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Church Locals and Notices

(For all churches who hold regu ar services in this city. The proper authorities are requested to send in their announcement early each week.)

Standard Bearers Meet—The Standard Bearers of the M. E. Church met at the home of Mrs. H. R. Bernard Friday evening. A program, consisting of talk on China and the work of the missionaries by various members of the society, was given. After the regular program a social time was enjoyed, which was carried out in an unique way by a short program in which all had a part. Refreshments were served and all spent a pleasant time.

Aid Society—The Aid Society of the M. E. Church met Wednesday afternoon in the parlors of the church, with Mrs. S. G. Morgan and Mrs. Benjamin as hostess. The meeting was enjoyed by all.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST—Third Street. Regular services Sabbath day: 10:00 A. M., Sabbath school; 11:15 A. M., church services. Missionary meeting, Sunday evening, 7:30 P. M. Prayer meeting, Wednesday evening, 7:30 P. M. A cordial invitation extended to all.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL—Rev. D. T. Thomas, pastor. Bible School, 9:45 A. M.; Morning worship, 11 A. M.; Junior C. E., 3 P. M.; Intermediate C. F. and Y. P. S. C. E., 6:30 P. M.; Evening service, 7:30 P. M. Thursday, midweek prayer-meeting. Visitors are heartily welcome.

FIRST METHODIST—Dr. R. E. Dunlap, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.; Miss Mary Cori, superintendent; Preaching service, 11 A. M.; Epworth League, 6:30 P. M.; Evening preaching service, 7:30 P. M.; Prayer meeting, Thursday evening. All are cordially invited to these services.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH—First and Third streets, J. B. Holmes, pastor. Sunday School, 10 A. M.; J. A. Parker, superintendent; Communion and preaching at 11 A. M.; Christian Endeavor, 7 P. M.; Kenard Dixon, president; Evening sermon at 7:30 P. M. Week day services: Officers' and teachers' meeting on Tuesday evening, 8 P. M.; Chorus drill, Mr. George Jackson leader, each Thursday evening; Prayer service each Thursday evening. The ladies of the church meet each Wednesday afternoon at 2:30. The C. W. B. M. meets the first Tuesday afternoon of each month. The board of officers meet on the first Monday evening of each month. A cordial invitation is extended to all to share in these services.

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH—Rev. J. R. Buck, pastor. The following are the services:

Forest Grove—Mass on the first and fourth Sundays of the month at 8:30 A. M.; Mass on the second and third Sundays of the month at 10:30 A. M.; every week day at 8 A. M. Benediction with sermon every Sunday, 7:30 P. M.

Cornelius—Mass on the first Sunday of the month at 10:30 A. M.; Mass on the second and third Sundays of the month at 8 A. M.

Gaston—Mass on the fourth Sunday of the month at 10:30 A. M.
NOTE—A fifth Sunday in the month occurring, the time and place for the masses will be announced.

Catechism: In Forest Grove on Friday at 3 P. M.; in Cornelius on Saturday at 4 P. M.

Confession: Saturday at 4 and 7 P. M. Altar Society: A general meeting of the society will be held on the first Wednesday of January, April, July and October. Sermons are always in English at both masses on every Sunday. Everyone, regardless of creed, is cordially invited to all services.

A MOTHER'S RUSE

By HELOISE BRAYTON

"Amy," said Mrs. Stringfellow to her daughter, "Walter Barnard has been paying attention to you now for six months. If you were engaged I presume that you would tell me. But I wish to know surely whether you are or are not."

"I am not," replied Amy dolefully.

"That evidently means that Walter hasn't spoken."

"I think he will, mamma."

"Not without being brought to the point."

"Mamma, you wouldn't wish me to tell him that I am expecting him to propose to me, would you?"

"Certainly not. That would not be the part of a girl. But a girl has her privileges, and one of them is to indicate to a young man paying her attention that she wishes him to discontinue doing so."

"But I don't."

The mother bit her lip, but said nothing more. Nevertheless she determined that since her daughter had not the spunk to bring her lover to a proposal she would make the attempt herself. To interfere in such a matter is always a great risk, and the lady realized that by doing so she might make a breach between herself and her daughter that might never be healed.

But Mrs. Stringfellow was naturally diplomatic and determined that she would pursue a little game of her own which might mean a great deal or might mean nothing.

Not long after this little dialogue Mrs. Stringfellow arranged that Amy

should go away on a visit. Amy objected, not being willing to leave Walter even for a day, though she did not see him oftener than once a week. But the mother prevailed, and Amy departed with fear and trembling that the man she wanted would during her absence fall into the toils of some other girl.

One day during Amy's absence Walter Barnard called upon her mother to say his respects and ask how her laughter was enjoying herself. He was ushered into the library, where he usually visited with Amy. On the table lay a bill from a prominent dry goods store. It was so plainly exposed that the caller could not help seeing it, but he did not make himself acquainted with its contents till an unrolled package on a chair attracted his attention. It was white and of a delicate fabric. Near it was a box, in which some white gauzy substance so loosely rested that a part hung over the side. There was still another box with the cover on.

Barnard while waiting for Mrs. Stringfellow had nothing to occupy him, so his mind became fixed on these articles. He examined the fabric, and it seemed to him that there was about enough of it to make a dress. Then it occurred to him that the gauzy stuff might be intended for a bride's veil. Having gone thus far in his surmises, he was naturally curious to know what was in the covered box. He lifted the cover and saw that it was filled with orange blossoms.

Evidently some one was about to be married.

But who? There was only one single woman in the house, and that was Amy.

A terrible thought entered the young man's brain. Could it be possible that while he had been putting off his proposal some other man had come in and occupied the vacant place ahead of him? His heart seemed to stop beating. Perspiration stood out on his forehead.

He paced the floor till Mrs. Stringfellow came down. When she saw the dry goods she looked displeased, called a maid and directed her in a sharp tone to take them upstairs. Then she turned her attention to her visitor.

Barnard was too disconcerted to talk connectedly. He jumped from the warm weather to the news from abroad and from the news from abroad to the last bit of social gossip. Then he asked if Miss Stringfellow was enjoying her visit and was informed that she was having a delightful time. He asked when the young lady would return, and his hostess informed him that certain events that had happened since her departure would necessarily alter the time of her homecoming, but did not say whether it would be hastened or delayed.

Two or three times Barnard was on the verge of asking whether Amy was about to be married, but every time he balked. Once he got his question partly out, but Mrs. Stringfellow looked at him so coldly that he turned the question into something else. Finally he arose to go, stumbled against a chair's back or against an open door, dropped his hat and stepped on it, finally getting out in great confusion.

That night he slept only a few hours and in the morning took an early train for the place where Amy Stringfellow was visiting. She was much surprised at seeing him and waited for him to declare the object of his coming.

"Are you going to be married?" he asked in a tone to warrant that if she were he was ready to kill the groom.

"No. Why do you ask?"

There was an embarrassed silence for a few moments, when he spoke again.

"Well, then, I wish to put in my claim for you. I don't want any more scares like this."

When Amy returned to her home her mother confessed her ruse. Had it failed she could not have been convicted of it.

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