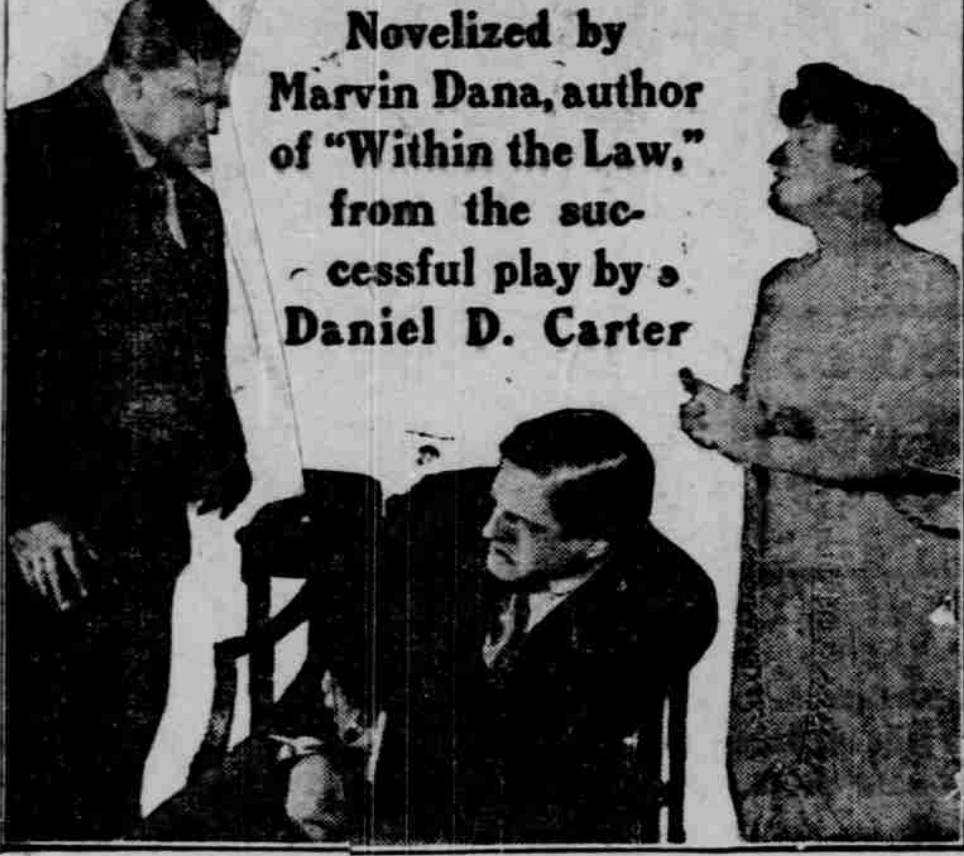


THE MASTER MIND

Novelized by
Marvin Dana, author
of "Within the Law,"
from the suc-
cessful play by
Daniel D. Carter



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CHAPTER XIII.
An Admission.

MASSHALL, the detective, attempted a diversdand replied to Andrew: "You can hardly see me to place much confidence in a statement of a person who is a stranger to me," he objected.

"Of course, sir, it is true I am practically a stranger to you," Andrew admitted without the least of a note in his monotone to a warning of the supremely audacious speech to follow. "You've known me by since Mr. Wainwright told you who sees a few minutes ago. But I have been you for a long time, sir."

The detective glared with round eyes at this amazing man, who dared flaunt the helplessness of thaw in its very face.

"Oh, you have, have you?" "Yes," came the placid answer. "You were an obscure detective when you recovered those bonds of the Fourth National bank case. Your present excellent position is really owing to that besides the money you received at the time and so the \$10,000 reward paid to you. But through it all you said nothing of the anonymous note you received raising you of the facts in the case angiving you explicit directions as to how to capture Denver Jones."

Marshall sat spellbound.

"Then it was you who sent a letter?"

Andrew bowed.

"I simply mentioned it, sir," he continued sedately, "in order to say you that when I give information y motives are by no means selfish. Good night, sir." The butler's voice was still that of the excellent servant trained to a becoming humility. But before he had reached the door he was arrested by the voice of the detective.

