

Medieval Melodies Handed Down From Father to Son.

In the English Illustrated Magazine Baring Gould gives an interesting glimpse of the "Western Songmen" who are now nearly extinct—men who kept in their retentive memories the songs of the Western folk, and liked nothing better than to troll them out on a winter night before a huge fire with the assistance of copious draughts of one ambrosia or another. Such men were common enough when Baring Gould was a boy; but it was not until he recently inquired around Dartmouth that he found any survivors of them.

These old songmen in many cases inherit their songs from their fathers; singing was a family possession, and the stock-in-trade consisted in a batch of some fifty to a hundred songs. These a father taught his son, air and words, and there can be no question that by this means many were handed down through several hundreds of years in one family of professional songmen the successors of the medieval gleemen. I know of one case where two rival songmen met and sang against each other for a wager. They began at 6 o'clock in the evening and sang one after the other till 6 o'clock the following morning, and neither had then come to the end of his repertoire; consequently the stakes were drawn.

Of one of the old fellows from whom I have gathered some of the most interesting pieces I was told the following story: He had been singing all the evening in a tavern to a party of laborers, when, feeling himself a little the worse for liquor, he rose to leave, when the other toppers called on him to stay. "Will you give me a pint of ale for every fresh song I sing?" "Certainly I will," answered one of the men present. He sat down and sang sixteen entirely fresh songs and drank sixteen pints of ale. This story seemed to me incredible; I questioned him on it and he admitted with pride that it was true. As it happened, the man who made the promise was working for me and he also admitted that it was true; he had to pay for the sixteen pints. "But then," said the man, "that was a long time ago."

Some of the most yielding sources are old men who can neither read nor write. It is amazing what memories they have, and how correct they often are. One told me—and I believe he spoke the truth that in the old days when he sang in the taverns he knew over a hundred songs and his father could tell the titles of 200 which he could sing. I have collected thirty from this man. He sits in a settle by my hall fire, turns up his eyes crosses his hands on his breast, and sings. Then I sing after him, and he is most particular that I should have all the turns right. "You must give thickey [that] a bit stronger," he says—and by stronger he means take a tone or semi-tone higher. He will not allow the smallest deviation from what he has to impart. "It's just no use at all," says he, "my singing to you if you won't follow correct. Thickey turn came out of your head, not mine!" Then I must go back again till I have got the tune exact. "I be maister, and you be scholar," he says, and a scholar mun learn what he be taught, and learn it right."

Curious old tunes in the minor key many of them are, certainly not later than the fifteenth century. Others of exquisite delicacy modulate from minor to major and then back again. "I reckon that's the beautifullest tune as ever were sung anywhere," says my master of some specially archaic air. And I notice that he appreciates the old minor tunes much more than those in majors. Then he heaves a sigh. "I ha'n't sung he"—by "he" he means the song—"I reckon for five and twenty years till to-night. Lor' bless y', the world be going that wicked the young chaps don't care for my songs. I reckon the end o' the world can't be over far off accordingly."

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Notice of Final Settlement. In the county court of Douglas county, Nebraska. In the matter of the estate of Marcia H. Holbrook, deceased: Marcia M. Moffat and all other persons interested in said matter are hereby notified that on the 28th day of December, 1895, Benjamin Holbrook filed a petition in said county court, praying that his final administration account filed herein be settled and allowed, and that he be discharged from his trust as administrator, and a petition praying that certain personal property may be assigned to him as a recompense for money paid out in excess of receipts, and that if you fail to appear before said court on the 3rd day of February, 1896, at 9 o'clock A. M. and contest said petitions, the court may grant the prayers of said petitions and make such other and further orders, allowances and decrees as to this court may seem proper to the end that all matters pertaining to said estate may be finally settled and determined. IRVING F. BAXTER, County Judge.

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Beginning at a point one hundred and twenty (120) feet south of the northeast corner of lot four (4) in block seven (7) of Kirkwood addition to the city of Omaha, Nebraska, running thence east parallel with the south line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence north parallel with the east line of said lot four (4) one hundred and twenty (120) feet, thence west along the north line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence south to place of beginning—said property to be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs herein the sum of eighteen hundred fifty and 10-100 dollars, together with ten per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895; to satisfy the costs of this action the sum of \$47.50, together with accruing costs, according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending wherein Frank Thompson et al. were plaintiffs and Lew Pixley et al. were defendants. Omaha, Neb., December 27, 1895.

JOHN W. LYTTLE, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 315. 12-27-5

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Beginning at a point one hundred and twenty (120) feet south and one hundred and twenty-eight (128) feet east of the northwest corner of lot four (4) in block seven (7) of Kirkwood addition to the city of Omaha, Nebraska, running thence east parallel with the south line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence north parallel with the east line of said lot four (4) one hundred and twenty (120) feet, thence west along the north line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence south to place of beginning. Said property to be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs herein the sum of nineteen hundred ten and 10-100 dollars (\$1,910.10), together with ten (10) per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895. To satisfy the costs of this action the sum of \$42.08, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending wherein Frank Thompson et al. were plaintiffs, and Lew Pixley et al. were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, December 27, A. D. 1895.

