

POWELL VALLEY

The Rev. J. G. Bringdale of Portland will preach at the Mission church in the Swedish language on Friday evening at 8 o'clock. All are cordially invited. Mr. Bringdale is from the North Pacific Evangelistic Institute. He will bring students to assist in the service.

PLEASANT VALLEY

A pleasant dancing party was enjoyed Saturday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Springer. The homey atmosphere, the enjoyment of good company and wholesome amusement without the taint of dissipation has made this place popular, and in spite of the hot weather the neighborhood was well represented.

"NUMBER 88"

IN the Potter's field just outside the gloomy walls of the Asylum for the Criminally Insane at Mattewan, N. Y., there is a headpiece which bears the number "88"—and, back of this, simple inscription, is a story of identity concealed even in the face of the law's most determined efforts which makes fiction appear pale and commonplace by comparison.

All that is known of the early history of "Mrs. Henrietta Robinson," the palpably assumed name of the woman whose body rests beneath the numbered headstone at Mattewan, is that she was of either English or Canadian origin and that she came to Troy, N. Y., in 1851, being always well supplied with funds from a source which remained concealed even during the rigid investigation which followed her arrest on the charge of murder.

Some months after "Mrs. Robinson" settled in Troy a strange and apparently inexplicable tragedy occurred. A merchant and a young woman who was living with his family dropped dead at the table. A post-mortem examination showed that they had been poisoned and, despite the absence of motive, "Mrs. Robinson," who had been present, was arrested, but refused to say a word even to her lawyer.

To add to the air of mystery which surrounded the entire case, the defendant insisted upon appearing in court shrouded in a heavy black veil which effectually concealed her features. All during the trial she sat, impassive and unmoved, apparently taking not the slightest interest in the conduct of the proceedings. When the state had concluded its case, a comparatively flimsy structure of circumstantial evidence, the counsel for the defense arose and, admitting that he had not a shred of direct evidence to offer, introduced the plea of insanity.

At the conclusion of the trial and before delivering his charge to the jury, the presiding judge called attention to the fact that no one in the court had seen the defendant's face and requested "Mrs. Robinson" to lift her veil.

Slowly and with great dignity she arose, but made no effort to comply with the court's request.

"I am here," she stated, in a voice which penetrated to every corner of the crowded courtroom, "to undergo a most painful ordeal, not to be gazed at."

The request was not repeated and, after a deliberation of several hours, the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty" and the prisoner was sentenced to death—a decree which was later commuted to life imprisonment by order of the governor, though not before "Mrs. Robinson" had made her one formal statement in the shadow of the gallows:

"When I am dead," she declared, "all will die with me. I have promised to be silent, to die without betraying anything."

The first 18 years of her life sentence were passed in Sing Sing penitentiary. She was then moved to the Auburn State Prison for the Insane, where she remained for 17 years, and finally to the Asylum for the Criminally Insane at Mattewan, where the woman of mystery finally died on May 4, 1905, after 52 years in prison. During all this time, however, she never wrote a letter nor spoke a word, save to her lawyer who visited her at regular intervals and who admitted that his services had been paid for by "certain influential personages" whom he was not at liberty to name.

All that was known of "Henrietta Robinson" was that she played the organ at Sing Sing with the touch of a master musician and that she died as she had lived—in silence, utter and absolute, leaving as a heritage some of the most puzzling questions in the history of criminal proceedings:

What was the woman's real name and where had she come from?

Had she poisoned the merchant and his young guest and, if so, with what motive?

Why had she insisted upon concealing her face during the trial?

If she were innocent, why did she refuse for more than half a century to make any plea for leniency?

What did she mean by her statement that she "had promised to be silent, to die without betraying anything?"

Who supplied the funds with which the lawyer was paid?

The answers to these and as many more unsolved riddles connected with this woman of mystery lie concealed beneath that simple headpiece in the Potter's field at Mattewan, a headstone bearing only the number "88."

