

THE RALEIGH EVENING TIMES

VOLUME 27

RALEIGH, N. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1907.

PRICE 5c.

MUTE LIPS OF EVELYN'S MOTHER OPEN AT LAST

Mrs. Delmas Gives Her Version of Evelyn's Tragic Story of Her Life

THE MOTHER SEEKS NOT TO SHIELD HER CHILD

She Declares That Her Confidence in White Was Implicit; That She Did Not Willingly Leave Evelyn in New York; That Had Evelyn Told Her of the Wrong Suffered at White's Hands She Would Have Killed the Man Herself; That She Did Not Want to Go With Evelyn and Thaw to Europe Because Her Mother Was Not Wanted There.

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(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Pittsburg, Pa., April 16.—The following is Mrs. C. H. Holman's statement: Two days after the night upon which Harry Thaw shot Stanford White at Madison Square Garden we received this telegram: "It is most important for you to say absolutely nothing."

(Signed) "P." I immediately formed the resolution that I should say nothing to any one, pending the outcome of the trial of Harry Thaw, which I realized must take place.

This is the only communication that has come to me from my daughter since the murder. I did say nothing. I remained silent. I have remained silent until now, and I would have kept silent had it not been for the attacks upon me by Mr. Delmas in his closing address to the Thaw jury. I made no statement to District Attorney Jerome, nor to any of his representatives. Neither did I aid the district attorney in any way.

"Forced to Take Defensive." I have been forced to take the defensive from the start, and the situation was rendered intolerable by Mr. Delmas' aspersions. One of the sentences from Mr. Delmas' speech referred to me as "a mother who manifested that character of frivolity and extravagance which were later to bear such deplorable consequences."

At the death of my first husband I was thrown entirely upon my own resources. When the estate was settled and all debts paid, I found myself with exactly \$113.33 and a house filled with furniture. My husband's mother suggested that I seek to make a livelihood taking roomers. The venture was not a success.

I was extremely fond of my children, especially of my daughter, Florence. Florence was never the "household drudge," as Mr. Delmas called her. To quote Mr. Delmas, "Florence was endowed with the fatal gift of beauty," a gift, he said, "which the mother soon saw was the means of supporting the family."

This refers to the posing Florence did in Philadelphia and New York. I had to close out the rooming business and went to Philadelphia, sending the children to Trenton, Pa. The position I had moved to Philadelphia to take did not materialize. There seemed to be no hope for us. By selling articles of furniture, I succeeded in obtaining enough money to purchase food for the three of us, for by this time the children were with me.

Meeting With an Artist. One evening Florence and I went to Broad street station in Philadelphia to see a Pittsburg friend on a train. Suddenly Florence left my side and ran to greet an elderly man whom she brought to me.

"This is an artist I met at Crosson," she said. "He is the one who wants to paint my picture." This man introduced himself as Mr. Storm. He told me his sister, Mrs. Durrah, was a portrait painter. Mrs. Durrah subsequently asked Florence to pose for her. When we became better acquainted with her, she learned of our financial situation, and through her, Florence posed for various artists and photographers, only women at the start. George Gibbs was the first man for whom she posed. It was through some of these photographs that Florence afterwards took to the Broadway Magazine in New York, that her

beauty became first known to the public. I went to New York to see what I could do. I took a room on West Twenty-second street. All this time, despite the smallness of our resources, I managed to keep up appearances.

Men Evelyn Posed For. Florence posed only for Carroll Bookwith, Irving Wiles, Carl Blonied and Mr. Church, all of whom I know to be honorable gentlemen.

I am not ashamed to say that some days we did not have enough to eat. Florence was in love with the stage. I do not remember what steps Florence took, but at length I yielded to her solicitations and accompanied her to see Mr. Fisher, of the Florentine company, to whom she had a letter of introduction.

Florence was paid \$15 a week at the start. She got along well, and soon a small part was given her. She did a little Spanish dance and her pay was raised to \$25 a week.

Introduction to White. The story of her first encounter with Mr. White has been told several times, including once by herself on the witness stand. Her account was substantially correct. It was Edna Goodrich who was in the Florentine company who introduced them. Miss Goodrich, asked that Florence be allowed to attend a luncheon after a matinee with her and several other girls. It was testified that I dressed her to meet White. I did not know whom she was to meet.

