

DEATH OF MRS. HANS NELSON

ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST
HIGHLY RESPECTED CITIZENS
OF THE COMMUNITY IS CALLED
TO HER REWARD.

A pale of sorrow was cast over this entire community on Friday of last week when it was announced that Mrs. Hans Nelson had passed away at Valley City where she had been for treatment. While it was understood for some time that her condition was critical, yet the news of her death came as a sudden shock to the community where she had lived and made her home for the past twenty-five years, and where the influence of her noble and self-sacrificing life had been felt by everyone with whom she had come in contact.

The body was brought to Courtenay on Friday evening and taken to the Presbyterian church until the funeral on Sunday afternoon. At the hour set for the funeral services the house was packed with sympathizing friends of the Nelson family, the people of the entire community being present to honor the memory of the departed one. Rev. M. S. Riddle, pastor of the church, conducted the services and spoke at length on the two great heart questions, "Where are the righteous dead?" "Are the dead interested in the living?" He said the passages from the divine book which gave information on these two questions were as follows: "Therefore we are always confident, knowing that whilst we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." 2 Cor. 5:6-8. "Seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Heb. 12:1.

"Then he said I pray thee therefore, Father that thou wouldest send him to my father's house, for I have five brethren, that he may testify unto them lest they also come unto this place or torment." Luke 16:27-28.

Where are all the dead? There is more than one answer to this question. Some say they have ceased to be, that is, that they are entirely extinct. Others say a part of them are in purgatory, others of them are in hades and perhaps a few of them have reached heaven. Still others say that all the dead are sound asleep, soul and body, and shall not awake till the resurrection morning. The question as to where all the dead are is a very great one, and cannot be answered now. But we may gain some positive information, if the question be narrowed down and made to refer to the righteous dead.

Where are the righteous dead? Our scripture tells, "At home in the body, absent from the Lord; absent from the body, present with the Lord." But where is the Lord? He is not with us in the flesh as He once was. He is somewhere else. Where has he gone? He is at the right of God, on the great white throne. The first Christian martyr, Stephen, when dying, lifted up his eyes heavenward and saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God and he said, "Lord Jesus receive my soul." So when our

righteous dead leave this world they go direct to Jesus, for He says, "I go to prepare a place for you and when I have prepared a place, I will come and receive you to myself that where I am ye may be also." Oh what joy and glory to be with Jesus.

But another question. Are the dead interested in the living? Do our departed friends think of us? As we lay our loved ones to their resting place in the cold, cold chambers of the dead, we find ourselves instinctively asking questions, to which, with tearful eyes we eagerly listen for replies. The one question we ask is, if they still live, do they still love and care for us? Or will they cease to remember us when the soul leaves the body? Certainly they still love and care for us. Our scripture speaks of the righteous dead. The cloud of witnesses is composed of the dead of this character. Abraham, Moses, Elijah, Paul, Stephen are in the cloud. Martin Luther, John Wesley, John Dnox, Moody and all the great and good men of the dead are in the cloud. Father, mother, sisters and brothers and our dear children who believed in Jesus as their saviour, are in the cloud. To these sorrowing ones let me assure you, that your dear mother and wife has gone to join the great cloud of witnesses and she still loves and cares for you.

The text tells us that the dead are interested in the living. The righteous dead are thus interested, because God and the Angels are interested. Earth seems to occupy the whole attention of heaven. The righteous dead are deeply interested in the lives of those who are running the Christian race. Is not the dear mother who first taught our infant lips to pray interested in us? Is not the dear wife interested in him who was her companion in life's journey? Are not the children who have gone to glory interested in their parents? Oh yes they still love us and are interested in us. What a great comfort is this truth to us because we all have dear ones over there.

The floral tributes were unusually lovely, beautiful wreaths having been sent by the Ladies of the Maccabees, of which order Miss Hattie Nelson is a member, and great quantities of flowers having been sent by friends of Mrs. Nelson. The choir rendered some beautiful and appropriate music for the solemn occasion and while the service was in progress the eyes of many of the strongest men of the community were dimmed with tears. The services were concluded at the grave where the choir rendered with much feeling that beautiful hymn, "Rock of Ages."

Mrs. Nelson was born at Malmo, Sweden, on May 27th, 1858, died at Valley City on September 6th, 1907. She was married to Mr. Nelson on April 17th, 1879, and they came to North Dakota in 1882, and located on land northwest of Courtenay and have made their home there ever since. She united with the Swedish Lutheran church at the age of twelve years and has been a consistent member of that body all her life although she never united with the church in this country. Her every action told of the noble life within and marked her as one who was more than a christian in name only. She was the mother of eleven children, four of whom, besides her husband, survive her. They are

Carl and Hattie who have grown to young manhood and womanhood, and Harry and Hilfred who are still so young as to need a mother's care and protection.

The family have the fullest sympathy of this community and every heart goes out in tender condolence to the husband and family in the irreparable loss they have sustained.

'The Lid On'

Under the above heading the Jamestown Capital published the following libelous matter regarding me in its issue of Wednesday, September 4th:

Sheriff Wasser with Chas. Weber, J. Keef, T. N. Nelson and Chief Obermiller as deputies, quietly walked into Courtenay on Monday and arrested Louis Wang, on a charge of violating the prohibition law; Charles Raney, who has been running a gambling joint with a number of slot machines in tact and A. W. Porter for running a common every day poker game.

The law violators were caught with the goods on them and consequently raised no objections when the sheriff and his deputies stepped into their places of abode and stated their business. Slot machines and "evidence" was secured in abundance and brought to this city. One of the slot machines found in Raney's den was too large to be transported and consequently was smashed and the remnants left in Courtenay.

The prisoners were brought here Tuesday night and taken to the office of States Attorney Thorp where they were examined and a confession procured from each.

The next officer to have a hand in the game was Judge Conklin before whom they were arraigned and where they plead guilty to the charges preferred. They were sentenced as follows:

Louis Wang, \$200 and costs and 90 days in jail; A. W. Porter, \$200 and costs and 90 days in jail.

Chas. Raney was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and costs.

The writer of the above article deliberately lies and is a common low down liar when he says I have been running a gambling joint or den within the past four years. What happened before that is on record at Jamestown and has been paid for.

He also lies when he says that there were any slot machines found intact, and that there was a machine here too large to haul and had to be broken up.

The facts in the case are as follows.

There were two slot machines entirely empty that had been turned to the wall promptly when I was ordered to do so by the marshal a week before the sheriff arrived. Some of my customers played smear in my pool hall and I would sometimes get ten cents a game which was used to buy cards for the players.

There is a restaurant in connection with my pool hall which is patronized by all classes of citizens and transients. These people would not visit a place that was known as a "gambling den or joint."

I do not know the writer of this slanderous article but I can assure him I can prove all the statements I have made, and if he is a man he will admit that he was wrong and make a retraction. If he is a cur he will reply by another scurrilous and anonymous slander.

C. E. RANEY,
Courtenay, N. D.

THERE T

Suppose that every year pigs should push through a and say to you a fare-you-ved? Or suppose you lost month through neglect to Would you stand for it? 7 of little yellow butter-fat g every day in the year—tha or calves from \$50—to \$200 the size of your dairy. Wl just about your fix?

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Larson, Ers