"One minute. Why did you double cross Denver Jones, and what made you pick me for that fourth national capture?"

"Well, you see, sir," the Master Mind explained blandly, "Jones had misfortune to offend me. Besides, sir, I knew that on account of yourness in this case you would be promoted to a high place in the detective service, and as I was then situated in a well place, I was then situated in a well place. Good night, sir."

Marshall was at pains to find on the point of retiring, and I make known the information he had received from Andrew concerning a projected burglary. It was agreed between them that the detective should maintain a strict secret over the whole establishment throughout the night, with the twofold object of being ready for any move on the part of the sender of the black card and of foiling the expected effort of the robber against the jewels in the safe.

Wainwright was to hold himself in readiness for a summons at an time, but chose not to share directly in the watch. It seemed certain to boy men that the Master Mind would beware of their conference. Undoubtedly he had intended that his announcement of the visit from a thief should be passed on to Wainwright, as had been. Yet the exact reasons for his course defied analysis.

Meanwhile Lucene was in despair because of the desperate situation with which she was confronted. A just judge must have taken into consideration her youth and inexperience, her feeling of devoted gratitude and reverence for the man who guided her choice, and the judgment must have been lenient, though it might find her guilty. But she had no mercy toward herself. She had come to know the truth at last—the truth she had veiled to the Master Mind—that it is impossible to build happiness on lies. She had lived a lie, for the hoodwinking of the man who loved her, who had honored her above all women, who had given into her keeping his honor by making her his wife. Thus she had foully betrayed his faith. Whatever the penalty for truth at the outset, the truth should have been told. She understood now. Her conscience lashed and warned her. She had stifled conscience at the dictation of the man whom she esteemed for his goodness to her. Andrew. Now realization of her possible guilt was fully hers. But the rule had

rigid, looking straight before her with dilated eyes. Then, at last, she swayed a little, tensed swiftly and went forward again. When she was come to the alcove she pushed the draperies apart and resolutely stepped within. The portieres closed behind her. Marshall crushed back an oath of amazement.

Yet for a brief season the detective was held inactive by stark bewilderment. Then, to his astonished ears came a hushed sound of whispering from beyond the curtains of the alcove. It was incredible, monstrous, that this should be. Nevertheless, the truth was palpable. There was no outcry, no shriek for help from the woman, no flight by a safety seeking housebreaker. Instead there was only whispering, this secret conference in the dead of night between the thief and the mistress of the mansion. Suddenly another idea flashed in his brain, impelled him to immediate endeavor. Was it necessary, after all, that Wainwright himself should ever know the whole truth? Perhaps, even, there might be some explanation of the wife's guilt that fell short of infamy.

Firm of purpose at last, Marshall crept slowly across the room to the alcove. Now he could hear the two within more plainly, and he listened eagerly, but the words were unintelligible. Convinced that longer effort at eavesdropping would avail naught, the detective, with his weapon ready, put forth a cautious hand and parted the draperies.

Notwithstanding all his painstaking, something betrayed this new presence to the keen senses of the burglar. As the portieres moved slowly apart under Marshall's careful fingers there came a sudden flash of light full in his face. Blindly he sprang forward and found himself in grapple with the thief. A scream came from the woman. The torch fell to the floor, to be crushed a moment later under the feet of the men. The woman shrank in a corner, half swooning. The man writhed and tottered to and fro, scuffling over the thick pile of velvet. The weapon of the detective gave him an advantage. One fierce blow struck the back of Creegan's head, and the man lurched heavily to the floor.

Marshall, after an instant's pausing, got out his own torch and turned its light on the scene. He saw the woman crouching miserably against the wall. On the floor the thief was moaning faintly. Then the detective's eyes caught sight of another object on the floor. He bent and picked it up—a sheaf of bills of large denomination. Here was more mystery. But there was no time now to bother with it! He thrust the bills into his coat pocket. Marshall stepped to the main electric switch and flooded the whole room with radiance. Once again Lucene stifled a cry as the brilliant illumination blinded her. The stricken burglar stirred and groaned, and then unclosed his eyes and lay blinking dazedly for a few seconds. But soon he sat up, very clumsily, and put a wavering hand to his head. He brought away the fingers all bloody, and regarded the stains with disgust.

