

MARRYING O'KEEFE, J. P., GONE

HOBOKEN'S KINDLY CRIPPLED 'MARRIAGE' PARTNER

Has a tiger stare and a Phosphate Club and never let any one see his hungry customers waiting on the street. Friends put him to bed every night.

Justice of the Peace Frank H. O'Keefe, a sixty-five pound cripple, for several years had borne the title of Hoboken's "Marrying Judge" and was undoubtedly enjoyed the good will and friendship of many men, women and children in the "One Mile Square City" than any other person.

Within a few minutes after O'Keefe passed away a group of his most intimate friends, including policemen, city officials, lawyers, mechanics and newspapermen, gathered in front of his office at 41 First street, where he lived, worked, and married.

His heart was as big as his body," said Water Commissioner Edward Carroll. "If Frank had had the money these wouldn't have been a hungry man, woman or child in Hoboken."

"Yes, he'd have given away his shirt," said six-foot Jim Lake, "if you'd asked him for it."

All agreed that if the Judge had received a square deal from the rates and had not sustained an injury to his spine twenty-seven or twenty-eight years ago which paralyzed his legs from the hip down and consigned him to a wheelchair for the rest of his life he would have made his mark in the world.

O'Keefe's office was the hang out of many men without club associations, who spent their evenings playing pinocle and discussing politics and other things in the front of the building. The judge had a private office and a cigar store, and in the rear were the Judge's sleeping room and the pinocle room.

The Judge was a remarkable institution in that it ran itself without a clerk. The Judge being too busy most of the time to wait on customers. If you knew the ropes and wanted a smoke you went behind the counter and helped yourself to whatever brand took your fancy.

O'Keefe had a retentive memory and was an encyclopedia of Hoboken's political and social affairs. He was frequently called upon by the "regulars" to decide questions in dispute and whatever he said went.

All the frequenters of the office had keys to the front door and often let themselves in after the Judge had retired to wait on themselves and pay their bill at the cigar counter. The last man to leave the place at night invariably undressed the Judge and put him to bed.

O'Keefe was a friend of nearly all the Chinese laundrymen in Hoboken and wrote their letters, banked their money and transacted their business for them. He had their entire confidence and was known as "the Hoboken Chinese Consul."

O'Keefe was a justice of the peace about thirteen years ago and was serving his third year of his term at the time of his death. He was a Democrat, but the Republicans always endorsed him until the last time he ran, when they put a candidate of their own. The candidate apologized to him for being an opponent and voted for and used his influence to secure O'Keefe's election.

DIRECTORS STAND BY VAIL

THEY THINK SUPT. HOTCHKISS TREATED HIM UNFAIRLY.

May Refuse to Remove Him as President of the Dutchess Fire Insurance Co. Vail Denies Hotchkiss's Charge—Says No Loss Resulted to Any One.

PROBABLE, April 24.—Never did a bolt fall from a clearer sky than did the proclamation by State Insurance Superintendent Hotchkiss that President Lewis H. Vail was guilty of various sins of commission that made his retirement necessary from the old Dutchess Fire Insurance Company and the new Dutchess Fire Insurance Company, its successor.

The directors of the old Dutchess Insurance Company, which was forced out of business by the San Francisco earthquake, which dissipated the remaining assets of the company, include many of the most substantial men in Dutchess county. Among them are John N. Lewis, president of the First National Bank of Red Hook; I. Reynolds, an officer and large stockholder of Adriance, Platt & Co., manufacturers of harvesting machinery; Floyd M. Johnston, president of the Fallkill National Bank of this city; Milton A. Fowler, attorney for the C. N. E. R. R.; and Edward S. Arwater, president of the Farmers and Manufacturers National Bank.

President Vail has issued a denial of all Supt. Hotchkiss's charges, which covers the history of all the transactions of the Dutchess Insurance Company relating to the San Francisco claims from the date of the earthquake to the fixing of the amount of the commissions to be paid by the new company to the old for reinsurance. When the San Francisco fire occurred, April 18, 1906, Mr. Vail declares the Dutchess Insurance Company had \$95,000 due from its agents, which would probably have been largely if not altogether lost if a receiver had been appointed. This action was not desired by policyholders either, for it would have lessened their chances of getting as much as they would receive by compromise.

To facilitate the settlement of claims on a 50 cent basis, which would offer a fair chance for salvage to stockholders, Lawyer Frank B. Lown and his brother furnished \$75,000, with which they purchased \$150,000 in claims. This covered nearly all the existing losses in California. Mr. Lown, acting as trustee, then had a settlement with the company by which he surrendered to it policies of the face value of about \$150,000, receiving in exchange money and securities of an equal amount.

