

Widow Millie Filled the Stocking

By Wm. L. Gaston



WIDOW MILLIE lived on a western farm and with the help of a hired man—a slow-going man named Mike—nobody ever heard his last name—managed to grow good crops and maintain the appearance of thrift.

Five years before her husband, Wilson Macy, had died and she had been left alone to carry on the work of the ranch. Mrs. Macy was an attractive young woman whose age would have been guessed somewhere in the thirties. She was plump, good-natured and generally liked in the community. Somehow she came to be called Widow Millie by the neighbors, who used the name as much to express their kindly feelings as to distinguish her from other people.

Bob Ramsay and Jim Walden were both eligible widowers and each owned a quarter section of good land adjoining Widow Millie's land, one on the north and one on the east. Each seemed a trifle more than anxious to have everything go right on the widow's ranch and neither was backward in the proffer of advice or offers to help. To do this properly required a call and neither was averse to calling.

Tom Moulton was a bachelor—a timid, bashful bachelor who could blush better than he could talk, in the



presence of ladies. He owned a good ranch and was one of the most thrifty farmers in the community. He was good looking and very obliging. He was well liked but no one believed that he could ever muster the courage to propose marriage to any woman. He often slipped over to the widow's farm, to see Mike, of course. He gave his farm advice to Mike. Sometimes he exchanged work with Mike and on these occasions there was an extra white cloth on the table and the biscuits had an extra flakiness. Tom liked the biscuits. Tom ate the biscuits but he could not think of a word to say when the conversation was directed to him.

On the night before Christmas both Bob and Jim called and Widow Millie proceeded to entertain both in the parlor. She managed conversation and kept it going in the general direction while the visitors fidgeted and squirmed, each hoping that the other would soon leave. Millie was sure that Tom was in the kitchen. She could hear the muffled conversation of two slow-speaking men. Millie extended an invitation to both her visitors to come over the next day and have Christmas dinner with her. This was the signal for both to leave.

After their departure Millie went to the kitchen, but Tom had gone and Mike had retired. But hanging on the kitchen wall just over the stove was



a pair of ladies' silk stockings. She looked at them in amazement. They were not hers and how could they have gotten there. Going closer she observed a piece of note paper protruding from one of them. She pulled it out hastily and excitedly read:

"Widow Millie: I have hung these stockings up here for you. I want you to fill them and wear them tomorrow. I have hung up a pair for myself at home. I will fill them and wear them over here tomorrow noon. The preacher and his wife will be with me. I fixed up everything else at the courthouse this afternoon. I can farm better if I do not have to cook. You can cook better if you do not have to farm. This is an honest offer, from Tom."

It would be hard to describe the thoughts that raced through Millie's mind. At first she was indignant. She resented it as an impertinence. "He had his nerve," she said almost aloud a dozen times, but she smiled when

she thought that nerve was the very thing that Tom was supposed not to have. She liked Tom, and if he had come out boldly and proposed in the usual way she did not know what she would have done. She took up the note again, but she could only see the last line—"this is an honest offer, from Tom." It smote her with its straightforwardness and simplicity. "He is honest," she said to herself. She resolved first one thing, then another, but always came back to that last line—the honest offer. The last line won.

When Tom, the preacher and his wife arrived, Widow Millie had the stockings filled and dinner was well on the way. The minister's wife finished it. Bob and Jim were in time for the ceremony, and of course they stayed for their Christmas dinner. (© 1930, Western Newspaper Union.)

CHRISTMAS

"PUDDINGS steaming, candles gleaming. Branches weighted down. Christmas on the farms and ranches! Christmas in the town! Christmas on the mountain ridges! Christmas on the sea! May your Christmas day be merry Wheresoe'er you be!"

SURPRISE GRANGE No. 233

Meets second Saturday in the month in the Grange Hall, Turner. Visitors welcome at the Lecture hour, at 2:00 o'clock.

THROAT AND LUNG BALSAM for the relief of Coughs

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Contains no Narcotic
Only at
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A great merchant of my acquaintance, who is a friend of Gene Tunney, told me what occurred after the final Dempsey-Tunney fight.

Gene, who never loved the crowds or was greatly loved by them, wanted to get away immediately. His idea of the way to spend the evening of victory was to hide himself with a few companions in a hotel bedroom.

His friend said: "Gene, you could have done that if you had lost. But you won. You are champion of the world. Whether you like it or not you must pay the price of the championship. And part of the price is to be seen by the crowd."

In telling the story the merchant enlarged upon the theme.

"When I became manager of one of our stores I had to do a lot of things I did not like to do," he said. "When I became head of all the stores my unpleasant duties increased. Now I get to the office before nine o'clock every morning, and a large part of my day is consumed in duties that are more or less distasteful. The only man who can do as he pleases is the failure. Every step up that you take means that you belong less to yourself and more to other people."

