



STRATFORD OF DATE IS growing more enterprising and daily new arrivals come to town. Some stay to seek their fortunes there and others find it too quiet and leave for other places. The competition in the bicycle and laundry business has attracted much attention of late, but perhaps the laundry business has claimed the most attention. Seldom in a town the size of Stratford is there a laundry of any kind, but Stratford has for the last three- years been up-to-date in this line and until recently John Wing, a son the Flowery Kingdom, presided over the only laundry. A month ago, ~ver another of John's countrymen, who formerly kept shop in Waterbury heard of the manner in which John was capturing all the coin in Stratford and he made up his mind to locate there and try his luck. He arrived and since that time both he and John Wing have been out with their ~ners "knocking" each other. It is amusing to hear the Chinamen talk to each other. If you enter John Wing's laundry and ask him if he knows Charlie Long, the new arrival, he will say: "No good fellow, playee fan-tan ~ hitee the pipe." and if you inquire of Charlie in (regard to his acquaintance with John, he will tell you the same thing. The hatred that exists between John and Charlie is amusing to the majority of the residents as here-to-fore they were obliged to pay ten cents to have a shirt "washee and ironee," but now both Charlie and John only charge -five cents. Perhaps if another one of these Celestials should arrive and start into business the residents would get the laundry done for nothing, and with the money saved thus they could pay for the water, gas and electric lights which are to appear in the "spring tra la." Every one admits that there are a great many persons in the aristocratic [sic] town who have wheels and don't know it, but there are now six local bicycle agents willing to furnish them with more. All kinds, colors and grades are carried by these enterprising agents and bicycles were quoted last week in the "stove Club Weekly Review" anywhere from ten cents to \$100. Stratford is booming.



OVER IN STRATFORD there is a widow who seems to be creating considerable comment by her conduct lately. She was at one time a resident of another town in New Haven county, and if all that is said of her is true, she was somewhat of a trouble maker, even in those days. Several domestic rows and lover's quarrels have been laid at her door and yet she seems to be gayer than the gaiest [sic] of her kind. Since she took up her residence in the old town some very queer stories have been circulated about her and more than a few of those who know her wonder where she comes in to be the rich widow she professes to be. She seems to have plenty for herself and family and observant ones whom she has tried to make trouble for declare they can plainly see that her Charlie is not the only pebble on the beach, and unless there is a reformation soon they are going to take steps towards bringing matters more prominently before the public than they have been.



# BRIDGEPORT HERALD.

VOL. 8. NO. 366.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1897.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.



THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY PAPER IN THE STATE.

## HAD LEONARD TWO WIVES

MRS. GARRY OF STRATFORD HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HE HAD.

Salesman For a New York House Failed To Pay His Board Bill Until Sheriff Staff Took a Hand. – Soon Settled Then.

THE ARREST OF William Leonard, traveling salesman for the large hat concern of Walheiser & Dwyer of 14 Waverly place, N. Y., which took place in the little town of Stratford last Friday morning on the charge of trying to defraud Mrs. Mary Garry out of a board bill amounting in all to about \$200, brings to light a peculiar state of affairs.

In the early part of last June Leonard and a woman who he represented to be his wife came to Stratford and engaged board with Mrs. Garry who conducts a boarding house on Stratford avenue near the lower dock. He claimed at the time he did not know how long he and his wife would remain but if they liked the place they would remain through the summer at least.

Leonard, was well dressed and a brilliant conversationalist and in consequence he and his wife had not been at Mrs. Garry's but a few days before their companionship was sought after by the other boarders and Mrs. Garry was evidently congratulating herself on having secured such desirable boarders.

Terms at Mrs. Garry's usually are cash in advance, but Mr. and Mrs. Leonard undoubtedly on account of the appearance or owing to the fact that an approach upon the subject by Mrs. Garry might hurt their feelings the terms were never spoken about, other than that Leonard was to pay a

dollar a day while he stopped there for his room and board and five dollars a week for his wife. Leonard remained a month and on the morning of his departure he came to Mrs. Garry and paid her \$30, the amount of his board and stated that his wife was to remain and he would send Mrs. Carry the money for his wife's board as soon as he reached New York. These terms were satisfactory to Mrs. Garry and Leonard departed leaving his wife there.

