

## DREAM MYSTERIES.

MAY BE SHADOWY MEMORIES OF PREVIOUS EXISTENCE.

Little Satisfaction Found in the Many Explanations Given for the Formation of the Phantasmagoria Which Come to Us as We Sleep.

In a thoughtful, well written article on "Dreams and Their Mysteries," in The North American Review, Elizabeth Bisland reminds us that we are so familiar with the phenomena of sleep that the strangest dreams come as no surprise. She says, truly:

"Prove that you have the hypnotic power to make a man feel pain or pleasure without material cause; that you can force him to believe himself a soldier, or a woman, or that he is three feet high, or two persons at once, and he will gaze upon this occult mystery with awe and wild surprise, as who every 24 hours of his life, with no more magic potion than healthy fatigue, with no greater wonder working upon him than a pillow, may create for himself phantasmagorical illusions beside which all mesmeric suggestions are but the flatness of dull commonplaces."

Because people are afraid of being thought superstitious with regard to dreams there has been an unscientific avoidance of the whole topic, which is no less superstitious and puerile, the consequence of which foolish evasion has been that one of the most curious functions of the brain is still in a period of universal investigation—left unexamined and unexplained. Some dabbling there has been in the matter, but so far no tenable explanation has been offered of those strange illusions of sleep with which all mankind is familiar. The results up to this time of this dabbling are for the most part of little more value than the contents of the greasy, well-thumbed dreambooks that formed the only and dearly beloved library of eighteenth century milkmaids and apprentices. The greater portion of such labor as has been bestowed on the subject has been mainly directed toward efforts to prove the extreme rapidity with which the dream passes through the mind, and that it is some trivial outward cause at the moment of rousing from slumber, such as a noise, a light or the like, which wakes the brain to this marvellous celerity of imaginative creation.

The general conviction that dreams occur only at the instant of the awakening shows how little real attention has been bestowed upon the matter, since the most casual observation of "the dog that hunts in dreams" would show that he may be chasing the wild deer and following the roe in the gray kingdom of seeming without breaking his slumbers. He will start and twitch and give tongue after the phantom quarry he dreams himself pursuing. But given the truth of any one of these assertions, still the heart of the mystery has not yet been plucked out, since it is not explained why a noise or a gleam of light—such as the senses are quite familiar with in waking consciousness—should at the moment of rousing cause the brain to create with inconceivable rapidity a series of phantasmagoria in order to explain to itself the familiar phenomena of light or sound.

It is broadly asserted by many that the memory retains each and every experience which life has presented for its contemplation, but this is hardly true. It makes to a certain extent a choice and chooses oftentimes with apparent caprice. To demonstrate the truth of this, let one endeavor to recall the first impression retained by his childish mind, and it usually proves to be something extremely trivial.

A lady, interrogated as to this, declared her first clear memory was a sense of the comfort for her tired little 2-year-old body of the clean linen sheets of the bed at the end of the most perilous and adventurous journey, and of whose startling incidents her memory had preserved nothing. Again this capricious faculty will seize on some few high lights in a vivid picture and reject all the unimportant details. As a rule, however, it is the profound stirrings of the emotions which wake the memory to activity. A woman never forgets her first love. A man to the end of his life can recall his first triumph.

Miss Bisland believes that we inherit many of the memories that come to us, waking as well as sleeping. Every one has felt many times in his life a sense of familiarity with incidents that have had no place in his own experience and has found it impossible to offer any explanation for the feeling. Coming suddenly around a turn of a hill upon a fair and unknown landscape, his heart may bound with a keen sense of recognition of its unfamiliar outlines. In the midst of a thrilling scene of emotion a more dull repetition will rob it of its joy or pain. A sentence begun by a friend is recognized as trite and old before it is half done, though it refers to matters new to the hearer. A sound, a perfume, a sensation, will awaken feelings having no connection with the occasion.

