

The Holt County Sentinel.

39TH YEAR.

OREGON, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1904.

NUMBER 47



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March 9, by Rev. A. J. Brock.
Ramsay G. H. and Mary Brown, of Fortescue, March 20, by Esquire H. R. Stuart.

Shunkweiler E. and Lora Penny, of Mound City, March 30, by Rev. Geo. L. Peters.

Schull Charles and Mabel Starr, of St. Joseph, March 15, by Frances Johannes.

Totten David A. and Bertha Winslow, of Liberty township, March 5; marriage contract.

Watts Erasmus and Ola Morton, of Forest City, March 20, by Rev. W. H. Hardman.

Workman Samuel, of Buffalo, W. Va., and Ada V. Wilson, of Maitland, March 7, by H. T. Alkire, probate judge.

The storm center of marriages during the month seems to have been about the 20th of the month.

The marriage of Mr. Totten to Miss Winslow, related above, is a marriage that was solemnized in a manner entirely out of the ordinary; a so-called, "common-law marriage," and is the first one of the kind that we now remember of having ever occurred in the county. It is not without precedent elsewhere, however, and is, no doubt, entirely legal and valid—as much so, perhaps, as any of those in which the license was regularly procured and the ceremony performed by a minister or an officer of the law—for our supreme court has decided in a case that went up from Callaway county, whereby a contract very similar to that adopted here, a Mr. H. J. Bittick and a Miss Bertha Bice, were legally and validly married. This case is reported in the 103 Mo. State Reports, at page 183. But while the courts hold such marriages legal, still we can not say that we would recommend this style of marriage to the people of our county. It is but little trouble and expense to have the marriage vows solemnized in the old and usual way, and we think it sets a better example to others than for couples of opposite sex to take up together and "marry themselves," as it has sometimes been called. However, everybody has his own notions, and if to "marry themselves" suits some people, we suppose we ought to be satisfied.

COMMON-LAW MARRIAGE.

The First to Be Recorded in Holt County Occurred Last Week.

It has been said that with the spring-time, "the young man's fancy lightly turns to love," and so we always expect a good many weddings "during the awakening of nature from her winter's sleep." Tradition tells us that "the beasts of the field and fowls of the air select their mates on St. Valentine's day," and we suppose that young people, too, are naturally somewhat affected by the wondrous changes in progress about them in springtime, and drawn by the affinities of nature to the opposite sex; that as the icy fetters of winter are loosened, and the buds of the trees begin to swell for bloom; as the warm beams of sunlight quicken the pulse of love, nature gives a tender turn to the heart of youth, and, as the grass in the meadows begin to peep from under the brown carpets that have protected them during the frigid months, the lover's heart-strings are loosened, and he falls at the feet of his lady-love, in waiting, and pours out upon the altar of her credulities the story of his affection—year of his adoration, for her sweet self. The acceptance is sealed with a blissful kiss of absolute surrender, and the mutual vows of love and life-long companionship are pledged in solemn communion before God and the angels ere the morning stars have arisen. At least, this is the poetical part of it, but it is barely possible that this year of our Lord, 1904, being a leap year, and the first one we have had in eight years, at least, may have had something to do with the numerous weddings that have been solemnized in our county since January 1. At any rate, the per cent. has been the greatest in years, as the records of Recorder Callow will show. There were seventeen weddings recorded in our county during the month of March alone, being an average of more than one for every two days during the month. These in detail are as follows:

Acton Otho and Lillian Miles, of New Point, March 23, by Rev. A. W. Mc Glothlin.
Alkire Ira and Ella Watts, of Forest City, March 20, by Rev. W. H. Hardman.
Ackerman James C., of Morris, Ind. T., and Susie Stout, of Oregon, March 13, by Rev. A. J. Brock.
Brewer Edgar and Cora Hatcher, of Graham, March 11, by Rev. A. J. Brock.
Carson Artie and Blanche McCall, of Bigelow, March 14, by H. T. Alkire, probate judge.
Fries Louis and Kittie Gillis, of Mound City, March 30, by Rev. Geo. L. Peters.
Johnson Harry, of Kansas City, and Esther Vernelia Walker, of Oregon, March 23, by Rev. James McFarland.
Keck Lonnie, of Forest City, and Ida Pearl Moore, of Craig, March 20, by Esquire Z. T. Randall.
Limp Charles and Maud Gillis, of Mound City, March 23, by Rev. A. J. Brock.
Markt Daniel, of Oregon, and Bertha Keale, of New Point, March 30, by Rev. James McFarland.
Noelach William J. and Edna Morgan,