"He'll do well enough now," Marshall stated, as he looked up and met the alarmed gaze of the woman.

Creegan, following the direction of the detective's glance, turned his head weakly and perceived the girl, whose face stood against the wall. His coarse face twisted into a grin.

"Hello, Maggie!" he mumbled. "Say, the bull near croaked me."

"But you will be able to go in a minute," Lucene urged, wringing her hands in desperation. "Oh, please! You must! Mr. Marshall will give you the money. He picked it up."

"I'll take you along when I go," Creegan snarled.

"What do you mean?" she gasped.

But Marshall interrupted roughly. "Here, you!" he snapped at Creegan. "You get a hustle on yourself." He seized the burglar by the collar and jerked him to his feet. "Go on and get out of here! Didn't you hear what the lady said?"

"Gimme back that roll she give me!" he commanded surlily.

"You stand a fat chance of getting that," Marshall exclaimed with a sneer. Then, as the thief moved a little: "None of that side stepping, either!"

"Oh, I ain't trying to beat it," Creegan declared. "I don't have to."

Marshall rested wordless, stupefied by the colossal impudence of this criminal, caught in the very act of burglary. Then the woman darted to him.

"Oh, Mr. Marshall, please let him go!" she besought him frantically. "Give him the money and let him go! Oh, you must!"

The detective, however, could no longer accept this way out of the tangle of events. His first instinct of desire to shield the woman for her husband's sake, if not for her own, was overcome by the responsibility involved by such a course.

"It is impossible," he said.

"Oh, if you only knew!" she breathed. Marshall remained unshaken.

"Madam," he said coldly, "I am in your husband's employ."

She twisted his argument in her own favor:

"But it would be doing him the greatest possible kindness to let this man go." She made a despairing gesture.

"Oh, I know just how strange it must seem to you, but it's true—it's true!"

Marshall found that it required all his strength of will to withstand her supplication.

"You mean, without your husband's knowledge?"

"Oh, yes, yes!" was the instant answer. "He must never know—never! I can't tell you why—I can't! I can't! If I only could—but I swear to you, on my honor as a woman, that my husband's happiness, his career, his honor, even, everything, depends on your doing as I ask you. Please—oh, please!"

Nevertheless Marshall had the courage to deny her prayer.

"It is impossible."

"Why, I'm his wife, and I love him! It's for his sake that I beg of you to let this man go." She made a slight gesture toward Creegan. "He'll go—I will let him go. Yes, he'll go—I never come back again." She glanced for an instant into the brutal face, and she added her question confidently. "You will go, won't you? Tell him!"

"Sure thing!" was the harsh answer. The thief's small eyes, bloodshot now were leering. "Sure, I'll go fast enough—if you'll go with me, Maggie."

Lucene seemed not to hear the utterance. Certainly she gave it no parent heed, only persisted in her wild petitioning.

"Don't you see, Mr. Marshall, no one will ever know—not a living soul—ever!"

The voice of Creegan sounded.

"Say," he cried to the detective, "are you such a bonehead you can't see that me and the lady was going away together?" Marshall made a threatening movement. Creegan spoke again, reckless of the menace. "Aw, cut it out, cull. Just ask the lady."

Marshall looked down into the face of the trembling woman. But the denial for which he longed did not burst from her lips. Instead, she stood in mute abasement.

"Did you hear what the man said?" Marshall asked.

"Yes," came the muffled syllable.

"Of course he lies?"

There was a pause, pregnant of a hateful possibility. And then, at last there came from the girl the word that was the seal of her degradation: "No." It was hardly a breath of sound.



"You mean, without your husband's knowledge?"

Local News

From Friday's Daily.
Mrs. Hans Goos and children, who have been visiting with relatives and friends, departed this morning for their home at Plainview, Neb.

W. T. Richardson, the Mynard merchant, was among those visiting in the city today for a few hours, looking after some matters of business.

Mrs. Robert Knight, who has been here visiting at the Diliyah home, near this city since Wednesday, departed this morning for her home in Iowa.

