

## Just Cause

For Forbidding a Wedding

By OSCAR COX

Just before the civil war broke out there was a colored man living on a plantation in Tennessee called Courtney St. Leger. This aristocratic name seems so out of place for a negro slave that a word of explanation is necessary. It had been derived from Colonel St. Leger, who had owned the man in Louisiana, and a previous master named Courtney, for at that time negroes took their names from their owners.

Now, Courtney had had a wife on the Courtney plantation, and from her he had been divorced by the fact only that he had been sold to Colonel St. Leger. While under the colonel's ownership he had married another wife, and a few years later he had been sold to a Mr. Harland of Tennessee. Not long after he had been bought by Mr. Harland he concluded to take a wife from among the women owned by that gentleman.

Susan Clarke, whose name had come to her from a former master, had been bought in New Orleans. How many husbands she had had would not have been known on the Harland plantation had it not been that Pete Lefevre, one of her fellow slaves in Tennessee, and his wife Phoebe had been bought at the same time with her and knew of at least two that she had had under different owners.

Courtney and Susan concluded to blot out their remembrances of past connubial bliss and trials by taking each other for lawful partners. Missy Harland, as they called their mistress, was a good woman and would like to have stemmed the current of such marriages among her slaves, but the system of slavery was not conducive to squeamishness on the subject, and she was obliged to take the situation as she found it. So long as couples were sold apart there were to be found cases wherein a strict regard for the letter of the divine institution of marriage was not observed. So when permission to marry was handed in at the manor house it was granted. The wedding took place in an Episcopal church.

The rector was colored, and the wedding guests were also people of color. The pair marched up the aisle to the chancel, the groom with a magnolia in his buttonhole, the bride in a white muslin gown given her by her mistress. The ceremony went on glibly till that part of the service was reached in which the clergyman says:

"If any man can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together let him now speak or forever after hold his peace."

Then Pete Lefevre arose from among the wedding guests and said:

"I know why Court St. Leger shouldn't marry Sue Clarke. Fust off, Pete, he got three wives ariddy, and Sue, she got two husband's I know an' and"

The remarks were interrupted by Uncle Ben Parker, who arose with a threatening look on his face. The bride, the groom, the clergyman and guests all changed their astonished glances from Pete to Uncle Ben.

"Wha' fo' yo' mis'able Louisiana nigger yo' cum hyar fo' t' mak' disturbance in de house ob de Lord? Yo' shut up dat red and black mouf o' yourn or dis hyar congregation gwine to put yo' out!"

"How can I be asked to show just cause why Court and Sue mayn't lawfully be jined togedder and yo' say yo' gwine put me out of I do?"

Ben scratched his head, looked like a bull just about to lift a rail fence with his horns and finally said:

"Dat part o' de ceremony wa'n't meant fo' niggers at all. It war meant fo' white folks."

"You's all wrong," said Mose Tucker, coming into the fray. "White folks don't pay no mo' 'tention to dat dan niggers. De finest people an' de richest people in de worl' hab de mos' husband and wives."

"How dey do 't?' asked Uncle Ben. "By divo'ce—just as easy as fallin' off'n a greased log. But dem kind o' weddin's tak' money. Dat's de reason de richer dey air de easier it air to swap husband's and wives."

"Bredder'n," said the parson, looking benignly over his spectacles, "you's all gwine wrong. De Lord ain't no suspector ob pussions. He hab de same law fo' de white man and de nigger. It's de interpretation wha' mak's de difference. De white man interfrets de word accordin' to his possessions, de nigger accordin' to his necessities. De interpretation in dis case is dat it is all right fo' Pete to show just cause why dis marriage sha'n't tak' place, but accordin' to de interpretation Court and Sue libin' under de auction hammer, de Lord ain't gwine to hold 'em to de same account as dem as is wort a million dollars. Now, yo' Pete, yo' shet up or I gib my divine permission as pastor ob dis church fo' to put yo' out."

Pete subsided, the ceremony proceeded, and at its conclusion Court and Sue sailed smilingly down the aisle and out of the church.

