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FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1908

On Thin Ice.

By JAMES NORTON.

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When the letter from Aunt Salina was received announcing that she would arrive on a visit the next week, mother and daughter looked at each other for a long minute, then the former said:

"We must keep it from her."

"Yes."

"If we don't she will certainly talk right up to the deacon and make things worse than ever. Your Aunt Salina is not afraid of any living man. You just act as natural as you can, and don't let her catch on to a thing."

And yet five or six days later, when the guest in question arrived, she had not been in the house half an hour before she set her jaw and said to Mrs. Thompson, her widowed sister:

"Now, Ruth, while Mary is upstairs I want to hear all about it. There's some skulduggery been going on here, and I want to get at the root of it. It's no use to put on that innocent look, for I'm a woman that can't be deceived."

Then the widow had to fix it up. Her daughter Mary, now twenty years old, had been "keeping company" with Deacon Bromley's son James, and the marriage day had once been set. Deacon Bromley had then favored the match. The widow had a fine farm adjoining his, and if she took forty acres off of hers and her forty off of his the young folks would have a good start in life. She as well as he could also contribute considerable cash toward building the new house and barn. Yes, it would be a good match all around, and everything was going swimmingly when the deacon took in a summer boarder.

He was what might be called a half cash boarder—that is, for two weeks he paid half the price of board and lodging in cash and the other in information which changed the deacon's nature all over. The boarder had made a study of family trees, so he asserted, and after scratching his head and consulting the signs in the family almanac for a fortnight he announced that the Bromleys were direct descendants of Lord Bromley of England, while Lord Bromley himself was a grand-nephew of William the Conqueror.

The deacon had always been rather a stiff necked man toward the community, and this information added to his pride. He did not question the stranger's information, and after a time it began to get in its work. He wasn't rich, but he had the blue blood in him, and that was even better. In four weeks he was walking as if he had a poker down his back, and at the end of four more he said to his son:

"James, there is nothing that hurts a family more than a misalliance. What is the world going to say when it hears that a Bromley has married a Thompson?"

"Are you talking about Mary Thomp-

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ABEL ADY

son, father?" asked James.
"I am. I am seeing things a great deal different from what I did a few weeks ago. Where did the Thompsons spring from? Who are they? Was the first Thompson a lord or duke or only a cooper?"

"But, you know, I'm engaged to Mary Thompson, and you know that the family is respectable. No one can say that there has been anything against them, from grandfather down."
"Um, um! None of them has been in jail that I know of, but I ask again, 'Who are the Thompsons?' We know who the Bromleys sprang from, and I cannot consent to any plebeian alliance. Until I know who the first Thompson was I shall feel justified in opposing this match. It will be no use whatever to argue the matter with me. I am determined to preserve the purity of our blood as it has come down to us."

James did not cease to call at the widow's, but it was not long before she realized that he had something on his mind, and he was finally prevailed upon to state it. He held in direct opposition to his father, but that did not satisfy the insulted mother or the high spirited daughter. Strained relations followed. Such was the situation when Aunt Salina arrived. She listened to the story with a grim look on her face, and when it was finished she said:

"Ruth, you were never any good at handling cases like this, and you must leave things to me. I know all about the Thompsons and the Bromleys, too, and I've heard a thing or two about William the Conqueror since I went to Michigan to live. You just keep out of the fuss and let me settle it my own way."

"But you won't go to the deacon and call him an old idiot?" protested the widow.
"I can't tell what I'll do. Providence generally takes a hand in cases like this, and I shall depend a good deal on Providence. We won't say a word to Mary about it."

Providence didn't wait long before taking a hand. December had come, instead of being married on Christmas day, as the young couple had hoped for, they were as good as estranged.
Between the house and the barn was a goose pond of a considerable depth, and though this had been frozen over solid for two or three weeks, a recent south wind had gone far to weaken the ice, and the hired man had skinned the pond in going to and fro.

On the forenoon of the very next day after the story had been told Deacon Bromley came walking toward the widow's house. He was taking a short cut across the fields, and when he reached the pond he stepped boldly on the ice. It began to crack, and though a direct descendant of Lord Bromley and through him of William the Conqueror, the deacon didn't consider it derogatory to his dignity to make a rush for the head of a barrel appearing above the ice. He dared not go back and be dared not go forward, and he shouted for some one to come and shove a plank out on the ice to save his blue blood from being chilled.