Miss Blanche Horning was among those going to Omaha this morning, where she was called to visit for the day, looking after some matters of business.

W. F. Gillespie of Mynard was here yesterday afternoon, en route from Omaha to his home, he having been called to Omaha on some matters of business.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Delatour of Ogallala, Neb., are in the city for a short visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Reed. Mrs. Delatour is a sister of Mr. Reed.

L. H. Puls and little son of Murray came up from their home yesterday in the large touring car of Mr. Puls and spent a few hours here looking after some matters of business.

Mrs. Emmons Ptak and son, Theodore, departed last evening for Minneapolis, Minnesota, where they will visit at the T. O. Schroder home for a short time before returning home to this city.

J. D. Shrader of Murray and Bert L. Philpot of Weeping Water were in the city yesterday afternoon for a few hours looking after some matters in regard to the handling of a number of Maxwell automobiles here.

Mrs. G. W. Rhoden, Mrs. Glen Rhoden and Mrs. J. R. C. Gregory motored in this morning from their farm home and were passengers on the early Burlington train for Omaha, where they will spend the day.

Glen Boedecker, cashier of the Murray State bank, motored up yesterday from his home and spent several hours here looking after some matters of business. Mr. Boedecker was accompanied by his wife and his sister, Mrs. Ida Hutchman.

Frank Herold, who is engaged in traveling for a large wholesale house in Kansas City, came in last evening to make a visit of a few hours with relatives and friends, and departed this afternoon for Lincoln to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Herold.

From Saturday's Daily.
John Kraeger was in today from his farm home to spend a short time looking after some trading and calling on his many friends.

Glen Boedecker of the Murray bank was here last evening for a few hours looking after some matters of business in this city.

George P. Barton of Union was in the city yesterday for a few hours looking after some matters of business at the court house.

Mrs. A. Dove Asch of near Murray was in the city for a few hours today looking after some matters of business at the court house.

Jacob Bengen of near Mynard motored in today to spend a short time looking after some matters of business with the merchants.

Adam Meisinger of near Cedar Creek was in the city today for a few hours attending to some trading and visiting with his many friends.

Dr. G. H. Gilmore of Murray was in the city yesterday afternoon for a few hours, motoring up from his home to attend to some matters of business.

Adam Hild, one of Cass county's energetic farmers, was in the city today visiting with relatives and friends and looking after some matters of business.

G. W. Shrader came up this morning from his home east of Murray and spent a few hours here attending to some trading with the merchants and taking in the free entertainment.

Andrew Campbell and wife and daughter, Frances, and son, Oscar, were in the city today for a few hours looking after some matters of business and visiting with their friends.

Misses Janet and Mable Grassman of Alliance, who were here visiting with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Patton, departed this afternoon for Newman Grove, Neb., for a short visit. Miss Jennie Patton accompanied them as far as Omaha on their journey.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CASS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.
Charles C. Parmele, Plaintiff,
vs.
C. H. Kieeman, et al., Defendants.

To C. H. Kieeman, first real name unknown; Mrs. C. H. Kieeman, first real name unknown; the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and all persons interested in the estate of C. H. Kieeman, first real name unknown; the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and all other persons interested in the estate of Mrs. C. H. Kieeman, first real name unknown, defendants:

You are hereby notified that on July 29th, A. D. 1915, plaintiff filed his suit in the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska, to quiet the title to the following described lands in Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska, to-wit:

Lot Five (5), in Block Thirty-three (33), in the City of Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska.

The object and prayer of which suit are to have expunged from the record and declared null and void one certain deed purporting to convey to the defendant, Mrs. C. H. Kieeman, said lot, dated August 18th, 1911, and filed for record August 26th, 1912, and recorded in Book 51, at page 28, of the deed records of Cass County, Nebraska; and to enjoin you and each of you from having or claiming any right, title or interest in or to said real estate, and forever quieting the title thereto in the plaintiff, and for equitable relief.

You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, September 14th, 1915.

Dated this 3rd day of August, A. D. 1915.

CHARLES C. PARMELE,
Plaintiff.

