

# The Herald.

PUBLISHED FRIDAYS.

By T. J. O'KEEFE.

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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER.

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## Tax Foreclosures.

From the Holt County Independent.

A decision has been recently handed down by the supreme court which it seems will effect tax foreclosures. The full breadth of the decision is not easy to state, because there was only one question involved in the case. Logan county brought a suit to foreclose on land for delinquent taxes without going through the formality of a treasurer's sale. The land owner in that case came right into the court in the same suit and filed what lawyers call a demurrer to test the right of the county to foreclose without the formality of the sale. The case was decided by Judge Grimes of the district court and he decided in favor of the county. This decision is reversed and it is held that the formality of the sale is necessary in this instance. That was all that saw actually involved in that case, and while some things are stated in the opinion that seem to go further still it is hard to say what the court will actually decide when the questions are actually presented in some other case.

The inner heads of the gang are in great glee and anticipate buying up quit claims on the lands, the farmers and stock men have bought at these sales. We advise the people not to be bluffed or bull-dozed by the ring, and do not be robbed by them. They will work a pretty hard bluff, but there are nine chances out of ten that it will end in bluff. The republican real estate men have bought twice as much of this land as the populist and democratic real estate men have, but all of the real estate men combined have not bought half as much as the farmers and cattle men have. Holt county is the only county in the state where politics has any thing to do with tax foreclosures. The first decision in this county as to these tax foreclosures was made by Judge Kinkaid, and he held that the county had a right to foreclose its liens. The case just decided by the supreme court was decided by H. M. Grimes, a republican judge. The same judgments have been entered by Judge Boyd, a republican judge, Judge Norris a republican judge, and by several democrat and populist judges. In fact the standing of the district judges who have passed on these questions as lawyers, is fully as high as the standing of the supreme court.

The present supreme judges are J. J. Sullivan, S. H. Sedgwick and Silas A. Holcomb, and while they are men of very fair ability we hardly think that any person familiar with their standing at the bar would seriously say that they are better lawyers than Wm. V. Allen, W. H. Westover, M. P. Kinkaid, H. M. Grimes and Conrad Holtenbeck, all of whom uphold these foreclosures.

Where sales have been made by the sheriff and confirmed by the court without objection by the tax shirkers, we do not think there is any fear that they will ever be interfered with. The only trouble that can arise would be in delaying the county in these foreclosures. And this delay can be prevented if necessary by an act of the legislature. The entire west two-thirds of the state has been engaging in these tax foreclosures and farmers and ranch men have bought these lands extensively. In the little county of Rock, there has been nearly three times as many sales as in Holt county. A score of other counties have sold much more land than has been sold here. The people of all these counties are interested in upholding these foreclosures and the non-resident tax dodgers are interested in defeating them. It is to be regretted that the supreme court seems to be inclined even on one point in the case to take the side of the capitalists who are able to pay their taxes but won't. The legislature will probably do all it can to remedy the defect.

The Independent has no high opinion of the legislature, but we know of no other county where the republican leaders are out with a blunderbuss, trying to hold up the people who buy these lands. When it comes to downright infamy the Holt county republican ringsters can give the whole state cards and spades and then beat them. As a parting word we say to the people who bought these lands, do not let the gang rob you; the people in the end will beat the hold-up brigade.

## CANTON.

December 31, 1902.

There was quite a number of Canton people in Hemingford Monday; among them were Mrs. J. W. Broshar and daughter Pearl, Mrs. W. A. Randall, Arthur Bass and Geo. E. Zimmerman. Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Clayton gave dinner to quite a number of their friends on Christmas day. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Randall, Mrs. J. W. Broshar and daughter Edith, Miss Dottie Stewart, Messrs. Arthur and Otis Bass and John Curran. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton are up to date in entertaining their friends on such occasions.

January 7, 1903.  
Cecil Johnson was home during the holidays from the Harrison high school. Miss Clara Phelps, who was on the sick list for some time, is herself again at this writing.

Geo. W. Zimmerman, who has been in Hemingford for several days, returned home Monday.

Miss Myrtle Broshar, who has been visiting with friends in Alliance for some time, returned home Monday.