March 9, by Rev. A. J. Brock.
Ramsay G. H. and Mary Brown, of Fortescue, March 20, by Esquire H. R. Stuart.

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The contract entered into by Mr. Totten and Miss Winslow has been filed with Recorder Callow and recorded, and is as follows:

"MARRIAGE CONTRACT.
We, David A. Totten and Bertha L. Winslow, in the presence of God and the undersigned witnesses, do hereby publicly and solemnly make and enter into a sacred vow and covenant of marriage, and we do hereby solemnly promise and agree to live together as man and wife and to do and observe in all things towards each other all that the laws of God and man require of husband and wife so long as both shall live.

All of which is done at the residence of Samuel H. Totten, in Liberty township, Holt county, Missouri, this 5th day of March, 1904.

DAVID A. TOTTON,
BERTHA L. WINSLOW,
Husband and Wife.

Witnesses:—Homer Campbell, Nannie M. Campbell, Girda Jackson, John E. Jackson, Ira B. Totten, Effie M. Totten, S. H. Totten."

Also, we would say, that in addition to all of the above marriages recorded here during the month of March, we see by the St. Joseph papers that a marriage license was issued down there to one couple from Holt county, to-wit: George Hinkle and Ada Brown. We presume that this is our young friend, George Hinkle, son of John C., of Fortescue, and we extend congratulations accordingly.

Curzon.
—Mrs. Bessie Sipes called on Mrs. Schlottzauer Sunday.
—Mr. Sam. Marriner is visiting in White Cloud, Kan., this week.
—Mrs. Grace Stroud spent Friday of last week with Mrs. E. H. Lovelady.
—W. S. Gifford and family spent Easter with their daughter, Mrs. Harry Jimison.
—John Dawson, of Mound City, is visiting his mother and other relatives at Curzon.
—Miss Calla Marriner and her mother spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Sebourne Carson.
—Miss Maude Dawson has returned home from Mound City, where she has been for some time past.
—Mrs. Phil. Schlottzauer, who has been seriously ill for the past week, is now considered some better.
—School has been closed during the past week on account of the illness of the teacher, Miss Jessica Payne.
—Miss Ina Hogan has returned to her home at Bethany, Mo. Ina will be missed by her many friends here, being a most estimable young lady.
Ino.
—Miss Lillian Kunz closed a very successful term of school in the Pierce district, two weeks ago, and last week she visited with her friend, Mrs. O. H. Mills, of St. Joseph.

Our Rural Schools.

Elm Grove school patrons have the distinction of having one of the model rural school buildings of the state, and perhaps the model one of our county, and we herewith give our readers an illustration of the building, which we take from the State Superintendent's annual report.

The district is known as No. 50, and there have been built three school houses since the creation of the district, and the district has been divided twice; the first one was given the number of 24. The first building was a round log house, and was built in 1867, the district being organized in 1866, and the old building was known as the "old log school house on the bank," and its inside arrangement was similar to such school houses

of that day, and on its organization, the enrollment showed eighty pupils. The first teacher was C. A. Doughty, now of Craig, and late presiding judge of our county court, and at that time was a resident of the community; his salary was \$50 per month. The school board at that time was composed of John R. Miller, and James Johnson.

The second building was erected in 1870, and the district number changed to that of 50. Its first teacher was T. S. Ward, and it was then that it obtained its name, "Elm Grove," and it is said Henry Stuart gave it its name, and we understand there have been three generations of the Stuart's that have obtained their education in this district.