In sleep the brain is peculiarly active in certain directions, not being distracted by the multitude of impressions constantly conveyed to it by the live senses, and experiments with hypnotic sleepers prove that some of its functions become in sleep abnormally acute and vigorous. Why not the function of memory? The possessions which during the waking hours were useless, and therefore rejected by the will, surge upon vivid and potent, and troop before the perception unsummoned, motley and fantastic, serving no purpose more apparent than the idle, disconnected recollections of one's waking moments of dreaminess, and yet it may hap, withal, that the tireless brain, forever turning over and over its heirlooms in the night, is seeking here an inspiration or there a memory to be used in that fierce and complex struggle called life.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

## BENIGN TORNADOES.

One Delivered a House to a Mortgage and Another Made a Dog Salable.

"And, talking about cyclones," said the man from Kansas, "them air twisters is mighty queer things."

The smart young man who sat beside the Kansas threw away his cigarette, and even the grimace looked interested. "You have seen a tornado, then?" said the smart young man with animation.

"Seen 'em?" said the farmer scornfully. "Why, young feller, I comes from Kansas."

"Oh!" said the smart young man. A little later he ventured to remark, "Had lots of experience with cyclones, I suppose?"

"Experience? Naw, you don't get no experience dealing with cyclones," said the man from Kansas, "cause them twisters never do the same thing twice. You just learn to dig out for the cellar when you see 'em comin'."

"They do all sorts of queer things, I suppose?" said the grimace, as he started the train with a sudden bound that jostled the smart young man's hat over his eyes.

"One of 'em done me a good turn once," said the man from Kansas meditatively. "Bee and Mit Glover own the next farm to mine out in Pawnee county, and their crops kept a-failing, and they kept a-borrowing money off of me till they had their house mortgaged clean up to the roof. It looked like my money was a goner, for they kept on losing their corn crop every year and I couldn't get the house 'cause they had a shotgun waiting for me in the kitchen. Well, one day 'long comes one of these roaring cyclones, and blessed if it didn't blow that whole house over into my pasture—yes, sir, and dropped the roof down on the foundations just as neat as you could have laid it. Looked as if the house had just sunk out of sight. But then I didn't have a mortgage on the roof, so I didn't care about that."

"Reminds me of a story of a brother of mine out in Iowa," said the man on the step. "Had a fine setter dog—best hunter in the state. My brother couldn't shoot, so he wanted to sell him. But he couldn't, 'cause the dog had a twist in his tail like a pig. Cyclone caught that dog out in the buck-wheat patch one day and just nacherally ironed out that tail like a broomstick. He sold the dog for \$80 the next week."

—Chicago Tribune.

## FRIENDSHIP AND THE NURSE.

Why Two Neighbors Are Not on Very Good Terms With Each Other.

"Hattie and you do not seem to be friends any more," said the short, thin woman as she paid the fare.

"Well, no, we are not," replied the tall, stout woman, slipping her dime back in her pocketbook. "You know the nurse she thought so much of came to live with me last winter."

"Why, how did that happen?" asked the short, thin woman.

"M—well, I suppose it was because she heard me say that I paid my nurse 50 cents more a week than Hattie did—and that I wanted one at the time. Of course I didn't say that to her, you know, but she heard me. Maybe I mentioned, too, that I give my nurse three evenings out a week. Girls will beguile, you know, and my husband can look after the children on those evenings as well as she can."

"M—hm. It keeps a man from finding fault with his wife's management, too, if he's kept busy while he's at home."

"Yes, and I've noticed that by the time they are in bed he's too tired to think of going out. Well, as I was saying, that girl came to me the very next week. Oh, and the stories she told me about Hattie, even to the things she had said about me, you'd scarcely believe. The girl couldn't seem to remember any of them at first, but after I'd jogged her memory she told me lots. Hattie wanted to quarrel with me, I could see that, but she didn't quite dare. She knew how much that girl knew. Besides, I was as sweet as honey to her every time we met."

"Then how comes it that you are not friends now?"

"Oh, didn't I tell you? The girl went back to her after a while."

"Oh," said the short, thin woman.—Chicago Times-Herald.

## The "Autocrat" Hears a Preacher.

I heard this notorious preacher (Irving) the other Sunday. He is a black, savage, saturnine, long-haired Scotchman, with a most Tyburn looking squint to him. He said nothing remarkable that I remember, and I should suppose owes much of his reputation to a voice of great force and compass, which he managed nearly as well as Macready. The charlatan he most resembles is Mr. —, whose yell is, however, instinct with a profounder expression of vulgarity and insolence. Mr. Irving and his flock have given up the unknown tongue and confine themselves to rolling up their eyes so as to show the whites in a formidable manner. I would ask for no better picture than has been presented by these poor enthusiasts, drunk with their celestial influences and babbling paltry inanities.—Life of Oliver Wendell Holmes.

