

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Those Who Think There Is a Good Deal.

THE REASONS THEY ASSIGN.

What an Hour Spent among the Records of the County Clerk Brought Forth.

"What's in a name?" was asked of the affable Deputy County Clerk Frank Fanning, by a HERALD reporter the other day, and he replied: "A good deal, some people think. In numerous instances there is too much in names for their owners, and they come here to change them. Cupid Whitney, on the other side there, can describe one class of people who want their names changed. These are mostly young ladies, of course, who have become tired of carrying the names their fathers gave them, and are anxious to change them for others, which in time they may find harder to bear than those originally given them. When these young ladies get tired of their names a second time they come to me to have them changed back. Of course I miss a few of those who go to Cupid Whitney in the first place, but then I catch a good many of them."

"And are these the only people who visit the County Clerk's office to have their names changed?" asked the reporter. "Well," said Mr. Fanning, "not exactly. Once in a while there are others who drop in and ask for a change of name, but not often. I only remember four in the past four years, but there are the books, look for yourself."

A short investigation of the manner of obtaining a change of name was made and it was found that it is a very simple process, so simple that it seems strange that so few names have been changed in Los Angeles county. All that is required is the filing of the petition setting forth some good reason for the change. After the filing in the County Clerk's office, of the petition, the petitioner is given a chance to go before a Judge of the Superior Court and tell the court the reason he desires the change, and if there are no objections the prayer is granted and a man or woman with a new name is turned out. He can allege that his name is so common that his mails never reach him, and he can have his name changed to Smythe or any other name that speaks his fancy. A man with a name spelled so that it is pronounced in several different ways can have his name changed, on this ground, to one that can only be pronounced in one way. All that an Ap Jones or a De Brown has to do is to set forth the nature of his yearnings, and the court permits him to become a Plantagenet or a Macallister.

In looking over the records, the name of one who used to be called David B. Alger was found. The same name now appears under the name of De Witt Clinton Franklin. The change was made in November, 1888. Mr. Alger set forth in his petition that he had been born at White House, New Jersey, fifty-four years before, and in 1864 he arrived in Los Angeles, where he became known as De Witt Clinton Franklin, and his wife and five children also bore the name of Franklin. He desired to change his name to the one by which he had been called since his arrival here in order to save legal and business complications, and his petition was granted.

In another part of the books was found the name of Ellen Crane, who desired her name changed to Ellen Farrell. She said that she was the daughter of Richard and Mary Jane Farrell, of Liverpool, England, and was 27 years old. In 1879 she had married a man named Crane in Pennsylvania. In 1887 she obtained a divorce from Crane, but forgot to ask that she might change her name back to Farrell. She was granted permission to resume the name of her parents.

Another petition, granted not long before, was that of Eveline Maria Perry, who asked that her name be changed to Eveline Maria Grow. She stated that she was born over fifty years before at Leon Center, New York, and that she had been twice married. Her first husband's name was Grow, and all her children were named Grow. She also had purchased all her property under the name of Grow, and in consideration of all these facts she was given permission to take back the name of her first husband.

Another petitioner was Jeremiah C. Wilcoxson, who was born in Fulton county, Ill. He set forth that he had been bothered by the fact that messages, papers, letters, packages and other matter went astray, and were frequently opened and examined by others bearing the same name. This he thought could be avoided if his name were changed to Jeremy Carlisle Wilmon, and it was changed to suit his fancy.

The next and last petition filed was that of George H. Quinn and Charles Quinn, his son. It was alleged that the father was born in Russia, and the son in Boston. Both were of the Jewish faith, and they alleged that their name was spelled "Kobyn" in Russian. This had been spelled "Quinn" in English, and they agreed with this world seem to indicate alleged that they were of Irish birth, whereas both spoke with a German accent. They alleged that their name made them liable to be called "Irish Jews." Judge Clark agreed with them that this was not very pleasant, and he allowed them to take the name of Clark.

This finished the list of miscellaneous changes of name of recent date, and the next search was made under the direction of Cupid Whitney. He it is who gives the ladies a chance to change their names whenever they please, and he issues licenses to wed to all who apply, only requiring the ladies to swear that they are over 18 years of age or else the consent of their parents to the change of name. He assists in changing change of name. He assists in changing an average of the names of eight ladies per day. A number of these come back later on and ask to be allowed to take back their maiden names through the medium of divorce courts. These are more expensive changes than the others. Cupid Whitney charges \$2.50 for the changes he makes, and the costs of the ordinary changes amount to about \$10. The divorce suit costs several times as much, but as a general rule the ladies don't foot the bills.

In examining the books, it was found that Miriam S. Aiken, divorced from G. D. Aiken, had been allowed to resume the name of Miriam S. Russell; Angelina C. Badillo, divorced from Pedro Badillo, resumed the name of her parents; Catherine E. Bourcsey, divorced from Napoleon Bourcsey, resumed the name of Catherine E. Lowndes; Sophia Barnhards, divorced from Chas. Barnhards,

resumed the name of Sophia Works; Mary L. Beach, divorced from Lewis W. Beach, resumed the name of Mary L. Blackly; Eva A. Eichbaum, divorced from Wm. P. Eichbaum, resumed the name of Eva A. Ranslett; Phizannah Harper resumed the name of Phizannah Lyon, and so on down the long list of names. There were other changes of names, not legally made, which the reporter had not time to investigate. Information regarding these was not to be obtained at the County Clerk's office, but from the hotel registers and the books of the City Prison and County Jail. No doubt the changes were made for potent reasons; but the records were silent, and the investigation of this branch of the subject was postponed for a later date.

