

Big Stationery.

[Original.]
Joel Throggs was a driver on the towpath. Joel was reaching an age where he wished for a home. He admitted to himself that he couldn't have a home without a woman, and he never stopped long enough to do any courting. He was always moving on the towpath, and how can a man make love who is continually walking behind a horse or a mule pulling a canalboat?
On the route was a little unoccupied house across the road from the towpath that Joel would have coveted if he had had a wife to put in it. One day when he passed he saw smoke curling from the chimney and a woman at a window. After passing and re-passing on several trips he made up his mind from observation that the woman lived alone.
Here was an opportunity, the first he had ever had. He resolved to take advantage of it. Before starting on one of his trips he prepared a small board, on which he wrote in chalk:
"Dear Madam, I would be happy to make your acquaintance. I am driven a mule on the towpath. JOEL THROGGS."
On reaching the house in question he threw the board into the yard without stopping his mule. This was Mr. Throggs' first love letter. It was not very neat—indeed, it was somewhat bulky—but they say "Love laughs at locksmiths." Why shouldn't the little god smile benignly on a board billet doux?
When Joel passed the house on his return trip, on the end of a chicken coop had been chinked:
I should be pleased to make yours.
MAHULDY WIGGINS.
So far so good. Joel had not prepared stationery, wooden or otherwise, for a reply, so it was not till he came along on his next trip that he responded. Then he ran across the road between the towpath and the canal and set the top of an old table on the gate, on which he had written:
I wud esteem myself onered of you wud tak a ride wif me on my nex trip. The mule has a easy gate. Bring a piller to set on.
But the course of true love can't be expected always to run smooth. When Joel passed again the end of the chicken coop gazed with big chalk letters:
Can't. Out to work all day.
Joel was despondent. Not only was he tied to the towpath, but his love also was at work. He thought the matter over as he jogged along, now and then gently laying his whiplash on the back of his mule, and when he reached the terminus prepared another letter, a longer one—so long that he needed more room to write it. He selected the door of the canalboat cabin, which he took off its hinges, lay on the deck and wrote as follows:
"Dear Mahuldy, I saved 60 dollars. Im lookin fur a home were two harts kin beet together. Sponen I fine with you an we work your yard fur garden truck fur the market. Prises is hi in town. Stay hum nex time I pas, wesday. I ride you a few miles, an we can tawk it over. He pay you the days wages."
On passing the house the next time Joel carried this bulky letter to the premises and set it up against the fence.
When Joel passed the following Wednesday afternoon Mahuldy was waiting for him with a pillow "to set on." Except for the lack of several front teeth and one eye gone she wasn't bad looking. Joel was much pleased. He helped her up on the mule's back and walked along beside her. She told him that she was a widow with no incumbances. She had been permitted to live in the house rent free. It had no especial value, and the land wasn't worth \$50 an acre. She acceded with Joel's plan, especially as he had money enough to buy the place and stock it. But she was somewhat coy about marrying a man she had never seen before and wanted time to consider.
Joel's only objection to delay was that they would wish to communicate, and this was difficult. He had already been obliged to use the door of the canalboat. As his passion grew he would need more space. The only larger stationery he could think of was an old tent he possessed. He might rip out a side, write his message on it and set it up on poles when he passed. If he needed a still larger space, he might use the whole of one side of the canalboat.
Mrs. Wiggins thought the matter over and found that her modesty would not admit of such open love-making. She said the neighbors might get on to it. Joel didn't care for the neighbors, but objected to the trouble of getting up such big messages. He said mournfully that "if they kep a-growin' he'd hev to use the mainsail of a 600 ton schooner before they were married."
This settled the matter. Mrs. Wiggins, who had already ridden three miles, got down from the mule. It was agreed between them that Joel should resign at the end of the month from his position of mule driver and assume the position of husband. But in the interval Mahuldy was to stay at home. In order that they might converse when he passed he was to buy a megaphone for himself and one for her. They were to commence the dialogue when he was half a mile away and keep it up till they were half a mile apart. Having arranged all this, Joel handed her \$1 in lieu of the day's wages and kissed her, and she set off back to her home.
In due time they were married. The county turned out to the wedding invited, the bride wondering how they knew about it.
OSCAR COX.

Adopting an Orphan.