C. A. RAWLS,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

LEGAL NOTICE.
In the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska.
Alice Wells, Plaintiff,
vs.
Mable A. Higgins, et al., Defendants.

To Mabel A. Higgins, Mabel Agnes Higgins, Margaret Mason, and the Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Kate Lynch, Deceased:

You are taken notice that on July 28th, 1915, the plaintiff herein, Alice Wells, filed her petition in the District Court of Cass County, Nebraska, against you and others for the purpose of foreclosing a Tax Sale Certificate issued by the County Treasurer of Cass County, Nebraska, to one A. L. Tidd, on sale of lots 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, in block 175, in the City of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, at public sale on November 6th, 1911, for delinquent tax, costs and charges against said lots for the year 1910, with interest thereon at 15 per cent per annum from June 10th, 1915, and attorney's fees of 10 per cent of amount found due plaintiff, and prays that same be decreed a first lien on said premises and that said defendants be foreclosed of all right, title and interest in and to said premises and said premises be ordered sold and out of the proceeds of such sale that plaintiff be paid the amount decreed to be due her on said lien with costs of suit.

You are required to answer said petition on or before the 23rd day of August, 1915, or the allegations contained in said petition will be taken as true and decree rendered as prayed for therein.

ALICE WELLS, Plaintiff.
By JOHN M. LEYDA,
Her Attorney.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.
Bids will be received at the office of the County Clerk in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, until noon on Saturday, August 7th, 1915, for building all wood and steel bridges, concrete arch and box culverts and other concrete work, such as wings and abutments, for the year 1915.

Also for the construction of one 4-ftx4-ft concrete box culvert on Rock Bluffs road about two and one-half miles south of Plattsmouth.

Plans and specifications now on file in the office of the County Clerk at Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

Separate bids may be filed for bridge work and for concrete arch and box culvert work.

All bids to be opened on Tuesday, August 10th, 1915, at 10 o'clock a.m. The Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

A certified check of \$500.00 must accompany each bid.

(Seal) FRANK J. LIBERSHAL,
County Clerk.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.
In the County Court of the County of Cass, Nebraska.
In Re Estate of Francis Kushinsky, Deceased.
To All Persons Interested:
You are hereby notified that hearing upon claims against said estate will be had at the office of the County Judge, Court House, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on the 8th day of September, A. D. 1915, and on the 8th day of March, A. D. 1916, at 10 o'clock a. m. on each of said days. All claims not filed before said hour on said last day of hearing will be forever barred.

By the Court,
ALLEN J. BEESON,
County Judge.

W. A. ROBERTSON,
Attorney.

RECOMMENDS Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.
"I never hesitate to recommend Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy," writes Sol Williams, merchant, Jesse, Tenn. "I sell more of it than of any other preparation of like character. I have used it myself and found it gave me more relief than anything else I have ever tried for the same purpose." Obtainable everywhere.

For Sale.
One good, all purpose work horse, coming 6 years old, weight 1,300 pounds; also one good young horse coming three years old. Both horses are in the best of condition and are a bargain. James Mrasek.

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STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE PLATTSMOUTH LOAN AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION.
Of Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on the 30th day of June, 1915.
CERTIFICATE No. 26

ASSETS:

First mortgage loans	\$17,023.49
Loans on stock or pass book security	4,309.11
Real estate, office, home, other	1,256.03
Real estate sold on contract	2,533.00
Cash	1,867.32
Delinquent interest, dues and fines	219.56
Taxes advanced for stockholders	98.33
Total	\$27,477.73

LIABILITIES:

Running stock and dividends	\$14,355.72
Paid-up stock and dividends	29,400.00
Reserve fund	1,250.00
Undivided profits	24,208.88
Other liabilities, matured stock	500.00
Total	\$70,714.60

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
for the year ending June 30, 1915.

