

A ROMANCE, NOT OF FICTION BUT OF FACT.

The Blaine Divorce. (Continued from last week.)

"I have no statement to make," said Father Ducey on Sunday night when I told him the substance of Mr. Blaine's publication.

"Mr. Blaine says I transgressed my priestly duties in marrying his son, eh? In reply to that I merely refer Mr. Blaine to Archbishop Corrigan—that's all I have to say: The Archbishop knew all that I did in the matter and approved of it, and Mr. Blaine should prefer his company to mine."

Here Father Ducey partly closed the front door of his house to intimate that the interview was at an end. Then he opened it again and said:—

"It would have been impossible for me to marry young Mr. Blaine without the Archbishop's sanction. He knew all the circumstances and granted the necessary approval. Why doesn't Mr. Blaine remonstrate with him?"

Here the conversation closed again for a moment, but the Father returned to the charge, and with energy added this:—

"If Mr. Blaine says I transgressed my priestly functions he makes a grave error. I did not. I simply did what had been approved of by a higher authority in the Church."

"But," I said, "Mr. Blaine publishes a letter which he says he wrote to you at the time of the marriage protesting against your share in the affair."

"He does, does he?" said Father Ducey. "Well, now I know all about that letter, and a pretty poor letter it is. It will not help to set Mr. Blaine right before the Catholic world. My action and the authority I had for it are well known. They cannot be affected by the publication of that letter."

"Mr. Blaine seems to hold you responsible for all the trouble," I said.

"Well, why doesn't Mr. Blaine publish the letter I wrote him?" said Father Ducey. "That's what I should like to know. He has published his letter, now let him publish mine. That will show whether I have transgressed my priestly duties or not. Let's have both sides of it. That's all I care to say about it."

District Attorney De Lancey Nicoll, who was young Mr. Blaine's counsel when she began her divorce suit, smiled when he heard about Mr. Blaine's statement, but declined to discuss it.

STOIX FALLS, S. D., March 1, 1892.—Mrs. James G. Blaine, Jr., has furnished an open letter in reply to the "personal statement" made by James G. Blaine, Sr., last Sunday regarding the relations between Mr. Blaine, Jr., and his wife, who was recently granted a divorce. The letter by Mrs. Blaine, Jr., in full is as follows:—

STOIX FALLS, S. D., March 1. MY DEAR SIR—You have furnished the public with a remarkable production, under the caption of a personal statement. I consider it my duty at this time to address you with that degree of dignity which your position as a public man entitles you to. I acknowledge your well rendered, richly deserved fame as a diplomat, and appreciate fully the weight which your utterances possess as fully as I appreciate my own weakness and my total inability to cope with you in a personal encounter, but I shall expect from you that considerate and honorable treatment which I am sure your keen sense of equity and fairness will dictate.

demand—say ten days. If at the end of that time you fail to respond I shall deem it my duty to give in substance their contents and corroborate my statement by publishing letters from your son both prior and subsequent to our marriage. You know full well that your charge against me regarding the marriage are unfounded. I give you ample opportunity to retract.

You have two alternatives—the one suggested or silence. Your consideration for your grandson will surely induce you to decide in favor of the first. This is not a proposed diplomatic engagement on my part, for your success in dealing with powerful nations is too well known for me to meet you on any ground than as the mother of your grandson. I take it that your sentiment was prompted chiefly by the remarks of Judge Thomas in rendering his decision which gave me my freedom. I have no defence to offer in his behalf, I simply declare, now, that you have arraigned me by the use of fragmentary quotations from my love letters to your son, that you be fair enough to publish the originals in full. I will then prove to the world that your son was far from a weakling, and that you, his proud father, well knew it long before he married me. Truly yours,

MARY NEVINS BLAINE.

The letter of Mrs. Blaine, Jr., was written under the most trying circumstances. For days she has been extremely ill and not able to move from her bed. She declared constantly, after receiving the first intimation of the senior Blaine's personal statement, that she would immediately write it for the benefit of the public, to be read on the following day, but when she started on the task her strength failed her.