HENRY W. PENNOCK, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 318. 12-27-5

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: The west fifty-six (56) feet of lot eight (8) in block seven (7) of Kirkwood addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska—said property to be sold to satisfy Nathan G. Reed, plaintiff herein, the sum of twenty-five hundred seventy and 10-100 dollars (\$2,570.10), with interest thereon at rate of ten per cent per annum from February 4th, 1895, to satisfy Frances R. Gannett, defendant herein, the sum of two thousand fifty-three dollars (\$2,053.00), with interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent per annum from February 4th, 1895, to satisfy the costs of this action the sum of twenty-six (26) dollars (\$26.18), together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its February term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Nathan G. Reed was plaintiff, and George W. Reed and Octavia S. Reed and Frances R. Gannett were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, December 26, A. D. 1895.

GEORGE W. HOLBROOK, Special Master Commissioner. Saunders & Macfarland, attorneys for plaintiff. Doc. 45, No. 118. 12-27-5

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Beginning at a point one hundred and twenty (120) feet south and one hundred and twenty-eight (128) feet east of the northwest corner of lot four (4) in block seven (7) of Kirkwood addition to the city of Omaha, Nebraska, running thence east parallel with the south line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence north parallel with the east line of said lot four (4) one hundred and twenty (120) feet, thence west along the north line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence south to place of beginning. Said property to be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs herein the sum of sixteen hundred eighty-four and 10-100 dollars (\$1,684.50), together with ten (10) per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895. To satisfy the costs of this action the sum of \$40.08, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Frank Thompson et al. were plaintiffs and Lew Pixley et al. were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, December 27, 1895.

JOHN W. LYTTLE, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 320. 12-27-5

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Lot sixteen (16) in block three (3) in Clifton Hill, an addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska. Said property to be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs herein the sum of nine hundred and ninety-five and 10-100 dollars (\$995.97), together with seven (7) per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895. To satisfy the costs of this action the sum of \$57.13, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Alonzo P. Tukey and William F. Allen were plaintiffs, and Charles E. Gard et al. were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, December 27, 1895.

JOHN O. YEISER, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 322. 12-27-5

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 11th day of February, A. D. 1896, at 1 o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Lot twenty-five (25) in block three (3) of Union Place, an addition to South Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska. Said property to be sold to satisfy plaintiffs herein the sum of one thousand, one hundred, seventy-three and 10-100 dollars (\$1,173.30) with ten (10) per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895, together with thirty-eight and 10-100 dollars (\$38.10) costs herein, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Frank Thompson et al. were plaintiffs, and Harrison Wirch and others were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, January 9th, A. D. 1896.

JOHN H. GROSSMANN, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 321. 1-9-5

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 11th day of February, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the north front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Lot thirteen (13), block seven (7), in Central Park, an addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska. Said property to be sold to satisfy Milton T. Roy, plaintiff herein, the sum of three hundred and eighty-three dollars (\$383.00), with 10 per cent interest thereon from May 7th, 1894. To satisfy Isaac Adams, defendant herein, the sum of one hundred and eighty-eight and 10-100 dollars (\$188.10), with 5 per cent interest thereon from May 7th, 1894. To satisfy pro rata, said Isaac Adams, the sum of one hundred and thirty-five dollars (\$135.00); Commercial National Bank, defendant herein, the sum of five hundred thirty dollars (\$530.00); Fred Lindhorst, defendant herein, the sum of forty-three dollars (\$43.00), and Abram S. Joseph, defendant herein, the sum of ninety-four dollars (\$94.00), with 7 per cent interest on all said sums from May 7th, 1894. To satisfy Isaac Adams the sum of six hundred sixteen dollars (\$616.00) with 5 per cent interest from May 7th, 1894, to satisfy accruing costs, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1894, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Milton T. Roy was plaintiff, and Joseph A. Haines et al. were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, January 9th, 1896.

WILLIAM T. NELSON, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 42, No. 318. 1-9-5

Notice to Non-Resident Defendant.