CHURCH NOTES.

Topics Discussed by the Various Preachers Yesterday.

The Ministerial Union will hold its last meeting today before closing for the summer vacation.

At Plymouth Congregational Church, Rev. Dr. Wells discussed "Words which do not die" at the morning service.

Next Friday the feast of the Sacred Heart will be celebrated at the Sacred Heart Church, in East Los Angeles.

At the Methodist Preachers' meeting today, the best means of caring for superannated ministers will be discussed.

Rev. Dr. Fay spoke yesterday at the Church of the Unity on "The larger and more real ownership."

At Christ Episcopal Church yesterday morning, Rev. T. Haskins discussed "The church and the division of the diocese."

Rev. Father Allen preached on the "Holy Eucharist" at the Cathedral yesterday morning and the Corpus Christi was celebrated.

A meeting for the purpose of establishing a hospital, to be supported by the Protestant churches, will be held Friday at the Fort Street M. E. Church.

At the main street M. E. Church yesterday morning Rev. E. Thompson took for his topic "The Conquest." In the evening he chose for his subject "From the Pit to the Throne."

Rev. J. E. Dwinell, of Oakland, occupied the pulpit at the First Congregational church yesterday morning, and in the evening Rev. R. G. Hutchins spoke on "A Study of the Great Commission."

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Labor Federation.

A number of representatives of various labor unions met yesterday afternoon at Caledonia Hall for the purpose of forming a central organization. Those present were C. M. Waggoner and P. H. Hurley, of Typographical Union No. 174; H. E. Martin, C. Herwig and H. Schubert, of Cigarmakers' Union No. 225; B. Nelligan and D. O. Freeman, of Carpenters' and Joiners' Union No. 56; J. Schaaf and F. Lange, of Bakers' Union No. 45; A. Parnan, of the Tailors' International Union. P. H. Hurley was elected temporary chairman and H. E. Martin secretary. It was decided that the organization be called, hereafter, the Federation of Labor of Los Angeles. A committee on constitution was appointed, and an invitation was extended to all organizations not present to send representatives to the next meeting, to be held at Caledonia Hall on Thursday evening. The meeting then adjourned.

Chas. A. Baskerville, Notary Public. Conveyancing, legal documents, shorthand, type-writing. Lanfranco Building, 118 North Main street. Telephone 33.

A course of baths and mineral waters at Arrowhead Hot Springs, the most certain cure known for rheumatism and blood poisons generally, malaria, neuritis, insomnia, etc. Circulars at Condit's, cor. Spring and Second, and Mercantile & Meyer's, cor. First and Main.

Sherwin-Williams' family paints at MATHESON'S, corner Second and L. A. streets.

Parties Who Are About to Build. Will do well to call for figures on their lumber at either of our offices before purchasing. SCHALLERT-GANNAHL LUMBER COMPANY First and Alameda streets.

Specialties for Summer Use. Ross' Royal Raspberry Vinegar; Monstrel, pure lime juice; Canton and preserved ginger; Spanish queen olives. Get our price list of lunch meats. C. E. Donahue, grocer, 205 South Spring street.

Private family entrance for ladies at the "Anheuser," 285 N. Main street.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Cheap Fuel! Cheap Fuel! No more gasolene explosions. The Los Angeles Gas Company has just received a lot of the finest gas cooking stoves ever seen on the Coast. With gas at \$1 per 1,000 feet it is the cheapest, cleanest and safest fuel for use in any country.

Stoves all ready for inspection with prices ranging from \$12 to \$25. Call and examine them at 295 North Main street.

Dealers and consumers of Beer. Will find it to their advantage to call on Philadelphia Brewery, Alamo street, for the best lager or stout-beer, bottled on draught for weeks at the lowest prices. Bottled lager \$1.20 per dozen, if bottles returned. Delivered to any part of the city. Telephone 91.

Arden's Mustard, sold by all grocers, will please the greatest epicure. For thirty-six years the standard.

"Life Size" crayons \$20, at Edouart & Sons, 121 S. Spring. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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TRAINS ARRIVE AT LOS ANGELES. MONDAY, 11:55 A. M. TUESDAY, 4:15 P. M. WEDNESDAY, 11:55 A. M. THURSDAY, 4:15 P. M. FRIDAY, 11:55 A. M. SATURDAY, 4:15 P. M. SUNDAY, 11:55 A. M. SUNDAY, 4:15 P. M.

STEAMER LEAVES SAN PEDRO. MONDAY, 11:00 A. M. TUESDAY, 6:20 P. M. WEDNESDAY, 11:00 A. M. THURSDAY, 6:20 P. M. FRIDAY, 11:00 A. M. SATURDAY, 6:20 P. M. SUNDAY, 11:00 A. M. SUNDAY, 6:20 P. M.

STEAMER ARRIVES AT SAN PEDRO. MONDAY, 9:45 A. M. TUESDAY, 2:45 P. M. WEDNESDAY, 9:45 A. M. THURSDAY, 2:45 P. M. FRIDAY, 9:45 A. M. SATURDAY, 2:45 P. M. SUNDAY, 9:45 A. M. SUNDAY, 2:45 P. M.

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