To-day it was only by the aid of her strong will power that she managed to answer it. Her first thought was to give the public a personal narrative of her experience as the wife of the youngest son of the Secretary of State, but in this she changed, believing that all the public need care for was the letters written to her husband.

They explain everything and the scraps of sentences taken from a half dozen or more letters are extremely misleading, if the words of Mrs. Blaine, Jr., are to be believed. Should Blaine not answer the appealing missive Mrs. Blaine, Jr., declares that she will present to the public all the letters which have passed between her and the Blaines. All these letters she has now in her possession, and will prove, she declares, every statement made on the witness stand at Deadwood.

Opinion in this city is considerably divided as to the merits of the controversy. Many people think the writing of the letter a very daring thing on Mr. Blaine's part, because it causes to be renewed discussion of a case which was rapidly becoming forgotten. All unite in the belief that the Secretary of State was urged to take up his pen by his wife.

The letter of Mr. Blaine is still under criticism. Mrs. Ogden Doremus knows young Mrs. Blaine very well. She was one of those who befriended young James G. Blaine's wife when, after being deserted by her husband, she was taken ill. At the house of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Charles Doremus, the young woman lay ill for months, and she has in both ladies' champions as warm now as ever.

Mrs. Ogden Doremus was seen at her residence, No. 241 Medi-on avenue, yesterday, and was asked this question:—

"From what you know of the marriage of young Mr. Blaine and Miss Marie Nevins do you agree with the declaration of Secretary Blaine that his son was cajoled into it by his wife?"

"Such a statement," Mrs. Doremus answered unhesitatingly, "is absurd. Any one who knows young James Blaine and Marie Nevins is aware of how ridiculous such a claim is. The young man had had experience in the world far beyond his years. His college chums and his companions since he left college cannot help laughing at such a defence made by his father. Instead of the young woman leading him; an awkward and bashful captive, I know that he sought the union. As to their ages, she at that time was seventeen and he was about nineteen years old.

wealthy lady. Naturally she was incensed at the marriage. I know that Marie Nevins is a sweet and lovable girl and she tried to get along with her husband's family. One, when she was living with her father-in-law, Mrs. Blaine, Senior, petulantly said to her:—"Do you know you are dependent for everything you get on the Blaines?" Those were the little things which made the trouble. The young wife retorted in kind and said that when her mother-in-law was married, she, too, was dependent for everything she got on the Blaines."

"Have you any information bearing on Secretary Blaine's statement that he offered the young people a home in Augusta?"

"He may have offered them the use of the Augusta house while the family were in Europe, but 'Jimmy' Blaine would not have lived there a week after the family had gone. He wanted the excitement of life in New York city, so they came here. Now Mr. Blaine speaks of an allowance of \$2,500 and of finding his son heavily in debt when he returned from Europe. Whose fault was that but the young man's? He made them an allowance of between \$1,200 and \$1,500 a year. That was a mere drop in the bucket for him. I am reliably informed that young Blaine took this money, went into Wall street and lost it all in speculation.

"Mr. Blaine," continued Mrs. Doremus, "may say what he pleases attacking the motives and character of the woman who married his son, but I repeat what I said when testimony in the divorce case was being taken, that I never knew a girl who had the faculty of so attracting woman friends, and holding them. You know she contracted her inflammatory rheumatism at Long Beach, while studying to go on the stage, and suddenly collapsed at a rehearsal. If it had not been for the charity of friends she would have been in a sorry plight indeed. One lady sent her \$50 worth of fine underwear when she was ill. One of her most devoted friends was Mrs. Kendall, the actress. Mrs. Kendall is a trained nurse herself and doctors her own children.

"After young Mrs. Blaine had been removed from my son's house to apartments in the Percival she was so ill that she could not move from the hospital bed. Even when a garment was changed she had to be chloroformed. Mrs. Kendall visited her every day. She massaged her with her own hands, and finally got her from the hospital bed to her own bed and then to a lounge. And when her engagement was at an end here she offered to take the poor deserted thing over the country with her in her private car and attend to her just as she had been doing for weeks and weeks.