"Pa'son," said an old darky to the officiating clergyman, "dey war anudder freological p'int in de service yo' didn't say nuttin' about."

"Wha' dat?"

"Why, it's 'let no man put asunder.' Dat don't mean notten 'bout de las' time de man or de woman war put asunder; it only mean dis time. And dis time don't hab nuttin' to do with de nex' time nudder."

"Jes' so, brudder. Yo' dead right."

### TRUTH AND LOVE.

The golden beams of truth and the silken cords of love, twisted together, will draw men on with a sweet violence, whether they will or not.—Cudworth.

### Fatal Influence.

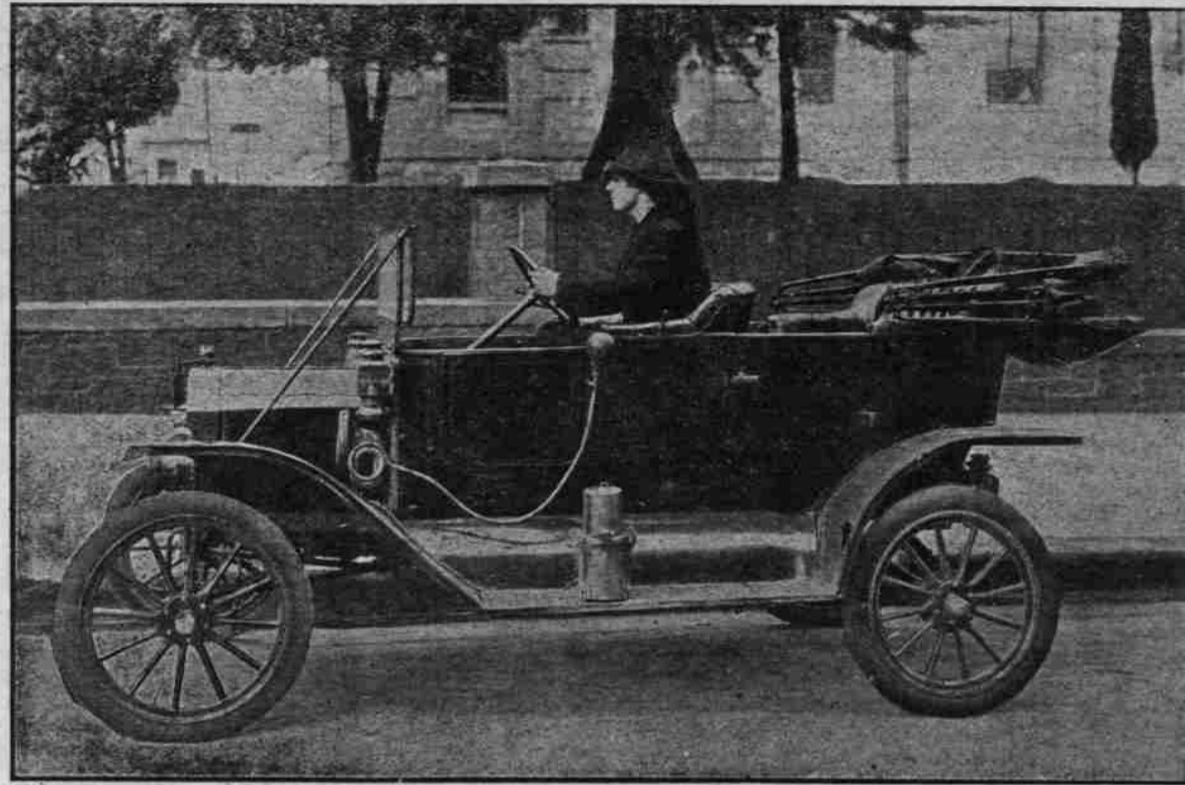
Catterson—Notice how Carstairs' wife makes up of late? Should think he would stop her. Hatterson—Has tried to: feels had about it. But he says it's no use; she learned it from their daughter.—Life.