"My soul, but there's Deacon Bromley standing on that barrel in the middle of the goose pond!" exclaimed the widow as she heard the shouts and looked out of the window.

"It's Providence," answered Aunt Salina, "and now you keep hands off. Providence and I are going to run this show. Get my hood and shawl and mittens, for the conversation may last some time."

Five minutes later she stood on the bank of the pond, sizing the deacon up, and after a bit she said:

"I am Mary's Aunt Salina from Michigan and here on a visit. Did you want to see any one in particular?"

"Why—why, as I was just going by, you know, I thought I would stop and ask for any letters James might have written."

"And did James know you were going to ask?"
"No, I can't say that he did. I see a twelve foot board there by the wood shed. May I ask you to kindly bring it here and shove it out on the ice?"
"What! What!" exclaimed Aunt Salina as she gazed at him. "Sir, I want you to know that I was a Thompson before I married!"
"Yes?"
"And how dare you, sir—how dare you Bromley—take a Thompson to drag boards around? It's an insult, sir—an insult to our blood!"
"I didn't mean it so. I didn't know—I never heard that the Thompsons had—had—"

"Had any blood at all, you mean, sir? Another insult! Who do you think you are, sir?"
"You may have heard of Lord Bromley of England?" queried the deacon, trying to look dignified, but making a failure of it, as any man must have done, perched in the center of a goose pond.
"Yes, sir, I have had with good reason. He stole a horse from a Thompson and was hanged for it!"
"You—you don't say?"
"In the next generation two Bromleys were branded on the palms of their hands for cattle stealing. In the third one of them went to prison for arson. He sought to burn down the castle of a Thompson."

"Can it be possible?"
"And in the fourth, fifth and sixth generations the Thompsons got together all their retainers and drove all the Bromleys out of the country, and the king rewarded them for it. Is it possible that you never heard that Lord Grassy was a Thompson? Doesn't history tell you that the Duke of York was a Thompson? Why, man, there isn't a noble in England today that wasn't a Thompson first. He had to be."

"I—I have been told that I descended from William the Conqueror," faltered the deacon, as he felt that he had lost his case.
"But who was William the Conqueror? When he landed in England it was the Thompsons that lent him money and paid his house rent until he could strike a job. Deacon Bromley, do you want that board to get ashore on?"

"If you please."
"And is it to save an idiot or a sensible man?"
"Um! I think I would like to talk with the widow a little while. I didn't know, you know?"
"No," replied Aunt Salina as she went after the board, "but you do now. It's Thompson. It's Thompson with a 'p.' It's the Thompson family, descended directly from Adam and Eve, that have been making and unmaking kings and emperors and dividing up the earth for the last 6,000 years and are not through yet. There's the plank, and now you come in and have a talk and get over your foolishness."

The marriage took place a month later, and Deacon Bromley hasn't had a chance yet to thrash the genealogist who paid half cash for his board.

Petition for Liquor License

TO THE HONORABLE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR KLAMATH COUNTY.

We the undersigned, residents and legal voters of the precinct of Wood River, in the County of Klamath, State of Oregon, and actual residents therein, and who have actually resided therein for more than thirty days immediately preceding the date of signing and filing this petition, do hereby respectfully petition your honorable body to grant and issue to James H. Wheeler, a resident of said precinct, a license to sell spirituous, vinous, fermented or malt liquors in less quantities than one gallon, in the precinct aforesaid for a period of six months, from the 3rd day of July, 1908.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, that this petition will be presented to the County Court aforesaid at the court room in the city of Klamath Falls, Oregon, on the 1st day of July, A. D. 1908, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day or as soon thereafter as said petition can be heard. Dated this 16th day of May, 1908.

