

"HI" THOMAS'S FIANCEES

By N. A. TAFT 99 IN TWO PARTS

PART TWO. It was quite true Elizabeth was not handsome, if she was industrious. Her hair, a bright shade of red, had apparently absorbed all the coloring matter in her make-up...

gether comfortable, but there was something like a smile on Susan Thomas's face. It was from her that Hiram had inherited a saving sense of humor.



She looked young. It seems that her husband has been dead for some years. He met her in New York, and he said if she would have him he would marry her.

"You must not mind my going from the city," whispered the blonde lady as he lifted her from the carriage in her own doorway.

The black-haired, buzzed young woman the other invited to go with them to the church festival kissed Hiram when a half suggestion was made the primum of the five aunts.

Such a dainty little maiden she, slender, delicate, with a flower, big blue eyes, and only seventeen.

OFFER PURSE FOR DUEL IN DODGE COUNTY, WIS.

Town of Mayville Seeks to Have Ash Fair of Honor Take Place Within Its Precincts.

Milwaukee, Wis., special: Mayville, in Dodge county, wants the duel between Editor Von Schleinitz and Dr. Gustav Hoffmann. It is an exclusively German community and a German society there telegraphed an offer to Schleinitz guaranteeing \$1,000 to the widow and orphans of the victim...

Dueling in Wisconsin is an indictable offense. Even the sending of a challenge to fight is punishable by imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

The principals in the sensational episode have been subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury to tell the circumstances of the challenge. Mr. Von Schleinitz was served with papers and Dr. John Alexander, a member of the staff of the Germania, has also been called to testify as to his connection with the affair.

BLOODY COMBAT FOR YOUNG WOMAN'S FAVOR

Rivals Engage in Fight and One is Severely Cut by Knife in Hands of His Assailant.

Crawfordsville, Ind., dispatch: The town of Wallace, eighteen miles west of this city, was the scene of a bloody combat between William Woodrow and Harry Lowe, reputable young men of that community.

For several months the men have vied with each other for the favor of one of the pretty young women of that vicinity. She showed no particular choice between them and in their rivalry the girl's affections Woodrow and Lowe became bitter enemies.

PASSES CUBAN BILL

Senate by Vote of 57 to 18 Adopts the Reciprocity Measure.

Washington dispatch: The senate passed the Cuban reciprocity bill by a vote of 57 to 18. One Republican, Senator Bard of California, voted with seventeen Democrats in opposition to the measure.

Yeas—Aldrich, Alger, Allen, Allison, Ankeny, Bacon, Ball, Beveridge, Blackburn, Burnham, Burrows, Burton, Clapp, Clark (Wyo.), Clay, Cockrell, Cullom, Depew, Dillingham, Dooliver, Dryden, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Foster (Wash.), Frye, Fulton, Gallinger, Gorman, Hale, Hanna, Hansbrough, Heyburn, Hoar, Hopkins, Keen, Lodge, Long, McCoomas, McCrea, McCumber, Mitchell, Nelson, Overman, Penrose, Perkins, Platt (Conn.), Platt (N. Y.), Proctor, Quarles, Scott, Simmons, Smoot, Spooner, Stewart, Stone, Wetmore—57.

Nays—Bailey, Bard, Bate, Berry, Carmack, Culberson, Daniel, Dubois, Foster (La.), McEnerly, McLaurin, Mallory, Martin, Newlands, Pettus, Tallaferro, Teller, Tillman—18.

WOMEN AID THE LABOR PARTY

Exercise Right of Suffrage for First Time in Victoria.

Melbourne, Victoria, cable: The first of the commonwealth general elections at which women exercised the right of suffrage was held Dec. 16, with the result that all political calculations were upset.

HELD FOR MYSTERIOUS MURDER

Man and Wife Are Accused of Killing Woman's Mother.

Bedford, Ind., dispatch: Joseph Weeks and Cora Weeks, his wife, were before the Lawrence Circuit court to answer for the murder of Cora Weeks' mother, Mrs. Susan Leonard, who was found dead Sept. 7 with a bullet hole in her head.

ILLINOIS NEWS

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

BIG LEVEE TO RECLAIM 12,500 ACRES OF LAND

Commissioners Will Expend \$200,000 on Seventeen-Mile Wall to Keep Floods From the Bottoms.

Commissioners appointed by the supervisors of Tazewell county will expend \$200,000 next year for the improvement of the bottom lands along the Spring lake region. A tract of 12,500 acres, now for the most part unproductive, will be reclaimed and made fruitful for the farmers.

It is proposed to construct a levee seventeen miles in length, which will follow the Illinois river the entire distance. The land which has been marked for improvement has been almost wholly unfit for use.

This improvement is in keeping with that of a similar kind along the Mississippi and other rivers.

The commission spreading the assessment is composed of Henry J. Paternoga of Mackinaw, L. L. Preston of Mantou and Joseph Daily of Chiltono.