Six weeks passed before Mrs. Garry heard anything in reference to Leonard or the money, and then he appeared, claiming that business was so poor that he could not settle up his wife's bill in full, but would pay part of it, which he did. He remained a week this time and then departed making Mrs. Garry the same promise he had before.

Eight weeks elapsed [sic] this time, before Leonard again put in an appearance and when he did and told Mrs. Garry he could not pay her she naturally became somewhat suspicious, but, Leonard, in his plausible manner smoothed matters over and he departed, his wife remaining.

After waiting a few weeks and hearing nothing about Leonard from his supposed wife Mrs. Garry made up her mind to investigate Leonard's record and to do so went to the expense of sending a friend to New



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York to the headquarters of the firm by which he is employed. This friend was informed by one of the members of the firm that Leonard's wife and family lived in New Jersey.

This information was told to Mrs. Garry upon the friend's return from New York, and was a great surprise to her, for she had never doubted that Mr. and Mrs. Leonard were man and wife. Despite this fact, however, Mrs. Garry made up her mind to wait and see if Leonard would settle with her before she made any trouble, and exposed him

It was a long wait and when last month he failed to put in an appearance and settle his bill, Mrs. Garry made up her mind it was time to act and she commenced by going to Sheriff Stagg, and after telling him the full particulars had him write to Leonard and in reply Mrs. Garry received the following:

Boston, March 8, 1897.

Dear Mrs. Garry:—I received notice from the Sheriff that you had placed your account against me in his hands for collection. I cannot blame you for taking the course you have, knowing how anxious you are for the money and can assure you I am as anxious to settle with you as you are to have me and have done all in my power to do so. I feel for you greatly, knowing that you have done all one possibly could to make it pleasant. I have no desire to keep you from anything due you and know as

soon as business opens, which must be shortly in our line, I can settle the account. Respectfully.

(Signed) WM. LEONARD.

Nothing more was heard from Leonard after the receipt of the above and as the alleged Mrs. Leonard was soon to give birth to a child, Mrs. Garry went to her and made known to her all that she had found out. Instead of being surprised Mrs. Leonard took the matter very coolly and remarked she would telegraph for William and let him come and fight his own battles.

William came last Thursday night and Friday morning when he told Mrs. Garry he would be obliged to go to Bridgeport and get a check cashed before he could pay her. Mrs. Garry beckoned to Sheriff Stagg who had learned of his arrival and he was placed under arrest. He claimed when taken to the lockup that he had no money, but upon searching him it was found he had \$75 in his pocket.

In quicker time than it takes to tell it Mrs. Garry had secured judgment through her Attorney Mr. Hall and \$50 of the \$75 was turned over to her and with the remainder Mr. and Mrs. Leonard left town shortly after. Leonard when asked in regard to his wife in New Jersey refused to say anything about her.

Where Mr. and Mrs. Leonard went is unknown, but it is probable that if they return to Stratford to board again they will have to pay in advance and prove that they are man and wife.



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## **LOCKED IN THE TOWN HALL MRS. MINOR SMITH WANTS TO RUN THE SHORE RESORT AS SHE PLEASES.**

**Tackled Her Husband With the Broom Stick. - Then She Threw Dishes.  
She Escapes and Flees to Newtown.**

THERE WAS A real warm time at Minor Smith's shore resort, Stratford, Friday morning and according to all accounts for a few moments the well known place was the scene of a free-for-all-fight. The disturbance was the outcome of Mr. and Mrs. Smith's matrimonial troubles which have now been existing for over a year.

A year ago Mrs. Smith on account of the cruel treatment she received at the hands of Minor deserted him and went to live with relatives in Newtown. About three months ago Mrs. Smith, becoming tired of supporting herself, decided to appeal to Minor for assistance, but as he refused her any help whatever she resorted to the law and Minor was arrested on the charge of non-support about two months ago.

Minor at the time was given a hearing before Judge Peck in the Stratford Town hall and at the trial many startling exposures were made, a full account of which having at the time been published exclusively in the "Herald."