- James H. Wheeler.
- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| NAMES | NAMES |
| C. E. Hoyt | J. M. Emery |
| Roy R. Wise | H. B. Lonsley |
| N. J. Johnson | O. B. Bunch |
| David Ramsey | Asa Drope |
| S. B. Gardner | Ralph H. Langston |
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| Frank Dompier | Wm. M. Skeen |
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| J. H. Smart | H. J. Savridge |
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| W. M. Thomason | W. H. Norton |
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| R. A. Moon | Clark |
| G. T. Gray | Wm. Denton |
| Walter Dixon | F. M. Denton |
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| G. C. Hill | J. H. Hessig |
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| R. M. Jamison | Rube White |
| J. L. Vose | Frank Silvers |
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The Klamath Falls Public Library is open every afternoon from 2 to 5:30 o'clock and each evening from 6:30 to 10 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Summons
In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Klamath County.
John Koontz plaintiff, vs. Amanda Ella Koontz defendant, suit in equity for divorce.

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 suit on or before Saturday, June 13th, 1908, being the last day prescribed in the order for publication of this summons, the first publication of which being on Saturday, May 2nd, 1908, and if you fail so to answer, for want thereof, the relief demanded in the complaint, filed herein, to-wit: for a decree dissolving the bonds of matrimony existing between plaintiff and defendant.

This summons is served by publication in the Evening Herald, by order of Hon. Henry L. Benson, Judge of the Circuit Court for the first judicial district of Oregon, dated May 1st, 1908, which order requires summons to be published once a week for six consecutive weeks from the 1st day of May, 1908.

A. L. LEAVITT,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

Notice For Publication

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office, Lakeview Oregon, May 15, 1908, Notice is hereby given that Albert Harrison, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, who, on Nov. 8, 1907, made timber and stone application, No. 4015, for NE 1/4 NW 1/4, Section 29, Township 27 S., Range 9 E., Will. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before County Clerk Klamath Co., at his office at Klamath Falls, Ore., on the 11th day of August, 1908. Claimant names as witnesses: John G. Schallock, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, T. J. Staten, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, Alton Jamison, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, Wm. Carlisle, of Klamath Falls, Oregon.

J. N. WATSON, Register. 5 18

Professional Cards

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Office over Klamath County Bank

C. F. STONE
Attorney at Law
Office over postoffice, Klamath Falls, Oregon

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Statement of Condition
of the
Klamath County Bank
Klamath Falls, Oregon
DECEMBER 31, 1907

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$340,530.80
Bonds and Securities	63,525.84
Real Estate, Buildings and Fixtures	14,745.18
Cash and Sight Exchange	166,247.69
Total	\$585,049.51

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock, fully paid	\$100,000.00
Surplus and Profits	21,753.11
Due Other Banks	32,000.94
Deposits	431,295.46
Total	\$585,049.51

I, Alex Martin, Jr., Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
ALEX MARTIN, JR., Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of January, 1908.
[Seal] C. H. WITMORE,
Notary Public for Oregon.

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ALEX MARTIN President
E. R. REAMES Vice-President
ALEX MARTIN, JR. Cashier
LESLIE ROGERS Ass't Cashier

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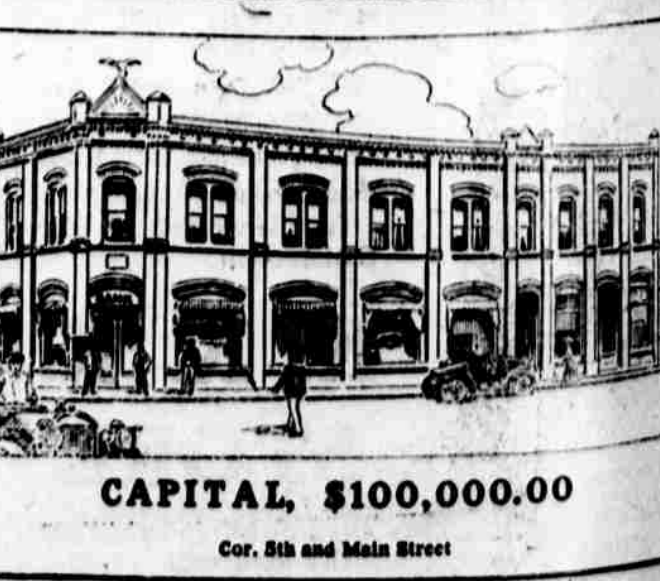
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