that an employer us-

ually adopts to enforce his authority is to dismiss from his service the All calls answered promptly day employee who fails to obey his commands, or perform the duties expected of him. The fear of "losing the job" is what holds most employees to their duties. The employee usually enforces his rights by quitting when he is ordered to perform a task which he believes unreasonable. In cases where the employee has been hired for no definite period, and there is no understanding that the employment is to continue for any period, the relation of employer and employee is continued merely at the will of the parties and may be readily dissolved by either. But where there is a definite agreement-a contract-between employer : : NEBRASKA and employee, fixing a term of employment, the employer may not discharge the employee without ade-

quate grounds. When we speak of "master" of one who has wide authority over the person of an employee who is in a decidedly inferior position. We ALLIANCE : NEBRASKA are inclined to think of a "servant" as one serving in a somewhat meni-Dr. JAS. P. MAXFIELD al capacity. But such is not the meaning of master and servant in legal terminology. The words master and servant are as broad as employer and employee, including all employers and all employees whatever their rank, whatever the importance or responsibility of their bricks. calling. The general manager with the widest authority employed at a salary of a hundred thousand dollars a year is, in law, a servant. The simplest employer is a master.

The duty of the servant to obey the master is fundamental. It is of the essence of the contract of employment and must always be recognized. "A promise by the servant to obey the lawful and reasonable orders of his master within the scope of his contract is implied by law," said a New York judge. "Sublaw of the contract." An authority on this subject has written, "Where servant deliberately violates his master's orders, or refuses to obey them when given, he is clearly guilty of the grossest breach of contract. His duty is to obey the master in all things for which he became bound expressly, or in which obedience is implied from the na-ture of the service undertaken."

servant is a dismissal from his service. This right of a master to dismiss a servant who has violated this duty of obedience is firmly settled. As to just what amounts to such a defiance of proper authority as to justify an employer in dismissing an employee whom it has been agreed is to serve for a definite period is the question that is of most immediate interest and importance to em ployer and employee

Spaine was a farm laborer in the employ of Arnott for the usual term at 5 o'clock and dined at 2. One day Arnoit ordered him to go with some horses to the marsh which was mile off, before dinner, dinner then being ready. The plaintiff said that he had done his due, and would not go until he had had his dinner. Arnott told him to go about his business, and he went without making any submission to the instructions. Spaine later sued Arnott because of wrongful dismissal, seeking damages for the breach of contract of employment, but failed to recover.

'If Spaine refused to obey master's orders," said the judge, "I think he was warranted in turning him away. It would be exceedingly inconvenient if the servant were to be permitted to set himself up to control his master in his domestic relations, such as the time of dinner. After a refusal on the part of the servant to perform his work the master is not bound to keep him on as a burthensome and useless servant to the end of the year." PLANS AND ESTIMATES FURN-

This case is rather extreme, and many courts would probably rule such an order as unreasonable. and refusal to obey it not sufficient grounds for dismissal. It illustrates the undoubted principle that a maser's express orders, carried friends by mail. Price 25c. of his own in his employer's carriage. A traveling salesman who refused to comply with the request of his employer to return his samples, the superintendent who refused to obey his superior's orders to reinstate an employee, and the reache who refused in reinstate a pupil who was instructed to do so by the school board, were all held to be properly dismissed for such single acts of disobedience. Numberles examples might be discovered of instances of disobedience that have been held to justify a dismissal.

Not only may a master dismiss . disobedient servant, but he may also sue that servant and secure dam ages for any injury which may have been caused by reason of the set vant's disobedience

While the general rule is that the of any order is breach of the duty which the em ployee owes to the employer, justification for certain circumstances which will justify a servant in his

cular pains. Meritol White Lini-ment. F. J. BRENNAN, local agent. POPULAR TALKS ON LAW deemed obviously and certainly un reasonable by a normal person be reasonable by a normal person be fore he disobeys for that reason Nor need a servant obey By Walter K. Towers, A. B., J. D., may an employee be dismissed for failure tot obey orders instructing him to perform services which are not properly within the duties for which he was employed.

A servant may not be dismissed for the failure to obey an order in As a very large proportion of us regard to a matter of small importmust either direct the work of those ance and so trivial that the contract of employment is not affected.
If the disobedience was unintentional, and in regard to matters of no importance, and the instructions were in regard to matters of mere detail and not of a character to require in all circumstances, strict obedience the law will generally insist that there is not sufficient grounds for the severing of the relation of master and servant.

A master may dismiss a servant though the act in question was not actually injurious to him - it is enough that there was a failure to cbey in a matter of importance, or a wilful disobedience of any character of a proper order.

As before stated, a servant may not be dismissed for failure to obey an instruction requiring services of a kind different from those which he was hired to perform. An employee is bound to perform the dutles he was engaged to do and no others. Thus a boy hired to care for sheep and assist at hay time, cannot be required to perform the additional duty of taking charge of several cattle in the winter. A ballet dancer who has been engaged as the popular sense we usually think premiere danseuse cannot be compelled to take an inferior position in the ballet, nor is a lady's maid expected to milk cows. master's requirements must be clear ly beyond the scope of the servant's employment to justify a refusal Thus a man hired for general work on a farm is not justified in abandoning his employment because he is set to cutting flax with a machine and thinks this too hard work, nor because he is required to carry The hours at which a servant is

required to work are not infrequently fixed by the terms of the agreement between employer and employ ee. The length of a working day may also be prescribed by law. It may be understood from the nature of the employment, but a servant cannot be required to work at unreasonable times, nor for periods which considering all the circum stances are excessive.

As to holidays the laws of the state control. Other days off may mission to the master's will is the be recognized and understood by custom or stated in the contract Sunday is usually a legal holiday, or understood as a holiday, yet it may not be in exceptional callings as those of seaman or rathroad employ-

Sickness or other urgent necessity is a recognized excuse for an employee's failure to work during perlods of required labor. But a servant who absents himself from The employer's usual redress for wirk, contrary to the instructions a refusal to obey on the past of his of his employer, for no good cause is guilty of a breach of duty and may be dismissed.

(Copyright, 1913, by W. K. Towers) SENDS PAPER TO SON IN LAW

Fred Schwaderer name to Alli

ance last Friday to bring the children to the circus and while in town called at The Herald office to pay ahead on subscription. ready marked paid ahead he added another year to it and at the same of one year. He usually breakfasted time subscribed for the paper a year for his son-in-law, Charley Furness, Delmont, S. D.

JOINED MASONS IN 1864

The last issue of The Herald told of A. J. Marcy, of Hay Springs, who joined the Masons in April, 1866, in Woodstock, Illinois. On Monday our attention was called to Mr. R. R. Wil liams, father of Mrs. S. W. Thompof Alliance, who is visiting with them in Alliance this summer. Williams joined the A. F. & A. M. at Liberty, Illinois, in April,

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