## The Fatal Horse and Wagon.

If the statistics of accidents could be collected, it would in all probability be shown that the most dangerous way of traveling is with a horse and wagon. We believe there is authority for stating that in proportion to the numbers of people traveling in various conveyances horses and wagons kill more people than steamboats or railroads or trolley cars or bicycles.—Poughkeepsie Eagle.

## An evidence of the striking uniformity of size among the Japanese is found in the fact that recent measurements taken of an infantry regiment show no variation exceeding two inches in height or 20 pounds in weight.

All patents are assignable by law, and an interest in a patent may be assigned as easily as the whole.

## POSTAL EVOLUTION.

STORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MAIL SERVICE.

Crude Methods of Early Ages—Biblical References to the Post—Beginning of What Has Become an Almost Perfect and a Cheap System.

It seems almost incredible, in view of the wonderful labyrinth of postal routes all over the world today, that there ever could have been a time when there were no postoffices, no letter carrier, no mail facilities at all.

But, of course, there had to be some means of communication even in the earliest ages, though these were confined for centuries to emperors and kings and other great rulers. The emperors of Egypt, of Persia, of Assyria and of Rome held many lesser kings and satraps as their vassals. With these it was necessary to communicate with certainty and regularity, and therefore couriers were employed to carry dispatches and reports to and from the more distant provinces.

Of course no one man or one horse could traverse the whole route, so stations were established along the roads at certain intervals, where couriers were always in readiness to relieve weary brothers, and carry on the dispatches with uniform speed. These stations were called "posts," from the Latin word positum—fixed or placed—whence comes the name of our modern postal system.

In the Old Testament are frequent references to the posts. In II Chronicles you will find, "So the posts went with the letters," and "So the posts passed from city to city." In Esther also and in Job and Jeremiah you will find other allusions to the posts. But they were never for the use of the common people.

The Roman Emperor Augustus was the first to establish a system of posts suggestive of the present system. You have heard the saying, "All roads lead to Rome." This was the origin of it: From Rome as a center post roads were built, called "royal highways," extending all over Europe. After the decline of the Roman empire these post roads were abandoned by degrees, and during the dark ages they almost entirely disappeared.

In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, however, their need began to be so strongly felt that posts between different parts of the same country were established, and soon these were extended into other countries. These posts were carried first by foot runners, and then a little later by men on horseback.

It was not long, though, before the post privilege was extended, and it was found impossible for horseback riders to carry the increasing mail, so wheeled conveyances were provided, and the next step was for these conveyances to carry passengers as well as the mail.

And thus from the post was evolved the mail coach. What this meant to our fathers shut in ancestors it is hard for us of the present day to realize even faintly. But it is safe to say that the evolution of the public post and the mail coach did more than any other one thing to hasten civilization.

In the reign of the Emperor Frederick III, Francis von Laxis, whose grandfather is said to have established a postal service across the Tyrol and Styria, entered the service of the house of Hapsburg and became the founder of the modern postal system. Through Von Laxis the emperor established regular posts throughout his kingdom between the years 1440 and 1493, and at the beginning of the sixteenth century the Austrian post became the international post of the Hapsburg dynasty.

In France the University of Paris organized a postal service in the thirteenth century which flourished until 1719. In some parts of Europe there were brotherhoods and mercantile guilds which established posts and postoffices subject to the government.

In England, in 1553, Rowland Hill started a private post, but Cromwell's heavy hand came down on the enterprise, and the men who carried the letters were trampled down and killed by his soldiers. Later on Mr. Hill came to the front again, instituted many reforms in the service, and at last gave to England a real and effective postal service. Louis XI of France founded a postal system in 1464, which was greatly improved by Charles IX in 1555.

But it was not alone the Christian nations that felt the need of a postal service. When the Spaniards invaded South America, they found a regular system of posts in operation, so that the news of their landing was carried to the inca with incredible swiftness, the postmen being runners, who carried around their waists knotted cords, a code of signals or sign writing.