RECEIPTS:

Cash on hand last report	\$ 1,516.43
Dues (running stock)	3,975.00
Paid-up stock	15,800.00
Mortgage payments	24,208.88
Stock loan payments	1,528.00
Real estate sales	110.00
Interest	13,528.75
Fines	96.86
Rent	90.55
Membership and transfer fees	28.50
Other receipts in detail	303.08
Taxes repaid	497.00
Total	\$83,102.74

EXPENDITURES:

Mortgage loans	\$ 60,335.00
Stock loans	2,500.00
Withdrawals running stock and dividends	18,218.00
Withdrawals paid-up stock	11,900.00
Withdrawals divided on paid-up stock	1,571.32
Salaries	1,500.00
Other expenses	93.93
Real estate account	352.10
Cash on hand	1,267.25
Taxes advanced for stockholders	92.32
Total	\$83,102.74

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss. I, T. M. Patterson, Secretary of the above named Association, do hereby certify that the foregoing statement of the condition of said association, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

T. M. PATTERSON, Secretary.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of July, 1915.

JOHN M. LEYDA, Notary Public.

STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE LIVINGSTON LOAN AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION.
Of Plattsmouth, Neb., on the 30th day of June, 1915.

ASSETS:

First mortgage loans	\$13,077.00
Loans on stock or pass book security	20,000.00
Real estate sold on contract	3,007.57
Cash	2,267.72
Delinquent interest, dues, etc.	1,325.70
Taxes paid and advanced	1,730.50
Other assets, non-account and reserve	344.44
Total	\$43,533.11

LIABILITIES:

Running stock and dividends	\$13,254.36
Reserve fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits	4,800.55
Other liabilities—bills payable	12,800.00
Total	\$41,854.91

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1915.

RECEIPTS:

Cash on hand last report	\$ 366.87
Dues (running stock)	41,200.00
Mortgage payments	29,423.00
Stock loan payments	2,900.00
Real estate contracts	2,700.00
Interest	12,000.00
Fines	51.88
Membership and transfer fees	148.50
Total	\$89,076.58

EXPENDITURES:

Mortgage loans	\$43,225.00
Stock loans	4,125.00
Withdrawals running stock and dividends	27,967.54
Salaries	1,500.00
Other expenses	231.44
Cash on hand	2,267.72
Insurance and Taxes paid and advanced	422.58
Rent and Repair	63.00
Total	\$89,076.58

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ss. I, C. G. Fricke, Secretary of the above named association, do hereby certify that the foregoing statement of the condition of said association, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

C. G. FRICKE, Secretary.

Approved: D. B. SMITH, Directors.
C. A. MARSHALL, J. H. SOENNICHSEN, A. L. TIDD.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of July 1915.

JOHN M. LEYDA, Notary Public.
My commission expires Oct. 5, 1915.

NOTICE OF SUIT TO QUIET TITLE.
In the District Court of the County of Cass, Nebraska.
Amelia Vallery Straight, Plaintiff,
vs.
A. L. Small, first real name unknown, et al., Defendants.

To the Defendants: A. L. Small, first real name unknown; F. M. Small, first real name unknown; J. C. Small, first real name unknown; James L. Small, O. L. Small, first real name unknown; W. M. Small, first real name unknown; May Catlin, Daisy Miller, nee Wright; Harry T. Miller, Berne Jackson, nee Wright; James S. Burns, also known as James S. Burns, and the unknown heirs, legatees and devisees of Alice E. Newton, deceased, also known as Alice Newton, deceased.

You are hereby notified that on July 30th, A. D. 1915, plaintiff filed her suit in the District Court of the County of Cass, Nebraska, to quiet the title to the following described land, to-wit:

Lot Three (3), in Block Nineteen (19), in the City of Plattsmouth, Cass County, Nebraska.

Because of her adverse possession by herself and her grantors for more than ten years prior to the commencement of said suit, and to enjoin each and all of you from having or claiming any right, title, lien or interest, either legal or equitable, in or to said land or any part thereof and for general equitable relief. This notice is made pursuant to the order of the Court.

You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, the 13th day of September, A. D. 1915, or your default will be duly taken on the merits.

AMELIA VALLERY STRAIGHT,
Plaintiff.

W. A. ROBERTSON, Attorney.

For Sale.
One good, all purpose work horse, coming 6 years old, weight 1,300 pounds; also one good young horse coming three years old. Both horses are in the best of condition and are a bargain. James Mrasek.

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Paints and Oils. Gering & Co.