[Copyright, 1908, by T. C. McClure.]
Parson Williams, feeling sorry for Deacon Flint's widowhood, suggested that he take a girl from the orphan asylum to keep house and for company.
The deacon started for the city next morning and returned in the evening with the orphan. Her name was Ruth. The deacon liked her at first glance, and he kept liking her better all day. Before going to bed that night she was shown over the house and through the pantry and told what to get for breakfast and at what hour to have it ready, and the deacon's heart swelled up as she called to him:
"Good night, my own dear old papa. Your little daughter is awfully glad she has come to live with you."
Breakfast was to be ready at 6. The deacon overslept, and it was 7 before he got out of bed and went downstairs. There was no one about. He knocked at the daughter's door, but got no answer. He went outside to look for her, and, finding nothing, he returned and opened the door of her room. She was still asleep, but when he called to her she woke up and demanded to know what was wanted.
"You should have had breakfast all ready an hour ago."
"Not on your life!" she exclaimed. "When you get it ready come and call me."
"But—but, what do you mean?" demanded the astonished man.
"You skiddoo and don't ask questions. Say, pop, you might as well understand right now that I'm a lady and must be treated as such. After this I shall take my breakfast in bed."
The deacon got breakfast, and Miss Ruth came down. She found fault with everything and when reproved gave him such back talk that he reached over and boxed her ears. The next minute everything on the table she could reach was flying at his head. After being hit by three plates, the cruet, the coffee-pot and the sugar bowl he flew the coop and made his way to the parson's house.
"Ah," said the good man, "I was wondering if you came home last night and brought the orphan with you."
"I did!" exclaimed the deacon with a great deal of energy.
"And—and—"
"And you come over and see her. She was as humble as a kitten last night, but this morning she seems to be a limb of Satan."
When the house was reached the adopted orphan was found in the yard throwing pieces of the broken crockery at the hens, and she had already lamed an old rooster and knocked a speckled hen gally west.
"Morning, parson," she called out. "I suppose pop's been telling what a bad kid I am? If he wasn't a dub he'd have stayed and fought it out with me."
"My dear child, I am sorry to hear such reports of you," solemnly replied the parson. "You seemed to me the other day to be such an innocent, humble young girl that—"
"That was in the game, parson. I was after a papa and a home. Oh, I can be an angel when I want to. See me knock that black hen's head off."
The parson and the deacon walked aside to consult, and the latter asked in anxious tones:
"Well, what shall I do about it?"
"Sit down with her and talk of heaven and angels and appeal to her better nature. I think you will have her crying in five minutes. It seems that in some way I must have got a wrong impression of the child."
The good man returned home, and the deacon sat down to try moral suasion. The village graveyard was in sight, and he looked over at the stones and asked the girl if she knew where good folks went to when they died.
"Oh, come off!" she answered. "Can't we go to a circus or something today? I knew you was an old poke, but I've come to stir you up. Come in and shave. I don't like your whiskers."
The deacon rose up and took her by the ear and led her into the house and locked her up in a closet and said something about bread and water until she could behave herself. He then went to the field to put in a short forenoon. At 12 o'clock, when he came back, the closet door lay on the floor, the table and chairs were on their backs, and the girl was getting ready to smash windows. The deacon went out and cut and trimmed a peach tree limb and wore it out around her shoulders and locked her up in another closet. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon his barn was found to be on fire and couldn't be saved. He went to the house to find the prisoner gone, everything a wreck and the following note pinned to a door:
Dear Papa—You are no gentleman, and I don't like your style. As you can't bustle, I will.
And on top of that the good parson came around to console with him and to say:
"I guess we made a mistake, deacon. Instead of trying the adoption plan again why not take a wife?"
The parson had a spinster sister forty-two years old, and public gossip had said that she would marry the deacon if asked. The brother had heard nothing of this, and the sister was not in his mind in the least when he put the question, but the deacon turned from surveying the wreck and answered:
"Not by a darned sight, and you get right out of here or I'll throw you over the fence!"
And that was ten years ago, and they have not spoken to each other since.
M. QUAD.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A MANUSCRIPT.