Minor was found guilty and Judge Peck advised him to pay his wife five dollars a week, but despite the fact that he pleaded that he was not wealthy he engaged the services of Attorney Stiles Judson and appealed the case to the court of common pleas where it is pending at the present time.

Since the trial Mrs. Smith and her four little children have been getting along the best they could and Minor has done nothing towards their support, and as all attempts of Mrs. Smith to get employment were of no avail she at last made up her mind to compel Minor to support her if possible during the time that the case is pending and in consequence early last Friday morning Mrs. Smith in company with her four children made her appearance in Stratford and went to Minor's resort.

Minor was not at home when his family arrived and Mrs. Smith started in to run the establishment as she saw fit. Her first action to show that she was to be the master in the future was to discharge all of the help and when Minor returned from Bridgeport where he had been shopping he found the place in great confusion.

Minor was not pleased to see his wife and children and as soon as he found that they were there he approached them and told Mrs. Smith to take the children and get out. But Mrs. Smith evidently had no intention of going and as soon as Minor tried to put her out by force she resorted too [sic] woman's weapon, the broom stick, and for a short time Minor was kept busy dodging the vigorous



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thrusts his dear little wife made at him.

Seeing that Minor was too quick to allow her to strike him with the broom Mrs. Smith turned her attention to the numerous household utensils laying about and then their troubles began in earnest. Minor took a hand in throwing dishes himself and it was not long afterwards before the dining room presented the appearance of a crockery store after having been struck by a cyclone.

As soon as the row commenced one of the help who had been discharged by Mrs. Smith went in search of an officer and just when the fun was in the wildest mood Constable Judson put in an appearance and Mrs. Smith and her four children were taken to the little two by four lockup, but instead of placing her inside she was allowed to go into the Town hall and remain until the authorities had been found and decided what to do in her case.

Mrs. Smith was placed in the Town hall about noon Friday and when Judge Peck went to call upon her about an hour later she had disappeared and no one appeared to be able to tell where she had gone.

It is understood, however, that Mrs. Smith returned to Newtown, but will come back to Stratford in the near future and again try and compel her husband to support her.

## CHOIR SANG: "PULL FOR THE SHORE," WHEN THE RHODA E. CRANE WAS LAUNCHED.

ONE OF THE MOST unique launchings of the present century took place at Stratford on Thursday last. It was the launching of the handsome \$3,050 steam oyster launch, Rhoda E. Crane.

The christening was done by Rhoda E. Crane, a daughter of the skipper, after whom the launch is named but the baptismal ceremony was performed by the Re. W. H. Lannin, the pastor of the Advent church, in East Bridgeport, at the request of Capt. Charles Crane, the owner, who has recently joined the Adventist church.

The fisher folk in Sunday gown and bonnet, the bronzed faces of the fishermen, kissed by the sunshine, the little groups of people gathered here and there on improvised seats on the river's bank, whose waters looked rather dark and troubled, and over its bosom were scattered a few sail and row boats, made a picturesque scene.

In bold relief stood out the trim steam launch about to be consigned in the water. Four American flags floated over the deck that was laden, not with its intended crew only, but with a group of men and women, the expression of whose faces told an unusual event in their lives was taking place. In the bow of the boat was placed a small table upon which rested a Bible. Near it stood a tall, slender individual of marked individuality, who leaning forward announced that: "This boat will be

launched in the name of him who stood beside the sea, and in the name of 'The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.' I know that some or [sic] our good people are much exercised over the nature of this launching, but after the choir has rendered an appropriate hymn I will endeavor to convince you that it is all right and that it is well to commend this treasure to the rules of the wind and waves.

"I suppose you remember what happened to one whom the so-called high critics of New York are now discussing; low critics in my estimation. (This in a tone of scorn and wave of the hand). I refer to Jonah swallowed by the monster of the deep.

"The choir will now sing "Throw Out the Life Line."

The choir, consisting of the group gathered on the deck and sang with hearty good will.

Then he proceeded to convince his hearers that a religious ceremony was all right by declaring:

"Marine industry dates back to 1,000 years before the present era and was continually referred to in the Bible by David, Christ, and others. But of all ages of man's history the present has outleaped all other ages in this respect."