Coming down to our own country, suppose we take a peep at the mail methods in vogue in its earlier days. Let us take as a type the postal service between Boston and New York, where, in 1762, a post was established "to go monthly."

Post riders, starting at the same hour from each end of the route, carried the mails. Leaving on Monday morning, they met and exchanged bags at Saybrook, Conn., on the following Saturday. Then each man returned to his starting point, which, of course, took nearly a month.

It was Benjamin Franklin that, in 1775, suggested the plan for a postal service on which our present system is founded. In the early days of this system rates were charged that seem outrageous to us of the present day—between Boston and New York, 163 cents, and 25 cents for points beyond. Of course this led to swindling the government and the smuggling of letters. Private parties carried mail secretly at lower rates, and in 1829 Harnden's express entered the field, carrying letters concealed in bundles and other packages at less than legal rates.

But as soon as the government lowered its charges all these smugglers dropped out of the race. There was no money in it then.—Philadelphia Times.

## DARKNESS SEEMED FAMILIAR.

Young Woman Did Not Notice That the Light Had Gone Out.

They were on a tandem, and a straight, smooth road stretched away before them through the park for a mile or more. There was darkness all about—thick, impenetrable darkness—which lay heavy among the trees and betrayed the fact that the authorities had neglected the electric lights, counting on a moon that had failed to keep her engagements.

But they did not mind the darkness. In fact, they rather sought out the more shadowy portions. For there is something about a tandem, if it steers easily, which softens the iron bound laws of custom. The riders are so close together anyway. And if the one on the rear seat leans slightly forward and the one on the front seat leans just a little back, there is no need to sigh for the best of hammocks.

The young man on the rear seat had leaned slightly forward. Moreover, the young woman on the front seat had leaned just a little back. And there was more on the young woman's lips than microbes.

Suddenly they were arrested by a shout—it is said that park policemen never arrest any one in any other way—a deep, full bodied shout that boded ill. "Hi! You! Where's your lamp?"

They stopped and dismounted. With a burly policeman in the road there was nothing else to do.

"Where's your lamp?" the officer demanded.

They examined the front of the wheel together. The lantern had gone out.

"Why," said the young woman, "why, I never noticed that it wasn't lit. I—I must have imagined that we were in the parlor at home."—Chicago Tribune.

Ducks and Drakes.

A man who wrote to Forest and Stream awhile ago said that 80 per cent of the ducks he had killed were drakes—four drakes to one female—and he wanted to know the reason why. Others promptly said they had observed similar preponderance of drakes, and also wanted to know why. One man told how he had seen one female duck chased by four or five males. He had killed 45 in a spring day's shooting, and of them only 9 were females.

Thus far no explanation has been given of the matter.

The Ideal Panacea.

James L. Francis, alderman, Chicago, says: "I regard Dr. King's New Discovery as an ideal panacea for coughs, colds and lung complaints, having used it in my family for the last five years, to the exclusion of physician's prescriptions or other preparations."

Rev. John Burgess, Keokuk, Iowa, writes: "I have been a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church for 50 years or more, and have never found anything so beneficial, or that gave me such speedy relief as Dr. King's New Discovery." Try this ideal cough remedy now. Trial bottles free at Hartz & Ulmeyer's drug store.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day.

"My 'cure' for rheumatism and neuralgia cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause, and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly relieves. 75 cents. Sold by Otto Grotjan, druggist, Rock Island, and Gust Schlegel, Son, 220 West Second street, Davenport."

ROBERT J. DUNN

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POSITIVELY CURE ALL nervous debility, indigestion, loss of appetite, etc. They quickly and surely rid the system of all impurities and restore the system to its normal state. Price 50 cents per box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Sent by mail in plain wrapper, upon receipt of price. Please write to:

AXJAX REMEDY CO., 75 N. BROAD ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

For sale in Rock Island by John Beaton druggist, 1150 Second avenue.

## LEGAL.

Executor's Notice.