Canton can now boast of a literary conducted by the little folks; subject for discussion: Resolved, That the horse is more useful to man than the cow.

Mr. Snow of Alliance was in these parts a few days ago, and engaged the Bass brothers to take charge of his cattle, seventy-nine head, for a month or more.

Mrs. James Kearney and her daughter, Miss Ella, from near Billings, Mont., are in these parts visiting their many friends and attended the New Year's exercise.

B. C. Curtis was in Hemingford the first of the week and brought his mother home with him. Mrs. Curtis has been in Hemingford for some time visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Harry Pierce, and her many friends.

Misses Mary and Ora Clayton went to Hemingford Sunday and took the train for Alliance, where they will attend the high school for the next term or longer. We regret to lose the girls from our midst for so long a time.

We learn by perusing the columns of THE HERALD, that our items from Canton have been crowded out. We see by this that the printer's devil does not practice what he preaches, for he crowded us out sometime ago and promised not to do so again, and now that news is scarce with us and we are trying to do our part as best we can and friends are running us because the news is not in every week, we can see it is not our fault.

The New Year's tree exercise was a grand success. A good audience was in attendance and all had a good time. A scripture lesson was read by Mrs. J. W. Broshar, after which a prayer was offered by Mr. Spracklin of Lawn precinct. Select reading was then given by Miss Jessie Shetler, also a speech was delivered by J. W. Broshar, subject, "The Star of Bethlehem." Several good songs appropriate to the occasion were sung by the church choir and quite a number of declamations were delivered by the little folks.

LAKESIDE.  
Kirk Dennis was here the last of the week from Red Oak, Iowa.

H. J. Thompson had business that called him to Alliance Tuesday.

As we escaped the waste basket last week, we are inclined to come at you again.

George Fenton is erecting a windmill and putting down a well at his barn this week.

Miss Bradley, our schoolmarm, returned Monday morning, and the school is again "booming."

The Misses Mina McFall and Murphy are keeping "Old Maid's Hall" and attending school this term.

Rev. Bureleigh and wife visited at A. D. New's in Alliance Tuesday. They were on a shopping trip.

The ex-landlord and landlady moved their belongings to the ranch Saturday, household penates and all.

Our railroad agent is well nigh inconsolable. His inamorata departed for her home the last of the week.

J. D. Pattison was up at Alliance over Sunday. You really couldn't keep him at home while the mistress was away.

Clarence Cook took the hint from our advertising Leon Hancock and now he has a sleigh and team that the girls are taking advantage of.

The Epworth Leaguers elected their new officers Monday night at the residence of H. J. Thompson and followed the election with a pleasant social time.

There is a rumor to the effect that the ringing of sleigh bells may be followed before long by the ringing of wedding bells, but we promised not to tell.

There was a social at the school house New Year's eve, the pleasant time closing with a watch night twice from 11 o'clock until the New Year was ushered in.

Mrs. J. D. Pattison came home from her extended visit to Red Oak, Iowa, Tuesday morning. J. D. is correspondingly elated, because he won't have to cook anymore, nor dodge the job by visiting out.

Mrs. Burton and family from Bingham, who have been visiting at Father Thompson's over the New Year, left for the home nest this morning. Mrs. B. was very sure that Mr. B. would have her house in fearful shape by the time she got home, as he never could keep Bachelor's Hall.

We omitted to say last week that Rev. Bureleigh and wife tarried in the hay flat six miles north of town a week ago last Sunday evening, stopping at dark and waiting six hours or more until the moon arose so that they could follow the trail through the snow home and not get tangled up in drifts. The elder declares that pioneer preaching has with it some rather unpleasant experiences.

One husband and some mammas are seriously questioning as to whether they will let their precious darlings go sleigh riding with Master Clarence again. He took his sister Floris, Misses May and Lottie Crowther, Bertha Bureleigh and Mrs. H. P. Gillespie out to surprise Master Charles Crowther on the Harris ranch last Friday, and the

female contingent was on the sick list a day or two, and now the question is arising as to who is to blame: Charles, because his bachelor hall was so hard to clean and they cleaned the shop up good, the overdose of good things that for once was found in the bachelor quarters, or the Jehu who drove that team.

Well, vale for this time.

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