He declared the Ark built by Noah was not only built for safety but accommodations had never been superseded in this respect but by the Great Eastern of the present day. He

admitted we had improved somewhat and spoke of the steps by which we have advanced from the raft to the dugout, the canoe, etc., until we reached the ocean greyhounds of the present day. He skipped from scripture to poetry, quoting Byron's "Roll on thou dark and deep blue ocean, roll!" Ten thousand fleets sweep over thee in vain. Man marks the earth with ruin. His control stops with the shores, "to show God. He then gave some interesting facts relative to the oyster industry, quite impressing his audience with his great knowledge when he suddenly threw a dash of cold water over the admiration by referring to the Encyclopedia Britannica as the source of his information. He assured them, however, this service on the deck of the vessel had an old-time precedent in Christ, when he entered the boat of Simon, the fisherman, and preached to the multitude.

"Possibly there were Pharisees among the crowd who were ready to find fault but what followed must have silenced all opposition. So the good friends present need have no compunction of conscience as to this service.

He then said it was also going out under the stars and stripes which were then floating above him and launched out into what might be considered a fair political speech. At last with a prayer and a hymn the service was over and Miss Crane slipped forward with a bottle of sea water breaking it over the side as the boat slid from its cradle into the water just as the sun burst from behind a

cloud as if laughing at the river over the thought of a fishing boat going to sea as a disciple of temperance. The launch itself stood still a few feet out from shore as if amazed at being deprived of its champagne. It utterly refused to budge so great was its indignation. It being simply sprinkled with a bottle of old Neptune as if it would not have enough of that in the days to come. The good country folk could not account for the broad smile that spread over the faces of the city folk when the choir on the launch struck up: "Pull For the Shore." There was no "pulling for the shore" but out from the shore pulled several rowboats to rescue the stranded ones.

"The driest christening I ever was at," muttered an old fisherman.



## STRATFORD SNAP SHOTS.

### WHAT THE RESIDENTS OF THE MOSQUITO TOWN ARE SAYING.

A Butcher and His Grass Widow Friend. Hearts of Young Men in a Flutter. New Dish Dealer Hasn't Found His \$57.



RESIDING IN THE town is a certain butcher who is paying more than marked attention to a grass widow, who resides very near the home of the butcher's family. Almost daily, so the neighbors claim, he can be seen entering this certain widow's house, and on account of his visits being so numerous and of such a lengthy duration, the neighbors seem to be inclined to think that his calls are for no good purpose. He is married and the father of children, and ought to know better. Some of his "true" friends recently wrote a communication to the "Herald" and in it claimed that he dyed his hair, but, of course, how true that part of the story is still remains to be found out. The other part, however, is correct, and unless Mr. Butcher does not wish to gain a great deal of unpleasant notoriety, in the near future, he would better take a word of warning and pay more attention to his wife and less to the grass widow.

THE MANNER in which a number of the young girls in the town have been conducting themselves of late has caused the many old maids to gossip dreadfully. Since the warm weather has set in two young girls who do not live very far from John

Hard's corner, have been seen parading the back streets late at night in company with certain young men who do not by any means enjoy the best of reputation. An excuse that they are only going up as far as the library gains for them permission to go out nights, but if their parents in the future will look into these library visits, they will find much to their sorrow that their daughters are cultivating a habit which will in the near future lead to their ruin.

RECENTLY THERE came to town from New Haven a young married woman, and during the short time which she spent here visiting relatives, she is said to have set the hearts of a number of the town's fickle youths in a flutter. What, entertainment she gave the youths when they called on her is not known, but judging from the manner in which the youths have been acting of late, one would be led to think there were no religious services held when they called.

OUR NEW fish dealer has not succeeded in finding out the name of the fair damsel who gave him the gentle touch for \$57 a week ago Saturday, but he is still on the lookout and swears to have revenge.

A grass widow is a woman whose husband is away often or for a prolonged period.

## STRATFORD SNAP SHOTS.

THE PEACEFUL LITTLE TOWN HAS ITS REFORMER IN REV. JOEL IVES.