The third and present building was erected in 1903. The present board con-

sists of Henry Stuart, Alvin Hayes and Henry Hicks, and its first and present teacher is Miss Metta Vandevanter, and is regarded as one of the strong, capable teachers of our county. The building cost \$1,000. On the north is placed two large cloak rooms and coal house, and all are attached to the main building; these with a porch forms the northern portion of the building. Windows are set in these cloak rooms and fuel house. The main room is large and airy, equipped with up-to-date furniture, together with nine fine slate blackboards. The windows are large and are located on the south and west side, and protected with shutters, and its seating capacity is about 40.

The last enumeration—May, 1903, shows the district to have 33 children of school age, and a valuation of \$54,160.



Don'ts for Rural Route Patrons.

We publish below a series of "don'ts" for rural-route patrons. It simply asks the patrons to do what they can to assist the carriers in their arduous and sometimes unappreciated task. Holt county is fortunate in having a large number of rural routes, all without exception manned by faithful and efficient carriers. They do their duty through sunshine and storm, through rain, through sleet and through snow. In the hot, scorching days of July and August, and in the bleak days of December and January. It takes endurance and sacrifice on the part of the carriers to thus serve you faithfully, but they do it. They take pride and pleasure in doing their work faithfully, efficiently, promptly and to the satisfaction of their patrons. Do you appreciate it? Do you help the carriers? Do you occasionally drop a big, red apple or a big, golden russet in the box and raise the signal? If not, try it for a change. Below we give a few of the "don'ts" and also the names of the various carriers in our county, their routes and when established and the mileage:

1. Don't ask your carrier to wait while you address a letter or write a postal card. When you do, you ask him to disobey the law.
2. Don't have your wagon or other vehicles stand by the mail box so the carrier is compelled to get out to place the mail in the box.
3. Don't pile lumber, gas pipe, ladders or other long articles across the fence so the ends stick out past the mail box.
4. Don't put your mail box in an obstructed place, so that the carrier must drive across ditches, against fences and into mud holes to get to it.
5. Don't drive up to your neighbor's mail box and tie your horse, so the carrier cannot get to the box.
6. Don't pile the flag up when there is no mail to be taken out.
7. Do not put mail in the box without raising the flag. If the carrier has no mail for you, he is not expected to go to the box unless there is mail to go out.
8. Don't drop money loose in the box. The law says you must wrap it up.

If you put a letter and pennies in the box, wrap them together, so the carrier does not have to pull off his mittens and fish around in the box for them. Some real cold morning drop five or six pennies in the box, stay out until your fingers get real cold, then go to the box and fish for the pennies yourself, and see how your carrier fares, but remember he can not go in and warm when his hands get cold. He must be patient and pick pennies out of boxes all day, while the patrons sit by their stoves and feel thankful that they are not rural carriers.

The first route established in the county was out of Maitland, August 1, 1900; Robert E. Crider is the carrier and he travels twenty-three miles daily. The second route was established October 1, 1901; Charles Summers, carrier, twenty-seven miles.

The second route created in the county was out of Oregon, February 1, 1901,

with J. J. Lukens, as carrier, twenty-three and one half miles. The second route was established February 2, 1903, A. L. Shafer, carrier; twenty-two miles. The third route was established September 1, 1903, with Hugh Haraha, carrier, with a mileage of twenty-three and one half miles.

Mound City has three rural routes. The first was established October 1, 1901, with A. R. McNulty as carrier, and covered twenty-two and one-fourth miles. The second route was put on the year following with Charles W. Book as carrier, and had twenty-two miles. The third route was established November 3, 1903, L. F. Lansdown, carrier, twenty and one-fourth miles.

Craig has two routes. The first route was opened July 1, 1901, with A. Van Wormer as carrier, who has twenty-five miles to travel daily. The second route, established February 2, 1903, has twenty-four and three-fourths miles. H. T. Speer was the first carrier, but the mail is now handled by R. Thayer.

The Bigelow route was established February 2, 1903, with O. W. Adams, as carrier, who has a route of twenty-one and one-half miles.

