

Local and Personal.

C. M. Lewis visited Dallas last Monday.

A. N. Halleck was a County Seat visitor this week.

Mrs. A. R. Carter of Dallas died last Sunday after a long illness, aged about 61 years.

Mrs. W. T. Sellers of Hermiston is expected here today to visit her parents, A. N. Halleck and wife.

Oregon has not had a drouth, but the rain which has broken the frosty weather, has caused general rejoicing.

G. A. Peterson one of our wide awake realstate men was showing some prospective buyers around the country yesterday.

Dr. Cook, the explorer, is standing before the public in bad light at present, but, perhaps he can yet satisfy the world as to the correctness of his claim.

Mrs. Frank Lucas of Portland spent the holidays visiting her parents here, C. C. Mulkey and wife. Mrs. Lucas served here in the post office at one time.

Items From Falls City News

Mr. Darling who has been sick for some time was sent to the Dallas hospital Monday morning.

A bunk house at Mill 1, occupied by Clinton Harland and Oscar Roskey burned Monday evening. Everything in the cabin was burned with it.

Misses Irene and Cecil Dodd returned Wednesday from their school in Corvallis to spend the Christmas vacation with their parents.

S. R. Skeels came out from his homestead the last of the week and went on to Forest Grove to spend Christmas with friends there. He expects to go to work here in the mill so as to be close to his claim until he gets his final papers from Uncle Samuel.

For Service

Registered English Berkshire male hog, \$1.50. Any sows left longer than three days will be charged 25 cents a day extra.

A. H. CRAVEN,
Monmouth, Ore.

Circuit Court

Judge William Galloway held a short session of Circuit Court, Department No. 2 in Dallas Monday. Nine cases were disposed of, as follows:

4 John R. Loy vs Sylvester Ridders et al, partition; Oscar Hayter for plaintiff. Dismissed.

7 Hazel Bowers vs Elmer W. Bowers, divorce; W. L. Tooze, Jr. for plaintiff. Continued.

9 Josie Wheeler vs Harland Wheeler, suit; Oscar Hayter and G. G. Bingham for plaintiff; Carson & Brown for defendant. Dismissed upon stipulation of parties.

10 Tilgham Hinshaw vs Ann A. Hinshaw, divorce; Oscar Hayter for plaintiff; L. D. Brown for defendant. Decree as prayed for.

11 Jessie O. Percival vs Robert M. Percival, divorce; Oscar Hayter for plaintiff. Decree as prayed for.

14 H. V. Gates vs Polk County, appeal from Board of Equalization; Oscar Hayter for plaintiff. Dismissed.

18 Thomas Bowman vs Blanch Bowman, divorce; N. L. Butler for plaintiff. Decree as prayed for.

19 John Vernon vs. W. B. Officer, review; W. L. Tooze, Jr., for plaintiff. Remanded to Justice Court for further proceedings.

21 Petition for appointment of Trustee in W. C. Brown estate; Oscar Hayter for plaintiff; L. D. Brown for defendant. Demurrer confessed.

A CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER.

By GRACE ETHEL WEEKS.
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It was hard for Mr. and Mrs. Whitbeck to separate, especially hard, because they had two lovely children, a boy and a girl, aged eight and six. They agreed to leave the legal steps in the hands of Tom Forrest, a lawyer, who was a friend of both. Having heard the story of each, he recommended that the husband leave his wife for awhile and she could then obtain a divorce on the ground of desertion.

After an interval of six months, on the 23d of December the attorney notified his clients that their divorce was about to come to a head and that owing to a division of property that had been agreed upon a meeting was necessary. He summoned them to meet at the home they had occupied the next evening at 5 o'clock.

The couple arrived within a few minutes of each other. They were met at the door and ushered into the library by the lawyer. It was a cheerless day—clouds, chill and snow—but a bright wood fire burned on the hearth. For this forethought and provision the Whitbecks intently commended their friend the attorney. Mr. Forrest said to them:

"This is probably your last meeting as husband and wife."

He then read an agreement he had drawn up. Then he began to get the documents together for signature. He looked for one he did not find.

"That's bad," he said. "One of the most important papers of the lot I have left at my office. I fear I shall have to ask you to wait till I go and get it."

He went out, leaving the couple together. Neither spoke for some time. Whitbeck went to the window and looked on the dreary sight without. His wife peered at the fire.

"The house looks very comfortable and very natural," said the husband, turning.

"It does," was the laconic reply.

"Far preferable to a bachelor's room in bachelors' apartments."

"Or one in a hotel."

There was a pause.

"I suppose this sad ending to happy days is largely my fault?" said Whitbeck.

"I dare say I had something to do with it," replied the wife.

Another pause.

"Rather melancholy," the husband said again, "that this is the last view we shall take, at least together, of our once happy home."

"Very melancholy."

Nothing more was said for ten minutes. Then the wife remarked that Tom was gone a long while and the fire needed more wood. Whitbeck said that some one must be in charge and he would ring. He touched the electric button, and who should respond but the maid they had left there six months before.

"Why, Nancy?" exclaimed husband and wife together.

"I'm glad to see you both back," said the girl, smiling. "What is it, ma'am?"

"W-w-why," she stammered. "It's wood."

The girl went out and brought wood.

"I suppose you'll have dinner the same time as before?" she said.

"Dinner?"

"Yes'm. The table's laid now in the dining room."

The husband and wife looked at each other.

"The same hour, Nancy," said Whitbeck—half past 6." And the maid departed.

"This is Tom's doing," said Mr. Whitbeck.

"I wonder what it all means," remarked Mrs. Whitbeck.

"It means, sweetheart," replied her husband, putting his arms about her, "that we've been a pair of ninnies and Tom has known it and saved us."

At that moment Nancy opened the door, to find Mr. and Mrs. Whitbeck, who had come to sign papers for a perpetual separation, in each other's arms.

"Dinner's ready," she said, looking at the ceiling.

The table was set for four. On it was a bottle of champagne with Tom Forrest's card dangling to it. On the card was written:

Divorce be hanged! You needed a dose of loneliness, and I have given it to you. I have never entered a plea for divorce and never intended to do so.

"Oh, dear!" exclaimed the wife.

"How I wish I had brought the children!"

"Can't we send for them?"

The door opened, and there was Tom Forrest, while a boy and a girl bounded into the room, jumped to their father's neck and clung there.

"I knew you'd want them far more than that missing paper," said Forrest, "so I jumped into a cab and went for them."

"Oh, papa," cried the boy, "I felt you'd come home for Christmas!"

"Mamma said only yesterday," the girl added, "that she wished papa could be with us today and tomorrow. She was crying too."

"Thank heaven, it's not too late!" said the father, taking out his watch. "It is only half past 6. We have the whole evening after the children go to bed for—"

The mother knew well enough that he meant they had time for buying a Christmas outfit.

"Dine with us, Tom," said Whitbeck.

"Not I. Wouldn't intrude for the world."

A Problem In Mathematics.

The town of Sturgis, in Mississippi, is the only round square town in existence. By legal enactment the circle has been squared, and the mathematician may now proceed to calculate the area of a square circle. In the laws of Mississippi for the year 1886, on page 682, is found the following:

"An act to incorporate the town of Sturgis, in Oktibbeha county, Mississippi.

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Mississippi that the town of Sturgis, in the county of Oktibbeha, is hereby incorporated and that the corporate limits of said town shall be as follows: Beginning at the quarter stake in front of Caleb Hannah's residence and running 600 yards in every direction, making said corporate limits 1,200 yards square."

Thus the circle is squared by the solemn declaration of the law.—Youth's Companion.

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