### Drug Stores and News Stands Must Close on Sundays. — Two Women of Bad Behavior—Fire Department Doesn't Respond to Drill Call.

REV. JOEL IVES, pastor of the Congregational church, has evidently been taken with reform fever and as a result during the week much comment has been made by the residents of the peaceful town.

It has been the custom for a number of years for the drug stores and newspaper stands in the town to keep open on Sunday, but the reverend gentleman has lately taken it into his head that they should be closed all day Sunday.

A week ago it is understood that Mr. Ives went to the selectmen of the town and requested them to notify the store keepers to close up their places of business on Sunday and as a result Sheriff Stagg visited the proprietors of the drug stores and news stands and requested them to close up at 10 o'clock Sunday morning.

The proprietors were at first not pleased and did not hesitate to tell the sheriff so and also express their opinions in regard to the Rev. Mr. Ives, and the remarks made about the latter were not in the least complimentary.

Sunday in the summer time is when the drug stores and the newspaper stands in this town

make their living and if they are obliged to close up how are they to get along? Often times people are taken sick on Sunday, and in the summer months especially, and perhaps if they were obliged to journey to Bridgeport to have a prescription filled the patient might be dead before they could get back with the medicine. Every year Mr. Ives has started a movement of this kind much to the annoyance of many residents.

USUALLY WHEN married women of this town go to Bridgeport they conduct themselves like ladies, but such cannot be said of Mrs. Blakeman and her sister Mrs. Jennie Vanderbeck, for to the "Herald" reporter's own knowledge they are both guilty of actions which by no means speak well of them. For a number of weeks stories detrimental to these women have been told. Last Wednesday night the reporter was a witness to a little incident which took place on the lower drawbridge in Bridgeport which gave him the opinion that the two women are all that the many reports claim. It was about 9:15 when the reporter first noticed them and then they were in company with two men who were not their

husbands. As the car for Stratford, which leaves the bridge at 9:20 evenings, pulled in they were seen by the reporter to kiss their escorts good night and after entering the car continued to wave at them until the car took them out of sight. All the way to Stratford these women conducted themselves in a manner which was by no means ladylike, and judging from their conversation next Thursday night they are to meet the two men whom they kissed good night on the lower bridge.

SINCE THE TOWN is at last to have city water the question as to the possibilities of a new fire department arises. Of late years the town has been blessed with a fairly good volunteer department, but like the majority of the volunteer departments the members all want to be officers and if they are not officers they will not play. During the past two months the present officers of the company have been very desirous of holding drills, but every attempt on their part to do so has met with failure as the members refuse to respond to the call when issued. Once it was thought that it was on account of the fault of the officers, but now the majority of the residents are of another opinion and think the true fault lies entirely with the members of the company and not with the officers. How the present difficulty is to be settled when hydrants are placed about the town is not known, but it is hoped that the members will respond to drill more readily

then they have of late, and try to keep up the records of the Mutual Hook and Ladder company made in years gone by.

#### MAN AND WIFE FIGHT.

George Nordaby Has His Wife Arrested For Assaulting Him.

The difficulties which have existed between George Nordaby and wife of Bridgeport, which led George to bring suit a week ago against Everett Colburn, have, during the week, taken a different turn. The "Herald" last Sunday published a full account of the suit and after purchasing a copy of the "Herald" George started for his wife's stopping place in Stratford with the intention of trying to straighten out matters.

He had spent all day Saturday with his wife. When he left Saturday night, Mr. and Mrs. Slasher, with whom Mrs. Nordaby is stopping, were of the opinion that the difficulties between George and his wife were at an end, but evidently they were greatly disappointed for no sooner than George had entered the house Monday morning he commenced to make trouble and being slightly under the influence of drink he did not seem to care to whom he directed his remarks.

He called his wife all sorts of names. Mrs. Nordaby became angry and Mr. Slasher, fearing that trouble was about to take place, ordered Nordaby out of the house. He went, but it was not until he had attempted to strike Kittie and she in turn had grabbed the poker and hit

George over the head with it. George then became fighting mad and grabbing the poker from Kittie he hit her over the arm with it and then commenced to deliver a few blows on Kittie's face.