# DO IT NOW

## Nominate Your Candidate Today

Owing to the persistent demands of a number of prospective candidates we will publish the nomination blanks for one more week. Take advantage of this chance to get 1,000 FREE VOTES. A good beginning is half the battle.

YOURS FOR THE ASKING



A 5-Passenger  
20 Horse  
Power Ford  
FREE

To stimulate interest in the voting and to give each one a chance to profit by their work we will give a prize every 10 days. These prizes will not affect the final count in any way as all votes will count on

## The Grand Automobile

These prizes will be given to the one that hands in the largest number of votes every ten days.

## Now's Your Chance to Get Busy



Fill Out and Mail Today

### OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

OREGON CITY, OREGON

Please Enter the Name of.....

In your Automobile Contest, to start February 19, 1912. This coupon

to count as 1,000.

Sign here.....

### IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS and RELATIVES



A GRANDMOTHER may not be as spry as she used to be but she is in close touch with her world for all that.

The telephone enables her to make as many calls as she pleases, and in all sorts of weather.

Formal gatherings have their place, but it is the many little intimate visits over the telephone that keep people young and interested.

Grandmother's telephone visits do not stop with her own town. The Long Distance Service of the Bell Telephone takes her to other towns, and allows relatives and friends to chat with her although hundreds of miles away.



Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.

Every Bell Telephone is the Center of the System

### SPECIAL CONTEST IS RUNNING CLOSE

(Continued from page 1)

and it is not too late yet to get in the game and at least win some of the special prizes to be awarded every ten days. If you are a member of some lodge, get your fellow members out to help you. If you are a teacher, enlist the assistance of your scholars—they would be glad to help you. If you work in the mill line the boys up for you; it's great the way those mill boys stick up for and work for any one of their own. If you are a young

lady let both your girl and young men friends help you. Enter the game for all it is worth—it's worth a lot—a new touring car, with all the late improvements and fully equipped.

Experience isn't necessary. It does not matter if you've never been in a contest before. Come up to the Enterprise office, talk it over with the contest manager and get a right start. Remember each one nominated gets 1,000 free votes as long as the nomination blanks appear. Send in your name today and get a boosting start. Man CAN do what man WILL do and YOU can grab the Ford if you

make up your mind you WILL get the most votes.

### MISS CLARA FIELDS SOCIAL FAVORITE

A picture of Miss Clara Fields, who accompanied her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Fields to San Francisco, appeared in the San Francisco Call February 26, and the following is taken from that paper:

"One of the most popular girls of the younger social set is Miss Clara E. Fields of Oregon City, Or., who is spending the winter in San Francisco with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Fields. Since coming to California she has been the incentive for much informal entertainment among the members of the debutante set. Mr. and Mrs. Fields, accompanied by their daughter, will leave shortly for an extended tour in the southern part of the state. They will be in Del Monte for the end of the golf tournament, and will visit in Coronado and Santa Barbara before returning to San Francisco."

### MRS. STRAIGHT IS HOSTESS OF CLUB

A most enjoyable afternoon was spent Wednesday afternoon by the Wednesday Afternoon Auction Bridge club at the home of Mrs. H. E. Straight, which was prettily decorated with jonquils violets and other spring flowers. Delicious refreshments were served. The prize in auction bridge was won by Mrs. John H. Walker.

Mrs. Straight's guests were Mrs. Charles D. Latourette, Mrs. M. D. Latourette, Mrs. L. E. Jones, Mrs. O. W. Eastham, Mrs. J. H. Walker, Mrs. E. P. Rands, Mrs. E. A. Somner, Mrs. L. L. Pickens, Mrs. George Hankins, Mrs. C. H. Meissner, Mrs. A. A. Price, Miss Marjory Caulfield, Mrs. W. S. U'Ren, Mrs. C. G. Huntley, Mrs. W. S. U'Ren, Miss Bessie Sheppard of Portland.

The Morning Enterprise is the best breakfast food you can have.