The state conference of the Illinois bricklayers' union was held at Deatur. There was a banquet after the open meeting held in the circuit courtroom, where a large audience of laboring people of the city gathered to hear the address by George B. Gubbin, president of the national association.

Henry Rymonds, aged 60, president of the East St. Louis cornea works, was badly injured by a revolving fan at the works. He pointed out a defect in the works, using a case, which came in contact with the leaves of the fan and was jerked from his hands.

The forty-eighth annual convention of the Illinois State Horticultural Society at Urbana elected the following officers: H. A. Aldrich, Neoga, president, re-elected; S. N. Black, Clayton, vice president; L. R. Bryant, Princeton, secretary, re-elected; J. W. Stanton, Richview, treasurer, re-elected. The selection of a place for holding the next meeting was left to the executive board.

The committee named to stimulate the candidacy of Attorney General Hamlin in Sangamon county for governor is as follows: Postmaster L. E. Wheeler, Charles Selby, Dr. A. L. Converse, E. S. Smith, Sheriff Ben Brainerd, John Zaring, Frank Marsh, Will Conner, P. W. Harts and H. King.

George S. Caughlan of East St. Louis has been reappointed district grand deputy of the Masonic order of the state. His jurisdiction embraces the counties of St. Clair, Randolph and Monroe. The appointment was made by W. B. Wright, grand master of Illinois.

John Groom, employed at the Green Mount mine, near Belleville, was caught between a pit car and the wall of the mine and his leg broken.

George E. Doying, representing Jacksonville and Chicago capitalists, has secured options on 1,100 acres of land near the city of Carlyle.

P. J. Byrne of La Salle was elected president of the Illinois bricklayers' union, William Booth of Springfield secretary.

J. F. Chickener of Morrisonville has filed a petition in the county court to have George Atzer, Jr., adjudged a spendthrift. The defendant came into possession of several thousand dollars recently by his father's death.

Deatur people have organized a "sweep" club for the purpose of the recuperation of life at Deatur.

MANY PASS TEST FOR MINERS

List of Those Who Were Successful Before State Board.

The list of those who passed the examination before the Illinois state mining board is as follows: Mine examiners—John W. Gallagher, Carterville; John G. Winterbottom, Sparta; William G. Wigham, Sparta; Fred C. Neil, Gillespie; John Howell, Carterville, rural route No. 1; Arthur Bell, Coulterville; James Handwright, Virden; Walter E. Cox, Centralia; Eugene Cox, Centralia; John Carlyn, Oglesby; Charles Flynn, Pana. Holsting Engineers—William F. Colwell, Canton; Herbert Stocka, Carterville; William C. Johnson, Marion; Bert A. Dugan, Collierville; Lewis Huff, Canton; Mine Managers—W. H. Williams, Edinburg. Local Mine Managers—Thomas A. Stricklin, Marion; John Anglin, Shelbyville.

SECRET SOCIETY ELECTIONS

Masonic. John D. Moody lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Salem, has elected the following officers: J. A. Hindman, worshipful master; N. A. Rooks, senior warden; William McCarty, junior warden; W. L. Fin, secretary.

Grand Army. F. D. Hubbel post, G. A. R., of Hillsboro, has elected the following officers: Seth E. Washburn, commander; Simon C. St. John, senior vice commander; George W. Potter, chaplain; George D. Campbell, sergeant; Frank P. Winchester, quartermaster; Enoch J. File, officer of the day; Henry F. Potter, officer of the guard; B. C. St. John, delegate.

Knights of Pythias. Marion lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Salem, has elected the following officers: George W. Smith, chancellor; C. M. Brinkerhoff, vice chancellor; A. R. Bryan, prelate; Lee F. Webster, keeper of records and seal; W. R. Holmes, master of work; W. J. Tweed, master of finance; F. G. Hatt, master-at-arms; E. E. Boynton, master-guard; B. W. Gramsdike, inner guard; A. Franhart, outer guard; H. T. Pace, trustee.

The Chester lodge of Knights of Pythias has elected the following officers to be installed at the first meeting in January: J. H. Hathaway, chancellor; August Sanneman, vice chancellor; Ames Barnett, prelate; B. C. McClood, master of work; D. H. Holman, keeper of records and seal; Warfield P. Smith, master of finance; J. W. Nisbet, master-at-arms; Fronie Gray, inner guard; O. A. Stanley, outer guard.

Residents in the vicinity of Moro report a continuation of the visits of the Indian creek panther, which has been terrorizing that part of Madison county for several months. The animal has caused much damage to stock. George Lawrence, living at Moro, was chased a mile by the brute, and finally escaped on a fast horse. Hunts to kill the animal have been organized, but none of the hunters have had a glimpse of it. People living in the vicinity of Indian creek, where the animal makes its haunts, are afraid to go out at night without being heavily armed.

Argument in the injunction suit of Attorney General Hamlin for the state of Illinois against 110 of the principal fire insurance companies of the country doing business in Illinois, and M. F. Zent, their district manager, with offices at East St. Louis, charged with maintaining a trust to the detriment of companies not in the alleged trust, were concluded in the St. Clair county court at Belleville. Judge Burroughs stated that he would take the case under advisement and give his decision before the close of the present term of court.