[Original.]
I was born when my mother was nineteen years old. Her uncle, a middle-aged man, had done something in a literary way, and I was turned over to him by my mother's mother to be looked over. He took me to his study and sat down with me, first sharpening his pencil with which to cut me in pieces, for I heard him say that my mother knew nothing about writing and he supposed "the thing was full of rhetorical blunders." When he began to read me he wore a bored look, but he had read but one paragraph before his expression changed. As he read on he forgot who had written me, and when he had finished he exclaimed:
"By thunder!"
Then he called my mother and her mother into his study and asked my mother:
"Where did you learn to write English correctly?"
"At school."
"School be hanged! There's something else here that you didn't learn at all. It was born in you. Send your story out just as it is. If it is appreciated it will be accepted, but I don't believe it will be. It will come back to you and keep coming back."
They took me away, and the mother said to the daughter: "Your uncle is sore because all his own manuscripts come back to him. Don't you believe him, my dear. Your story will be accepted, and you will get a good price for it."
The next day I was sent to the Globe Publishing company. I was turned over to a young fellow they called a weeder. He looked over the manuscripts which came in the morning's mail and out of the lot picked one. I had heard it often before. The rest of us were put in envelopes with printed slips with the editor's name to them, saying a few very nice things and thanking our parents for sending us in. Then we were put away for awhile and when it was convenient were sent back to where we came from.
When my poor little mother saw by the bulk of the package that I had been returned to her the tears started in her eyes. Her uncle said: "I told you so. I don't believe they read a line of it. However, I know Simpson & Co. They've turned down a lot of my work, but perhaps they'll read this if I make a personal request. Let me have it tomorrow."
The next day he took me to Simpson & Co. and had a long talk about me with the editor, who was very polite and promised to give me his especial attention. After my mother's uncle had gone away the editor tossed me to a weary looking man sitting at a desk covered with manuscripts and said:
"Read that."
It was two weeks before the third looking man took me up in my turn, then ran over twenty pages of me in as many seconds and wrote on my wrapper "Declined." And so I was sent back again to my mother, who had hoped that her uncle's personal effort would insure success. She was nearly as much disappointed as at first.
And so I continued to go from one publishing house to another without acceptance. Finally I attracted the attention of an intellectual looking editor, who wrote this criticism:
If we were looking for literature I would recommend the publication of this book. But as we are looking for "best sellers" I would decline it.
However, my mother got nothing but the printed slip when I was returned, though it was couched in just as polite terms as the first.
Meanwhile a publisher told my mother that she would better write something "startling"—a trifle erotic, he said. So innocent was she that she thought he said erratic. She went to work and turned out my brother. Poor boy! He was deformed in frame and intellect from birth. Mother was very much ashamed of him and wouldn't acknowledge him by publishing him under her own name. But he was published under a nom de plume and proved a second best seller.
My mother continued to give me all her affection notwithstanding the fact that my brother made so much money for her. She was now deluged with requests for something from her "gifted pen." She sent me out once more, and I was accepted at once, but she refused to permit my publication under the name which had been appended to my crazy brother. The publishers would not issue me unless she consented to this. They offered her a large sum with that name to me, but she was obstinate, and so I was obliged to remain in obscurity.
Mother would write nothing more, and at last, not making any money, which she needed, she wrote the publisher who had wanted me that he could have me to publish under her fictitious name. He wrote her in reply that the public had forgotten her former book, that the character of all fiction had changed and that if he were to publish me under any name whatever he couldn't sell a thousand copies. He added, "Your first effort could only have been sold as by the author of a 'second best seller.'"
And so my only opportunity passed without my getting out into the world. My uncle, who is now old and philosophic, says that these "best sellers" are a development like "stars" on the stage. Other books, like other actors, must remain in obscurity, for the public can only be attracted by that which is most prominent.
I wonder if any of them know.
CONSTANCE WILD.

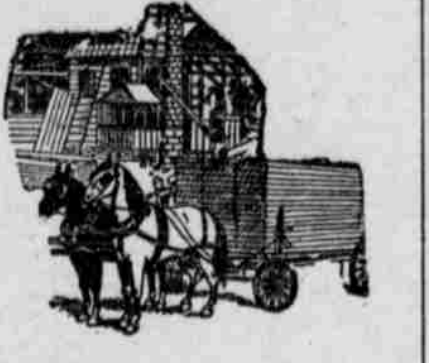


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F. E. Payne.

LEGAL NOTICE.