After paying back Mr. Lown and his associates there remained about \$75,000 in securities, which by a subsequent increase in the value thereof became of the value of about \$95,000. This is substantially what was preserved from the wreck of the old company for the stockholders. The report of the directors, which legally it belongs to them, but to show their disinterested motives they have devoted the whole sum to the stockholders and the balance to the Farmers Bank the final decree of the courts settling the affairs of the old company, proceedings to which end have been before Judge Lown and his brother.

President Vail asserts that the insurance authorities were advised concerning the progress of all settlements as made by the Farmers Bank. A report to the Insurance Department dated January 7, 1907, says that Mr. Lown at that date had purchased claims aggregating \$105,000, which he paid \$44,953.18 regarding which he said: "The information set forth above was secured through the courtesy of Frank B. Lown, who presented to me with proofs of claims returned drafts and assigned to me in connection with the various losses, aggregating the above sum of \$105,000."

Further examination of the old company was made by the Insurance Department, and Mr. Vail holds that no further reports were required for the reason that the company had been liquidated. All the directors of the old corporation were fully advised of these matters.

The securities and money paid over to the Farmers Bank, according to a report Vail has frankly declares, as the basis of a speculative account on which he realized \$10,500, which was all paid to the old company on the day of the earthquake. "I assumed personally all the risk of this so-called speculation," said Mr. Vail, "and in the event of loss would have borne each loss myself individually. I have not to state that either Mr. Lown or any of the other six people owning the securities in question have found any fault or made any criticism of my conduct."

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James McCreery & Co.

23rd Street 34th Street On Monday and Tuesday, April the 26th and 28th.

RUG DEPARTMENTS. in Both Stores.

- Domestic Rugs at greatly reduced prices. 10x14 ft. Imported Mourneuk Rugs. 16.00 usual price 24.00. 9x12 ft. Tapestry Brussels Rugs. 12.00 usual price 18.00. 9x12 ft. Axminster Rugs. 35.00 usual price 50.00 and 55.00. 9x12 ft. Wilton Rugs. 25.00 usual price 37.50. 9x12 ft. all wool Mission Rugs, discontinued patterns. 10.00 usual price 12.50. 9x12 ft. "Martha Washington" Rag Rugs. 15.00 value 20.00. Carpets, Linoleums and Mattings.

LINEN DEPTS. in Both Stores.

- Household Linens, suitable for country homes. Double Damask Table Cloths. 3.00, 4.00, 5.00 and 5.50 usual prices 4.00, 5.00, 6.00 and 6.50. Napkins to match. 3.50 and 5.00 per doz. usual prices 4.50 and 6.50. 500 dozen Irish Linen Huckaback Towels, hemmed or hemstitched. 2.90 per doz. usual price 4.00. Madeira Tea Napkins, hand-scalloped and embroidered. Size 14 inches. 6.00 per dozen usual price 8.50.

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23rd Street 34th Street



It's easier to have a Spring overcoat handy than to make good as a Weather Prophet. Also safer. In fact, all Summer long in this climate a light overcoat is handy, specially for evenings. Cloths grave and gay. If you object to the air-tight, hot-air tendencies of rubberized raincoats—a woolen raincoat is ready for you. Of our own fine woollens—proofed by the real "Cravenette Process."

When rainy days make trousers knee out, then separate striped trousers are needed more than ever. Have you a good pair? Separate striped trousers, \$5 to \$8. Spring fancy vests wash! So are practical. We're three times as exclusive as most hatters—The "Stetson Special" Derby, the pride of the Stetson shops, can be had only from us in New York. The "Knapp-Felt Preferred" Derby can be had only from us in New York. The "Victor Jay" London Derbies can be had only from us in New York. All \$5 hats. Other mighty good Derbies at \$2, \$3 and \$4. Imagine this! Sixty-seven miles of black Keiser-Barathea silk a yard wide. How'd you like the job of cutting that up into scarfs? A small task for the Keiser-Barathea makers, for that is only one year's yardage for Keiser-Barathea scarfs in black alone. 63 other shades in this popular weave. A few extra buttonholes are responsible—For the extra comfort in "Delpark" athletic underwear. One of the extra buttonholes on the athletic shirt catches the top button of the knee drawers—so they "lock-in-one."