Depew on Common Schools

The sheet anchor of the ship of state is the common school. Teach, first and last, Americanism. Let no youth leave the school without being thoroughly grounded in the history, the principles and the incalculable blessings of American liberty. Let the boys be trained soldiers of constitutional freedom, the girls the intelligent lovers of freemen.—Chauncey M. Depew.

BORING

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Baggerly, who died after a brief stay of only a few hours, was laid to rest in the Damascus cemetery on Friday of last week.

Lester and Willard Boring have been attending the Epworth League institute at Falls City the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Telford and family, also the Misses Maxine and Gracie Telford of Oregon City, spent Sunday at the Mineral Hot Springs near Government Camp on Mt. Hood.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Rich and family left Monday of this week for a week's stay at Pacific City.

Boring won the ball game Sunday from the Willamette team played on the home grounds with a score of 6 to 2.

Miss Edith Naas and Miss Peterson of Portland spent Sunday at the home of Miss Naas' parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Naas, and family.

The Misses Mable and Esther Erdman of Portland spent the week end at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Erdman.

Len Siefert is reported quite ill this week.

Steven Childs, who has been quite sick for the past week, is reported in a serious condition.

Mrs. G. F. Peterson, who underwent an operation at the Portland Sanitarium about two weeks ago, was removed to her home here the first of the week.

M. F. Morgan returned early in the week from a visit with friends and relatives at Bend, Oregon.

Miss Evelyn Siefert returned the first of the week from a trip to the coast with Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Rich of Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Mallicoat spent the week end visiting relatives at McMinnville. Miss Jamie Farmer returned with them for a visit here.

Lester Fisher, tie inspector for the Southern Pacific Railway Company, spent Sunday with his family here.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Metzger and little daughter Doris returned from Seaside the last of the week.

Earl Childs, a guard at the penitentiary at McNeil Island, is visiting for a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Childs and his brother, William Childs, and family.

The Misses Maxine and Gracie Telford of Oregon City are spending the week at the home of their brother, W. R. Telford, and family.

James Hite is acting as temporary carrier on Route 4 in the absence of Otis Rich who is taking his annual vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Palmer left the latter part of the week for a visit with relatives at Washougal, Wash., and a week's stay at St. Martin's hot springs.

ROCKWOOD

Mrs. Luella Krueger and Miss Florence Merrig of Myrtle Point are visiting for a few days with Rockwood friends. Mrs. Krueger will teach at Gresham this year.

Mrs. Ida Burgess and daughter Ida and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Burgess of Brighton, Oregon, are visiting for a few days in this vicinity.

A birthday surprise was given Mrs. George Pullen by the members of the Lady Maccabee lodge here on Thursday evening, the time of the regular meeting of the lodge. After all arrangements were made for the surprise it was learned that Mrs. Pullen was in Montavilla and intended to stay over night. It took considerable diplomacy to get her to come to the meeting, but she arrived in time to enjoy the festivities of the evening in her honor. A delightful evening was spent.

K. W. Harvey, who works at a logging camp at Vernonia, spent the week end at home with his family.

Mrs. B. H. Pedersen and children are visiting at Ilwaco, Wash., for a short time.

Mrs. O. E. Hill went to Seattle Saturday for a two weeks' visit with relatives.

F. A. Sikes of Corvallis has bought the E. A. Schrepel place. He and his family have already taken possession. Mr. Schrepel is in Corvallis with his mother.

COTTRELL

Sunday school at the community church will be held next Sunday at 9:30 a. m. Church service will be dismissed as Rev. S. F. Pitts has charge of the services at Sandy where the Rev. Everett B. Parrott will preach.

—your business friend

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I NEED SOME NEW CLOTHES AND
THAT'S RIGHT YOU DO - WHY DON'T YOU GET YOU SOME?



I WANT YOU TO TAKE ME TO THAT MUSICAL AND TO THE LITERARY LECTURE NEXT WEEK!
YES DEAR - WHAT EVER YOU SAY!



LOOK HERE OSCAR HALL! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG. WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING THAT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE?
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55 56 57 58 59 60 61