To Eleanor A. Kisselburgh, — Kisselburgh, first and real name unknown, husband of Eleanor A. Kisselburgh, Eleanor A. Kisselburgh, Deborah Powers, Home for Old Ladies of Prop. N. Y. John Doe, real and full name unknown, and the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section Twenty-six (26), Township Nine (9) North, Range Thirty-one (31) West of the 6th Principal Meridian, Lincoln County, Nebraska; the said tax lien being for the years 1907 to 1907 inclusive, together with interest and costs as by law provided, together also an attorney's fee of ten per cent of the amount of said lien, and there is now due plaintiff upon said tax lien upon the above described real estate the sum of Forty-nine (\$49.00) Dollars of which sum with interest as provided by law, attorney's fees and costs, the plaintiff prays for a decree of foreclosure and sale of said premises and satisfaction of the amount found due on said land, and that you and each of you and your assigns be barred of equity of redemption. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 28th day of October, 1908.
Dated at North Platte, Nebraska this 12th day of September, 1908.
MARTIN L. McCULLOUGH, Plaintiff.
s-15-4wks L. E. Roach, His Attorney.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

The following proposed amendment to the constitution of the State of Nebraska, as hereinafter set forth in full, is submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska, to be voted upon at the general election to be held Tuesday, November 3rd, A. D. 1908.

A JOINT RESOLUTION to amend Sections two (2), four (4), five (5), six (6), and thirteen (13) of Article six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, relating to judges, to be read as follows:

Section 1. (Amendment proposed.) That Section two (2) of Article six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska be amended to read as follows: (Supreme court; judges; jurisdiction.) The Supreme Court shall consist of seven (7) judges; and a majority of all elected and appointed judges shall be necessary to constitute a quorum or pronounce a decision. The Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction of all cases relating to the revenue, civil cases in which the state is a party, mandamus, quo warrant, habeas corpus, and such appellate jurisdiction as may be provided by law.

Section 2. (Amendment proposed.) That Section four (4) of Article six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, be amended to read as follows:

Section 4. (Supreme court, judges, election, term.) The electors of the State of Nebraska shall elect by ballot the electors of the state at large; and electors of the Supreme Court, provided shall be six years. And said Supreme Court judges shall during their term of office, reside at the place where the court is held.

Section 3. (Amendment proposed.) That Section five (5) of Article six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska be amended to read as follows:

Section 5. (Supreme court, judges, election, term, chief justice.) That at the general election to be held in the state of Nebraska in the year 1909, and each six years thereafter, there shall be elected three (3) judges of the Supreme Court, who shall hold their office for the period of six years; that at the general election to be held in the state of Nebraska in the year 1911, and each six years thereafter, there shall be elected three (3) judges of the Supreme Court, who shall hold their office for the period of six years; and at the general election to be held in the state of Nebraska in the year 1913 and each six years thereafter, there shall be elected a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who shall hold his office for the period of six years. Provided that the members of the Supreme Court whose term of office expires in January 1914, shall be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court during that time until the expiration of his term of office. And provided further, that upon the expiration of the term of office of the Chief Justice of the State, the Governor shall immediately upon issuing his proclamation declaring said amendments adopted, appoint four (4) judges of the Supreme Court, two (2) of whom shall be appointed to hold said office until their successors shall be elected at the general election in 1909, and have qualified; and the other two (2) shall hold their office until their successors shall be elected at the general election held in 1911, and have qualified.

Section 4. (Amendment proposed.) That Section six (6) of Article six (6) of the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, be amended to read as follows:

Section 6. (Chief justice.) The Chief Justice shall serve as such during all the term for which he was elected. He shall preside at all terms of the Supreme Court, and in his absence the judges present shall select one of their number to preside temporarily.

Section 5. (Amendment proposed.) That Section thirteen (13) of Article six (6) of the Constitution of Nebraska be amended to read as follows:

Section 13. (Judges, salaries.) That judges of the Supreme Court shall each receive a salary of \$3,500 a year, of the District Court, who shall receive a salary of \$3,000 per annum, payable quarterly.