Plaiting the plaits of a negligence shirt is no cinch—But E. & W. plaited shirts are made from patterns especially designed for plaited shirts, and are calculated to the fraction of an inch. That's why they're so perfect. E. & W. winter socks, \$1.50 to \$2.50. Who said "low shoes?" Low black shoes. Low russet shoes. Low white shoes. For every foot. ROGERS PEET & COMPANY. Three Broadway Stores, at 11th st. at 34th St.

UNIVERSITY FOR CHINA.

Lord William Cecil Offers Two Addresses on the Project. A university for China is a proposition which the Rev. Lord William Cecil, rector of Bishopscote, and son of the late Marquis of Salisbury, brings to America yesterday morning in the Church of the Epiphany, and yesterday afternoon in the crypt of the cathedral of St. John the Divine, he spoke on the subject. "We take the Chinese both the Bible and brandy," said the speaker in the morning. "It is an inconsistent course and one for which God will ask us to give an account. Christ did not die on the cross on pity for millionaires more than pity for the poor. We do not discharge our duty by sending to China an amiable trade. We must go ourselves, and carry with us our love in concrete form."

CHILD OF TWO MISSING.

Police of Williamsburg Sent Out a General Alarm for Mary Dangle. The police of the Bedford avenue station, Williamsburg, sent out a general alarm yesterday for Mary Dangle, a 20-year-old girl, who disappeared from her home, 207 North Fifth street, at 11 o'clock Saturday morning. When the child failed to appear at dinner time her parents made a search for her. It was kept up all of Saturday night and yesterday morning, and at noon the relative reported the child's disappearance to Capt. Dooley. After his men had searched around the precinct, Dooley ordered a general alarm to be sent out for the child. Mary has a fair complexion, brown eyes, light hair and wore a white dress, blue stockings and tan shoes. She was bareheaded.

MINE STRIKE SETTLED.

Central Pennsylvania Conference Reaches an Agreement. ALTOONA, Pa., April 24.—After an all-night session between the operators and miners scale committee, representing the bituminous fields of central Pennsylvania, practically all demands of the miners were agreed to, the scale was signed, and the miners throughout the district were ordered to return to work to-morrow morning. An increase of three cents a ton for pick mining was granted, and wages of all classes of labor about the mines will be advanced 5.50 per cent.

WISCONSIN RETURNED FROM NECA.

Sahib Ghazal's Pilgrimage Halted by a Matter of Forged Checks. Sahib Ghazal tried to balance the books of the Syrian Wine and Grocery Company at 71 Washington street the other day and found he was \$200 short. As Sahib is the treasurer he announced that Allah was great and proceeded to trace the trouble. Allah is great, indeed, for there among the checks paid and returned by the bank were several forged forgeries of Sahib's signature as treasurer, all dated since April 3 and ranging from \$5 to \$50 in amount. Detectives Leigh and Thomas learned that Sahib Ghazal, a clerk in the store, had arranged to sail to-day for Egypt, bound thence over sands for Mecca. According to Sahib, Sahib was troubled some time ago, but was kept because he had so much English in his tongue. Sahib was arrested yesterday at his home on Sixth street, Brooklyn, and arraigned before the Cadi, who committed him to an short affidavit charging that he was suspected of forgery. He was held in the Tombs with examination and put in the Tombs with a pair of the horse cars in Duane street, whence a nimble fancy may hear the tinkle of camel bells.

WESTON UP AGAIN.

He started on the last leg of his long walk, Noon After Midnight. ETNA, April 24.—Edward Payson Weston, the pedestrian, after a day of almost rest, and quiet in a small hotel of the village of Vernon, fifteen miles west of Etina, felt greatly refreshed to-night following his attack of indigestion yesterday and at five minutes after midnight to-night will start on the last leg of his long hike which began in Los Angeles, Cal., and which he expects to conclude the latter part of the present week, when he arrives in New York city. Weston was in bad shape all of yesterday and a man of less determination would have collapsed utterly. He was up at 6 o'clock this morning and after a hearty breakfast retired to his room again and spent the forenoon in bed. This afternoon he arose, dressed, and took a lobby, swapping yarns with the villagers. After supper to-night he enjoyed another sleep and at 10 o'clock prepared to resume his long journey. He said that he was in good condition and expected to walk into New York the latter part of the present week, at least as far as the city of Etina, where he will pass through Utica about 5 o'clock to-morrow morning and expects to reach Little Falls, twenty-two miles east of here, by noon, and to spend to-morrow night at St. Johnsville, thirty-five miles east of Utica, making fifty miles in all to-morrow.

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