James McValley entered a plea of guilty in the circuit court, Belleville, to having murdered Gustave Wentzel in East St. Louis, October 16, and upon consent of State's Attorney Farmer, Judge Holder sentenced the prisoner to a life term in the penitentiary. McValley entered the plea with reluctance, and only upon the urgent advice of his attorney. The dispute which led to the killing was over the collection of rent claimed to be due Wentzel.

L. D. Hewitt of Taylorville has purchased 1,500 acres of coal rights at Clarkdale, four miles west of Taylorville, and will sink a mine there in a few months.

John Green, a blacksmith at Centralia, was kicked by a mule and rendered unconscious for several hours. He suffered a severe injury to his head, but is thought to be on the road to recovery.

Diamonds in Ash Pile. Diamond clusters valued at \$1,000 were picked out of an ash pile in St. Louis, where they had been used for a boiler. The diamonds were found in a pile of ash from the boiler of a steam locomotive.

NEGROES LOSE CONTEST FOR SCHOOL PRIVILEGES

Famous Alton Case, Decided in Favor of the City, Will Be Taken to Supreme Court.

The city of Alton won its famous Alton school case in the Madison county circuit court. This was the seventh time that the case had been up for trial. The case has been in the appellate and supreme courts, but each time has been reversed and remanded.

The suit is one wherein the negroes of Alton are trying to compel the officials to permit them to go to school with the whites. The suit was brought by Scott Dix and several other negroes in the form of a mandamus to compel the mayor of Alton, the city council and the board of education to permit his children to go to school with the whites. The suit started several years ago, when the board of education built a separate school for the blacks.

After the decision in favor of the city the attorney for the negroes gave notice of an appeal to the supreme court. It is said that the negroes of Chicago and other cities are furnishing funds for the prosecution of the case and that the blacks intend to make the Alton school case a test case.

SURVEY CLINTON COUNTY ROAD

Company Secures Coal and Oil Up-Down Along the Route.

A new east and west road has been surveyed through the northern part of Clinton county, seven miles north of Carlyle. The name of the corporation is the Shaw and St. Louis Road, Oil, Coal and Developing company. It is to be an extension of the St. Louis, Troy & Eastern. The proposed route is through Collinsville, Troy, Sebastopol, Strass, Kaysport, Patoka, Klamund, Saylor Springs and Robinson, Ill., thence to Torrington, Ind. Legal representatives are now securing the right of way, also the coal and oil options are on a basis of \$5 per acre, good for one year. Drilling outfits have been purchased and it paying value of coal are found the road will be in operation by October, 1904.

Death of Remarkable Woman

Mrs. Mary Lavanax, a native of Lorraine, France, and a resident of Belleville since 1873, died at St. Vincent's Hospital in her 82d year. Mrs. Lavanax was conversant with no less than five languages. Driven from her home and native land, as the result of the Franco-Prussian war her husband, Frank Lavanax, being killed on the German soldiers, accompanied by his only son, Mrs. Lavanax emigrated to America.

Changes in Pastors

Rev. Lawrence of Nashville, to whom the Lutheran congregation of Hoytton extended a call to become their pastor, has not accepted, and the congregation has elected Rev. H. Hahn of Montague, Mich., to the position. Rev. C. A. J. Cramer of Turin, Ind., has accepted the call of the German Evangelical church at Dubois. He succeeds Rev. W. Block, who goes to Hays City, Ind.

Sheriff Restraints Man

Leonard McOrill and Grant McDuff, arrested at Kane station, Jefferson county, and who were just released from jail at Springfield, where they had been serving a sentence for violation of the internal revenue law, were immediately rearrested by Sheriff Whittington of Wayne county, who had state warrants charging the two men with failure to pay state license for the sale of liquor.

Pioneer Woman Passes Away

Mrs. Cornelia Josephine Campbell, wife of William Campbell, one of the oldest residents of Belleville, died at her home, aged 65. She is survived by her daughters, Mrs. Frank S. Burns, Mrs. William Diamond, Mrs. G. E. Richards and Mrs. Alexander Groom. The marriage of the latter took place at the request of her mother, who witnessed the wedding on her deathbed.

Not Guilty of Attempt to Murder

In the preliminary trial at Mount Sterling of A. H. Burrows, charged with being the instigator of the attempt to murder his wife, Mrs. Mary Burrows by Mrs. Martha Fowler, Burrows was acquitted.

Cook Drops Pistol

A pistol dropped from the pocket of the cook at Johnson's saloon near Edwardsville and exploded, the shell passing through one of his hands.

Diamonds in Ash Pile

Diamond clusters valued at \$1,000 were picked out of an ash pile in St. Louis, where they had been used for a boiler. The diamonds were found in a pile of ash from the boiler of a steam locomotive.

Train Kicks Car

John Carr, aged 25 years, a fireman on the Chicago & North Western