### "WILLING WORKERS" TO GIVE LEAP-YEAR PARTY

The "Willing Workers" class of the Christian church of Gladstone will give a leap year social in Miller's Hall March 1. A program will be given during the evening, and one of the features will be the "fishing" for partners by the girls. Refreshments will be served.

The time to read the Morning Enterprise is at the breakfast table or a little before.

### EASIER FEELING IN APPLE MARKET

There was a generally easier feeling in the apple market in Portland Thursday, the result of more liberal receipts of the fruit from the country the past few days and for the best grades \$2.50 was regarded as about the top quotation. The rate at which apples have come in this week indicates that holdings in the country were heavier than was supposed a few weeks ago. Nevertheless the outlook is for a satisfactory clean-up before the end of the season. The varieties now offered include Spitzenbergs, Newtons, Red Cheek Pippins, Arkansas Blacks, Kays, Whitesappes, Russets, Baldwins and several others. Prices range from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a box, and the trade on the whole continues fairly active.

Prevailing Oregon City prices are as follows:

- DRIED FRUITS—(Buying)—Prunes on basis of 6-14 pounds for 45-50¢.
- Fruits, Vegetables.
- HIDES—(Buying)—Green hides, 7c to 9c; salters, 5c to 6c; dry hides, 12c to 14c; sheep pelts, 25c to 75c each.
- Hay, Grain, Feed.
- HAY—(Buying)—Timothy, \$12 to \$15; clover, \$8 to \$9; oat hay, best, \$9 to \$10; mixed, \$9 to \$12; alfalfa, \$15 to \$16.50.
- OATS—(Buying)—Gray \$30; wheat, \$25 to \$29; oil meal, selling \$53; Shady Brook dairy feed, selling \$1.25 100 pounds.
- FEED—(Selling)—Shorts, \$26; bran \$25; rolling barley, \$39; processa barley, \$40.
- FLOUR—\$4.50 to \$5.25.

### Butter, Poultry, Eggs.

POULTRY—(Buying)—Hens 11c to 12c; spring, 10c to 11c, and roosters 8c.  
Butter—(Buyers)—Ordinary country butter, 25c to 30c; fancy dairy, 40c.  
EGGS—Oregon ranch eggs, 20c.  
SACK VEGETABLES—Carrots, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per sack; parsnips, \$1.25 to \$1.50; turnips, \$1.25 to \$1.50; beets, \$1.50.

### POTATOES—Best buying 85c to \$1.10 per hundred.

ONIONS—Oregon, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per hundred; Australian, \$2 per hundred.  
LIVESTOCK, MEATS.  
BEEF—(Live weight)—Steers, 5c and 5 1-2; cows, 4 1-2c; bulls, 3 1-2c.  
VEAL—Calves bring from 8c to 13c, according to grade.  
MUTTON—Sheep, 3c and 3 1-2c; lambs, 4c and 5c.

### Must Sell At Once

7-room house and 6 lots; 30 fruit trees, good well, wood shed, barn and chicken house; all fenced; A-1 soil; abstract given; \$500 cash will make deal; balance on good terms covering four years' time. Price \$1900. This property is in Gladstone near car line. For further information see our attorneys

### Cross & Hammond

Beaver Building

Oregon City

### NOT EXPENSIVE

Treatment at Hot Lake, including medical attention, board and baths, costs no more than you would pay to live at any first class hotel. Rooms can be had from 75 cents to \$2.50 per day. Meats in the cafeteria are served from 20 cents up and in the grill at the usual grill prices. Baths range from 50 cents to \$1.00.

### We Do Cure Rheumatism



Hot Lake Mineral Baths and mud given under scientific direction have cured thousands. Write for illustrated booklet descriptive of Hot Lake Sanatorium and the methods employed. Hot Lake Sanatorium is accessible as it is located directly on the main line of the O-W. R. & N. railway, and special excursion rates are to be had at all times. Ask agents.

### HOT LAKE SANATORIUM

HOT LAKE, OREGON.  
WALTER M. PIERCE, Pres.-Mgr.