Forest City has two routes; the first was established February 2, 1903, with A. J. Limp as carrier; twenty-two miles. No. 2 was established November 16, 1903. J. F. Acton, carrier, twenty-three and one-half miles.

It will be seen that the total number of miles travelled daily by these carriers is 299 1/2 miles.

The real-estate transfers for the month of March show a handsome increase of the same month a year ago, and the business for the first three months of 1904 exceeds that of the same period of 1903. The value of the warranty and quit-claim deeds filed during the month of March was \$455,681, as compared with \$349,916 in 1903. Trust deeds filed during the month just closed amounted to \$321,894, which included a mortgage filed by Jno. S. Bilby to the Mutual Benefit Life Association of New York, for \$90,000, and was the largest transaction of the kind that has occurred in our county for years. The trust deeds filed during March, 1903, amounted to \$367,562. The releases filed during March amounted to \$134,463, which is \$74,000 in excess of that of one year ago. The total business for the first three months of 1904 was as follows: Warranty and quit-claim, \$796,043; 1903, \$756,457. Trust deed, 1904, \$498,853; 1903, \$367,562. Releases, 1904, \$260,863; 1903, \$188,519.

—What is it we love more than life, fear more than death? The rich man wants it, the poor man has it, the miser spends it, the spendthrift leaves it, and when we die we take it with us to our graves. You give up? The answer is, nothing. We love nothing more than life; we fear nothing more than we do death. A rich man wants nothing, the poor man has nothing, and the spendthrift leaves nothing, and when we die we take nothing to our graves.—Ex.

The Bigelow Convention.

In one of the most enthusiastic and harmonious Democratic conventions ever held in our county, the Bigelow Democracy fell into line and placed herself on record for good government, a free expression from the people in regard to their choice of candidates and in favor of smashing the machine, both state and county.

The four delegates to the state convention were instructed by Joseph W. Folk for governor. Instructions were also given for Judge A. M. Woodson for supreme judge, and W. C. Ellison, of Maryville, was endorsed for circuit judge. No other instructions were given. Four candidates for Congress were addressed of 15 minutes each. They were Representative Cochran and Michael Moran, of St. Joseph; Senator Francis Wilson, of Platte City, and Charles Booher, of Savannah. J. M. Salice, of Bethany, candidate for attorney general, also made a speech.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, By the Democracy of Holt county in convention assembled, that we renew our faith in Democratic principles and places ourselves on record as to the allegiance to the cause of good government, and we hereby reaffirm our allegiance to the Kansas City platform. We are proud of the economical and businesslike management of our state affairs under Democratic rule for the past 30 years, which has freed the state from indebtedness.

Resolved, That we are opposed to the evils and danger of bribery in every form, and police interference in politics, and that the Democratic party emphasize its position on the question, and that we heartily endorse the candidacy of the Hon. Joseph W. Folk as our Democratic standard bearer for the office of governor, because we believe he stands for purity in politics and good government. We commend his example for his unswerving devotion to duty under any and all circumstances, and believe he is in every way worthy and well qualified to perform the duties of governor, and we hereby instruct our delegates to the state convention at Jefferson City to vote for him as long as his name be before the convention.

Resolved, That we instruct our delegates at the judicial convention at St. Joseph for Judge A. M. Woodson.

Resolved, That we favor the nomination of Judge W. C. Ellison for judge of this district.

The following delegates were chosen for the various conventions:

State Convention at Jefferson City—Dr. E. M. Miller, Mound City; L. L. Teare, Craig; R. G. Ruley, Oregon; W. H. Terry, Forest City.

Judicial Convention at St. Joseph—F. Q. Mitchell, Mound City; E. F. Weller, Maitland; W. O. Huffman, Craig; James Garrett, Mound City.

State Delegate Convention, Joplin—Dr. J. R. Minton, Bigelow; Early Vandevanter, Mound City; W. S. Thomson, Craig; Dan Lewis, Maitland.

—Mrs. Minnie Eiler and Gusto Upperman will add a porch and one room to their residence.