Estate of Amariah Thornton, deceased.  
The undersigned has been appointed executor of the last will and testament of Amariah Thornton, late of the county of Rock Island, state of Illinois, deceased. Any person who claims that he will appear before the county court of Rock Island county, at the office of the clerk of said court, in the city of Rock Island, at the November term, on the first Monday in November next, at which time all persons having claims against said estate are notified and requested to attend for the purpose of having the same adjusted. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

Dated this 26th day of August, A. D. 1896.  
J. S. HARR, Executor.

Publication Notice.  
STATE OF ILLINOIS.  
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY.

In the circuit court, to the September term, A. D. 1896.  
Gudalia F. Cella vs. Ella Baker in attachment. Public notice is hereby given to the said Ella Baker, of the office of the clerk of the circuit court of Rock Island county, dated the 31st day of March, A. D. 1896, at the suit of the said Gudalia Cella, and against the estate of the said Ella Baker for the sum of ten hundred and twenty-five dollars, (\$125), directed to the sheriff of said Rock Island county, which said writ has been returned and executed.

Now, therefore, unless you, the said Ella Baker, shall personally be and appear before said circuit court of Rock Island county on the first day of the next term of said court, to wit: on the first Monday of September, A. D. 1896, give special bail and answer to the said plaintiff's action, judgment will be entered against you, in favor of the said Gudalia Cella, and so much of the property attached as may be sufficient to satisfy the said judgment and costs shall be sold to satisfy the same.

GEORGE W. GAMBLE, Clerk.  
McKENRY & MCKINRY, Plaintiff's Attorneys.  
July 19, A. D. 1896.

Publication Notice.  
STATE OF ILLINOIS.  
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY.

In the circuit court, September term, A. D. 1896.  
To: petition of Rock Island and Western Illinois Railway company to condemn right of way. Affidavit of the non-residence of the defendants, Peter Farrell, Anna M. Wadsworth, William C. Wadsworth, Kate Wadsworth, Henry Fraser, Josephine Pettigrew and Pettigrew (her husband), having been filed in the clerk's office of the circuit court of said county, notice is hereby given to the said non-resident defendants that the petitioner filed its petition in said court, on the chancery side thereof, on the twenty-ninth (29) day of May, 1896, and that thereupon a summons issued out of said court, wherein said suit is now pending, returnable on the first Monday in the month of September next, as is by law required. Now, unless you, the said non-resident defendants above named, Peter Farrell, Anna M. Wadsworth, William C. Wadsworth, Kate Wadsworth, Henry Fraser, Josephine Pettigrew and Pettigrew (her husband), shall personally be and appear before said circuit court, on the first day of the next term thereof, to be held at Rock Island in and for said county, on the first Monday in September next, and answer or demur to the said petition, the same and the matters and things therein charged and stated will be taken as confessed, and a decree entered against you according to the prayer of said bill.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL., July 17, 1896.

HAAS & BUFORD, Complainant's Solicitors.

Publication Notice.

In the circuit court of said county, at the September term, 1896.  
Caroline Reuther, Diana Irwin, Emma E. Stoenoff vs. Mary LaForge, Andrew J. Lahti, Joseph Light, Mary Light, Emma Hartwell, C. F. Light, Lucius Light, Lucinda Hodgkinson, John Light, Robert Light, Minnie Anderson, Charles A. Light, John B. Light, Martha A. Light, Rebecca Schell, William A. Light, Robert A. Light, Annie Light, Sarah E. Deal, Jane Saunders, Emma Root, B. C. Light, Anna A. Talbot, Florence Light, Kate Lahti, John B. Light, the above defendants having been filed in the clerk's office of the circuit court of said county, notice is hereby given to the said non-resident defendants that the complainant filed their bill of complaint in said court, on the chancery side thereof, on the 26th day of May, 1896, and that thereupon a summons issued out of said court, wherein said suit is now pending, returnable on the first Monday in the month of September next, as is by law required. Now, unless you, the said non-resident defendants above named, shall personally be and appear before said circuit court on the first day of the next term thereof, to be held at Rock Island in and for said county, on the first Monday in September next, and answer or demur to the said complaint, the same and the matters and things therein charged and stated will be taken as confessed, and a decree entered against you according to the prayer of said bill.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL., July 17, 1896.

WILLIAM McKENRY, Complainant's Solicitor.

Publication Notice.