In the district court of Douglas county, Nebraska. Julia S. Bryant, plaintiff, vs. Charles A. Hamling et al. defendants. To said Charles A. Hamling and Harriet R. Hamling, non-resident defendants: You are hereby notified that on the 9th of December, 1895, Julia S. Bryant, plaintiff herein, filed her petition in the above entitled cause in the district court of Douglas county, Nebraska, against Charles A. Hamling and Harriet R. Hamling, the object of which is to foreclose a certain mortgage executed on the 22nd day of March, 1894, by Charles A. Hamling and Harriet R. Hamling, upon the property described as follows: to-wit: Lot seven (7) in block "C" of Shinn's Second addition to Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, as surveyed, platted and recorded. To secure the payment of a certain bond or promissory note in writing, executed and delivered by Charles A. Hamling and Harriet R. Hamling to Daniel H. Smith, and by him assigned to Julia S. Bryant, plaintiff herein, for the sum of fourteen hundred (\$1,400) dollars and payable in five years from the date thereof; that there is now due and payable on said note or bond the sum of fourteen hundred (\$1,400) dollars, together with interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from the 22nd day of March, 1894, for which sum, with interest and costs, plaintiff prays for a decree of foreclosure of said mortgage, and that in default of such payment said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount found due plaintiff and costs of this action, and such other and further relief as may be equitable. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 10th day of January, 1896, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Nebraska, January 8th, 1896.

JULIA S. BRYANT, Plaintiff. By B. F. Thomas, attorney for plaintiff. 1-10-4

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Beginning at a point one hundred and twenty (120) feet south and thirty-two (32) feet east of the northwest corner of lot four (4) in block seven (7) of Kirkwood addition to the city of Omaha, Nebraska, running thence east parallel with the south line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence north parallel with the east line of said lot four (4) one hundred and twenty (120) feet, thence west along the north line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence south to place of beginning. Said property to be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs herein the sum of eighteen hundred fifty and 10-100 dollars (\$1,850.10), together with ten (10) per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895. To satisfy the costs of this action the sum of \$41.75, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending wherein Frank Thompson et al. were plaintiffs, and Lew Pixley et al. were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, December 27, A. D. 1895.

HENRY W. PENNOCK, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 317. 12-27-5

Notice to Non-Resident Defendants.

In the District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska. Park Godwin, Executor, of the estate of Fanny Bryant Godwin, deceased, plaintiff, vs. Edward G. Merrill et al., defendants. To Edward G. Merrill, Elenora Merrill, Max Rypinski, Natalia Rypinski, non-resident defendants: You are hereby notified that on the 3rd day of December, 1895, Park Godwin, Executor, plaintiff herein, filed his petition in the above entitled cause in the District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska, against E. G. Merrill, Elenora Merrill, Lowe Avenue Building Association, Max Rypinski, Natalia Rypinski, the object and prayer of which is to foreclose a certain mortgage, executed on the 23rd day of August, 1890, by Edward G. Merrill and Elenora Merrill, upon the property described as follows: situated in the County of Douglas and State of Nebraska, to-wit: Lot nineteen (19) in block eleven (11) in Poppleton Park, an addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, as surveyed, platted and recorded, to secure the payment of a certain note or bond in writing, executed and delivered by Edward G. Merrill and Elenora Merrill to Eugene C. Bates, and by him assigned to Fanny B. Godwin, for the sum of two thousand two hundred dollars (\$2,200.00), and payable in five years from the date thereof; that there is now due and payable on said note the sum of two thousand two hundred dollars (\$2,200.00), with 10 per cent interest thereon from August 23rd day of August, 1890, for which sum, with interest and costs, plaintiff prays for a decree of foreclosure of said mortgage, and that in default of such payment, said premises may be sold to satisfy the amount found due plaintiff and costs of this action, and such other and further relief as may be equitable. You are required to answer said petition on or before the 10th day of January, 1896. Dated at Omaha, Nebraska, December 18, 1895.

PARK GODWIN, EXECUTOR, Plaintiff. 12-20-4

Special Master Commissioner's Sale.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale on decree of foreclosure of mortgage issued out of the district court for Douglas county, state of Nebraska, and to me directed, I will, on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1896, at one o'clock p. m. of said day, at the east front door of the county court house, in the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said order of sale as follows: to-wit: Beginning at a point one hundred and twenty (120) feet south and sixty-four (64) feet east of the northwest corner of lot four (4) in block seven (7) of Kirkwood addition to the city of Omaha, Nebraska, running thence east parallel with the south line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence north parallel with the east line of said lot four (4) one hundred and twenty (120) feet, thence west along the north line of said lot four (4) thirty-two (32) feet, thence south to place of beginning. Said property to be sold to satisfy the plaintiffs herein the sum of eighteen hundred fifty and 10-100 dollars (\$1,850.10), together with ten (10) per cent interest thereon from September 23rd, 1895. To satisfy the costs of this action the sum of \$41.08, together with accruing costs according to a judgment rendered by the district court of said Douglas county, at its September term, A. D. 1895, in a certain action then and there pending, wherein Frank Thompson et al. were plaintiffs, and Lew Pixley et al. were defendants. Omaha, Nebraska, December 27, A. D. 1895.

HENRY W. PENNOCK, Special Master Commissioner. Doc. 32, No. 318. 12-27-5

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