As he spoke I thought of some examples that have come under my own observation.

The partners of Morgan & Co. are the princes of the modern business

world. If you stand outside their building on almost any winter's evening you will see the lights burning in at least a part of the private offices. The lower floors may be dark. The clerks and accountants have gone home, but almost always some of the partners are still on the job.

I spent a day with Coolidge while he was still president. He was supposed to be on a vacation. He fished a little in the morning, but it was the least relaxing job of fishing that I have ever witnessed. A secret service man stood at his elbow and another kept watch from behind the bushes on the bank.

Once, for a week, I traveled in a private car with the president of a

HANDICAPS OF DISEASE

As you travel through life you will find many handicaps, but none compared to the handicaps of disease.

Have these eliminated by Chiropractic Adjustments given according to a Neurocalometer reading.

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DR. O. L. SCOTT
256 N. High Street

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SALEM OREGON

great corporation. Every morning we left the car at eight o'clock and called on dealers in their stores. We lunched with a group of them at noon, and had another group with us until mid-

TURNER SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRAIN SERVICE
North Bound
No. 14, 5:06 A.M. (Stops when flagged.)
No. 32, 3:07 P.M. Regular stop.)
South Bound
No. 7, 10:30 A.M. (Stops when flagged to pick up passengers for points at which this train stops.)
No. 15, 8:35 P.M. (Stops on flag, only to pick up passengers for points south of Eugene via Cascade Line.)
No. 31, 10:55 P.M. (Regular stop.)

Following north bound trains stop to detain passengers coming from points south of Eugene: No. 16, due 5:46 A.M.; No. 8, due 5:51 P.M. Office hours at Turner week days are 8 A.M. to 12 o'clock noon, and from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Station is closed on Sunday and holidays. On these days passengers can pay fare and have baggage checked on trains.

NOTICE OF HEARING OF FINAL ACCOUNT

Notice is hereby given that the final account of Katie Ahrens, as administratrix of the Estate of John Ahrens, deceased, has been filed in the County Court of Marion County, State of Oregon, and that the 30th day of January, 1931, at the hour of ten o'clock A. M. has been duly appointed by such court for the hearing of objections to such final account and the settlement thereof, at which time any person interested in such estate may appear and file objections thereto in writing and contest the same.

Dated this 18th day of December, 1930.

KATIE AHRENS,
Administratrix.
E. L. CRAWFORD,
Attorney for Estate.
Ladd & Bush Bank Bldg., Salem, Ore.
First publication: Dec. 18, 1930.
Last publication: January 15, 1931.

night. At midnight we went to bed, to wake up the next morning in another city and do the whole thing all over again.

It was a tougher week than any laborer ever spent.

The big jobs look attractive from a distance, but when you get closer to them you find a large price tag pinned on each one.

Some of us who have been close enough to read the figures on the tags find it quite easy to reconcile ourselves to remaining quietly and contentedly below.

SUMMONS

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for County of Marion. Dent No. 2.

Edna M. Reader, Plaintiff,

vs.

Harry J. Reader, Defendant.

To Harry J. Reader, Defendant:

In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled court and cause on or before four weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, namely on or before the 17th day of January, 1930, and if you so fail to appear and answer, for want thereof, plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief prayed for in the complaint, viz:

For a decree dissolving the bonds of matrimony now existing between yourself and the plaintiff and a divorce therefrom on the grounds of desertion; and for such other relief as to the court may seem meet and equitable in the premises.

This summons is served upon you by publication thereof for four consecutive weeks in the Turner Tribune, pursuant to an order made on the 13th day of December, 1930, by Hon. Gale S. Hill, judge of the above entitled court. The date of the first publication of this summons is December 18, 1930, and the last date of the publication thereof will be the 15th day of January, 1931.

M. B. HAYDEN,
Attorney for Plaintiff,
Dec 18-25 Jan 1-8-15 Salem, Oregon.

DRUGS E. S. Prather BOOKS

Christmas Cards
1c, 2 for 5c, 3 for 10c

DECORATIONS
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Leather Bill Folds and Sets AT ONE HALF REGULAR PRICE

REGULAR \$1.75 TO \$7.50 VALUES

SPECIAL 98c to \$3.75

Fancy Stationery
15c to \$4.29

Manicure Sets
33c to \$4.49

Xmas Tags REG. 10c Special 5c

Mama Dolls
49c to \$1.98

FOUNTAIN PENS, PENCILS,
98c SETS \$8.00

Ash Trays 47c to 98c

Bath Salts
25c to 79c

Fancy Candles
8c to 23c each

Toilet Sets in Gift Boxes 98c to \$9.75