STATE OF ILLINOIS.  
ROCK ISLAND COUNTY.

In the circuit court in chancery, September term, A. D. 1896.  
John W. Johnston vs. Ella Johnston, Francis Johnston, Margaret Johnston, John Johnston, Ella Johnston, Frank Smith, Samuel Smith, Al Mosher, Joseph Mosher, Matilda Repp, Repp, Josephine Johnston, Henry Johnston, J. W. Johnston, Maria Johnston, Martha Johnston, John L. Johnston, Ella Johnston, Anna Pittman, Pittman, Elizabeth Pittman, Ann Pittman, Margaret Johnston, William Johnston, Thomas Johnston, Niles W. Diemer, minor, Mabel Johnston, Thomas Johnston, John Hutchinson, Mary Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Margaret Hutchinson, Robert Hutchinson, Minnie Hutchinson, Thomas Hutchinson, Emma Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Nora Hutchinson, Henry Hutchinson, Mary E. Hutchinson, the above named defendants, the unknown owners of the west quarter of section 16, township 2 north, range 2 west of the fourth r. 4, in the county of Rock Island and state of Illinois, bill to condemn and correct will.

To the above named defendants, Ella Johnston, Francis Johnston, Margaret Johnston, John Johnston, Ella Johnston, Frank Smith, Samuel Smith, Al Mosher, Joseph Mosher, Matilda Repp, Repp, Josephine Johnston, Henry Johnston, J. W. Johnston, Maria Johnston, Martha Johnston, John L. Johnston, Ella Johnston, Anna Pittman, Pittman, Elizabeth Pittman, Ann Pittman, Margaret Johnston, William Johnston, Thomas Johnston, Niles W. Diemer, minor, Mabel Johnston, Thomas Johnston, John Hutchinson, Mary Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Margaret Hutchinson, Robert Hutchinson, Minnie Hutchinson, Thomas Hutchinson, Emma Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Nora Hutchinson, Henry Hutchinson, Mary E. Hutchinson, the above named defendants, the unknown owners of the west quarter of section 16, township 2 north, range 2 west of the fourth r. 4, in the county of Rock Island and state of Illinois, bill to condemn and correct will.

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To the above named defendants, Ella Johnston, Francis Johnston, Margaret Johnston, John Johnston, Ella Johnston, Frank Smith, Samuel Smith, Al Mosher, Joseph Mosher, Matilda Repp, Repp, Josephine Johnston, Henry Johnston, J. W. Johnston, Maria Johnston, Martha Johnston, John L. Johnston, Ella Johnston, Anna Pittman, Pittman, Elizabeth Pittman, Ann Pittman, Margaret Johnston, William Johnston, Thomas Johnston, Niles W. Diemer, minor, Mabel Johnston, Thomas Johnston, John Hutchinson, Mary Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Margaret Hutchinson, Robert Hutchinson, Minnie Hutchinson, Thomas Hutchinson, Emma Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Nora Hutchinson, Henry Hutchinson, Mary E. Hutchinson, the above named defendants, the unknown owners of the west quarter of section 16, township 2 north, range 2 west of the fourth r. 4, in the county of Rock Island and state of Illinois, bill to condemn and correct will.

To the above named defendants, Ella Johnston, Francis Johnston, Margaret Johnston, John Johnston, Ella Johnston, Frank Smith, Samuel Smith, Al Mosher, Joseph Mosher, Matilda Repp, Repp, Josephine Johnston, Henry Johnston, J. W. Johnston, Maria Johnston, Martha Johnston, John L. Johnston, Ella Johnston, Anna Pittman, Pittman, Elizabeth Pittman, Ann Pittman, Margaret Johnston, William Johnston, Thomas Johnston, Niles W. Diemer, minor, Mabel Johnston, Thomas Johnston, John Hutchinson, Mary Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Margaret Hutchinson, Robert Hutchinson, Minnie Hutchinson, Thomas Hutchinson, Emma Hutchinson, William Hutchinson, Nora Hutchinson, Henry Hutchinson, Mary E. Hutchinson, the above named defendants, the unknown owners of the west quarter of section 16, township 2 north, range 2 west of the fourth r. 4, in the county of Rock Island and state of Illinois, bill to condemn and correct will.