"Now, I say that such a woman as Mr. Blaine describes could not have won hearts like that. Her enemies talk about her five gowns. They were given to her by friends while she was ill, and it was a good thing they were so charitable."

Don't Worry.

One day at a time conscientiously lived up to will keep the eyes bright and the cheeks round and rosy. Don't begin to worry about things days beforehand. It will be time enough when they happen. It is the dread of what may come, not what is, that makes one old before the time. If you lie awake half the night worrying about something that is going to occur the next morning you will be far less able to face bravely and work out the problem than if you had made an effort and thought of something else till sleep came. It is not half as hard as it sounds and will grow easier every time you try it. Perhaps after all the disaster will not befall you or will be less awful than you anticipated and just think what a lot of unnecessary wrinkles you have worried into your face.

Another thing, don't torment yourself about what people are going to think about this and that action. No matter what you do or leave undone some one will criticize you severely, and the very best rule for getting through life with comparative comfort is, after you have made up your mind as to the propriety and advisability of a certain course, pursue it, calmly, without paying the slightest attention to the criticisms of the lookers on from the outside. You see, just because they are on the outside they can only see the surface. It does not matter in the least what they think. —N. Y. Press.

Government Ownership.

Those men who advocating the "government ownership" of Railroads, etc., certainly have not considered the results of such a calamity. Read what the Wilmington Star says, and think over the matter:

The statesmen who had just launched the third party at St. Louis demand that the Government own the railroads and run them in the interest of the people. Well, admitting for the sake of argument that such a colossal scheme as this is practicable and that the Government could become the possessor of \$10,000,000,000 worth of railroads and run them, how would it be when new roads were needed? Who would build them? The Government? Who would order the building? Congress? Who would give out the contracts, buy the right of way and all that sort of thing? Congress? And then if this be so what chance would the South stand, or the small or thinly populated States stand with the thickly populated sections or States having large delegations in Congress? What a nice opportunity it would present to enterprising Congressmen who wanted more railroads in their States to form combinations to have roads built at the expense of the Government. It is a big scheme, entirely too big to be seriously entertained by rational people.

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Table with columns: No. 11 Lv. 7 15 ar. Le-noir Hudsonville Saw Mill Granite Falls Hickory Newton Maiden Lincolnton Hardin Dallas Gastonia Crowders Ck Clover Yorkville Gutburville McCondeville Lowrysville Chester Columbia, S. C. No. 12 Ar. 6 30 pm Lv. 5 20 4 40 3 44 2 48 2 05 1 09

Table with columns: STATIONS. ARRIVE. LEAVES. Wilmington 9:30 Charlotte 4:40 Paw Creek 4:44 Mt Holly 4:56 Stanley Creek 5:16 Ironton 5:36 Lincolnton 5:52 Cherrysville 6:25 Wood 6:25 Shelby 6:53 Battimore 7:08 Mooresboro 7:20 Ellenboro 7:26 Bostic 7:40 Forest City 7:47 Rutherfordton 7:55 p m

Table with columns: STATIONS. ARRIVE. LEAVES. Rutherfordton 8:00 Forest City 8:09 Bostic 8:16 Ellenboro 8:29 Mooresboro 8:35 Lattimore 8:44 Shelby 9:04 Waco 9:23 Cherrysville 9:32 Lincolnton 10:00 Ironton 10:21 Stanley Creek 10:41 Mt. Holly 11:01 Paw Creek 11:13 Charlotte 11:23 Wilmington 6:23 p m

Through passenger train No. 38 leaves Charlotte via Hamlet and Raleigh for Portsmouth, Va., at 5 a. m. Through passenger train No. 41 leaves Portsmouth, Va., at 8 a. m., arrives at Charlotte 10:15 p. m. WM MONCURE, Supt.

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