Approved April 5, 1907.
I, Geo. C. Junkin, Secretary of State, of the State of Nebraska, do hereby certify that the foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Nebraska is a true and correct copy of the original enrolled and engrossed bill as passed by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska, as appears from said original bill on file in this office, and that said proposed amendment is submitted to the qualified voters of the state of Nebraska for their adoption or rejection at the general election to be held on Tuesday, November 3rd day of November, A. D. 1908.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska, Done at Lincoln, this 15th day of July, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight, and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Thirty-third, and of this State the Forty-second.

GEO. C. JUNKIN, Secretary of State.

Notice to Hunters.

We will prosecute to the full extent of the law all hunters or trespassers on our land.
Chas. F. Wilkinson, F. L. Weinburg, Henry Wilkinson, M. C. Seth, Ole L. Oleson, Frank England, Spencer Edmisten, G. W. Edmisten, Chris Sard, Mary Faka, A. R. Christensen, G. G. Rowley, James Sadle.

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PROFESSIONAL CARDS

J. S. TWINEM, Homeopathic Physician and Surgeon. Office: McDonald Bank Building. Phone 183.
A. J. Ames, M. D., Marie Ames, 1. D. DOCTORS AMES & AMES, Physicians and Surgeons. Office: Over Stone Drug Co. Phones: Office 273, Residence 273

GEO. B. DENT, Physician and Surgeon. Office: Over McDonald Bank. Phone 130. Residence 115

DR. L. C. DROST, Osteopathic Physician, Rooms 7 and 8, McDonald State Bank Building, Phone 148.

WILCOX & HALLIGAN, Attorneys-at-Law. Office over Schatz Clothing Store. Phone 48

T. C. PATTERSON, Attorney-at-Law. Office: Cor. Front & Dewey Sts.

Serial No. 0182. H. E. 19084
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Department of the Interior. U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Neb.
Notice is hereby given that Casper F. Sivita, of North Platte, Neb., who on March 1, 1902, made Homestead Entry No. 1029, for north half southeast quarter and north half southwest quarter, section 14, township 16 N., range 28 W., 6th Principal Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver at North Platte, Neb., on the 24th day of September, 1908. Claimant names as witnesses: Robert Schwabert, of North Platte, Neb.; Peter C. Peterson, of Myrtle, Neb.; Elvin R. Sivits, of North Platte, Neb.; and Robert H. Cassen, of Nesbit, Nebraska. J. E. EVANS, Register. 476

Serial No. 0202. H. E. 19736
NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Department of the Interior. U. S. Land Office at North Platte, Neb.
Notice is hereby given that Katherine Peterson, of Denmark, Nebraska, who on September 21st, 1903, made Homestead Entry No. 1029, for southeast quarter Section 34, Township 11 N., Range 28 W., 6th Principal Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the register and receiver, at North Platte, Nebraska, on the 9th day of October, 1908. Claimant names as witnesses: I. M. Abercrombie, Harry D. Jorgensen and Jacob Rosenber, of Maxwell, Nebraska, and Nels Nielsen, of Denmark, Nebraska. J. E. EVANS, Register. 476

Probate Notice to Creditors. In the county court of Lincoln county, Nebraska. In the matter of the estate of Albertina Seagison, deceased. Notice is hereby given, that the creditors of the said deceased will meet the administrator of said estate, before me, County Judge of Lincoln county, Nebraska, at the county court room in said county, on the 8th day of October, 1908, and on the 30th day of April, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m. each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Six months are allowed for creditors to present their claims and one year for an action pending to settle said estate, from the 9th day of July, 1908. This notice will be published in the North Platte Tribune, for eight successive publications prior to the 30th day of October, 1908. Witness my hand and seal of said court this 8th day of September, A. D. 1908. W. C. ELDER, County Judge.

NOTICE. The Denver Hay & Grain Company, corporation, defendant. Will take notice that on the 27th day of August, 1908, the County Judge of Lincoln County, Nebraska, issued an order of attachment for the sum of \$125.00, in an action pending before him, wherein Wilbur F. Stafford is plaintiff and defendant, and that the property of the defendant, consisting of moneys in the sum of \$60.00, has been attached under said order and that the Union Pacific Railroad Company, a corporation, has been garnished in said cause, and that moneys of said defendant in the sum of \$60.00, in the hands of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, have been garnished. Said cause has been continued to the 10th day of October, 1908, at nine o'clock a. m. at which time said cause will come up for trial. Dated August 21st, 1908. WILCOX & HALLIGAN, Plaintiff.