When Florence returned she said to me, "Oh, mamma, I met the grandest man this afternoon. He took a great liking to me and he says he wants you to let him have my tooth fixed. He says if it is not attended to it will mar her beauty." The tooth was one that had been improperly treated and had begun to discolor. I questioned Florence about this man whose name she said was White, and told her it was unusual for a man to offer to do anything like that, especially at the first meeting. When I went to the dentist, Dr. McCarthy, to find out about the treatment for the tooth, I asked him particularly about Mr. White, who he was, and I remarked that the interest Mr. White was taking in us seemed unusual. Dr. McCarthy replied: "You are not the only persons he does things for; and I also asked Dr. Potter about Mr. White, and he said, 'Mr. White is the salt of the earth.' I also asked other persons about Mr. White, and they all spoke highly of him."

Mrs. Holman's Confidence Won. Soon after this Mr. White sent a request for me to see him in his office. I went and was greatly impressed with his manner and what he told me. Among other things, he said: "Mrs. Nesbit, do you know you have a remarkably beautiful daughter? She should not be on the stage or going around studios. She is too good for that sort of thing."

"Why do you take such an interest in my daughter?" I asked him. "Mrs. Nesbit," he replied, "I like her because she is so pretty and so good." I was so persistent in demanding from Mr. White pledges and assurances of his good intentions toward Florence that he grew impatient and said: "What sort of persons have you met? Have you no friends? You must not be a nuisance to me."

If ever a woman repudiated confidence in a man, I did in Stanford White. I never went away from New York and committed my daughter to the care of Mr. White. I was compelled to go to Pittsburg because my son was ill. When I returned, to all appearances, Florence was well and happy. If she underwent the experience that is said to have befallen her, she did not take me into her confidence. She has acknowledged this in her testimony.

I Would Have Killed Him. Had she told me what she said the Thaw jury it would not have been necessary for Harry Thaw to kill Stanford White. I would have done it myself.

All of Mr. White's dealings with us were open and above board, especially where money was concerned. The money he gave Florence was banked subject to her order. His partner, Mr. Harnett, knew all about it and attended to it. It was no secret. Mr. White gave me to understand that he wanted everybody to know it if they so desired, so there would be no criticism and no shame fall upon Florence's good name.

It must not be overlooked that where my name appears as the endorser on some of these checks given by Mr. White, there was an excellent reason, and a legal reason for it. Florence was a minor.

Thaw Did Not Mention Marriage. Mr. Thaw had been trying to pay attentions to Florence when we were at the Audubon. He never mentioned marriage with Florence to me.

Mrs. J. J. Cain never heard him offer to settle \$100,000 or any other amount if I would gain Florence's consent to marry him. Intimations have been made about the operation which Florence underwent while she was at Pompton. There was nothing mysterious about it; there was nothing improper about it.

When Florence was convalescent after the operation the physicians recommended a sea trip. A coastwise voyage was suggested, but once when the matter was under discussion Mr. Thaw was present and proposed a voyage to Europe. Mr. Thaw then and afterwards insisted that I go with Florence. Mr. White, to whom I told this, was angry.

"Sick and Disgusted." Florence said on the stand that I asked for money continually. I did. I begged them to give me passage money and let me return to New York. I was sick and disgusted at a woman possessing Florence's attitude was such as to excite me that I was not satisfied in Paris and that she did not feel that she owed me anything in present.

Conditions grew worse when we returned to London. The things began the afternoon when Mr. Charles Westcott, of the American company, had an engagement to take me out sailing. It was testified that Mr. Westcott had insulted me. He said to me, "You will be married in two days, won't you?" and he said to me, "You are communicated with no one while I was in London. During this period she wrote: 'If you get angry, catch up Stanford.'"

Accusations Made and Denied. Miss Simonson was sent for by Thaw and brought me to New York. While Miss Simonson was in Paris, Mr. Thaw committed to her, she said, a statement written by Florence, which contained certain charges against Mr. White. She was instructed, she said, to show this statement to me before we landed in New York. I did not see it.

When Florence returned to New York she wrote Howard a letter denying the accusations against Mr. White. I did not see Florence from the day she and Mr. Thaw left London the day after the marriage on the fourth of April, 1907. I was not consulted about the marriage. We did not know that a marriage had been arranged until my husband and I were asked to go to the home of Rev. Dr. Egan. This was an hour before the ceremony.

All the arrangements had been carried out by Mr. J. Dennis Lyon, Mr. Thaw's banker. Mr. Lyon had the marriage license clerk at the clergyman's sign. It was necessary that the mother sign the application for license readily and cheerfully. I was glad that Mr. Thaw was man enough to give her his name. I was glad for her sake.

I have not seen my daughter since. As solemnly, as though these words were uttered with my last breath, I wish here to affirm that my love for my daughter is as deep and intense as it was when I first held her in my arms, a helpless babe. The door of my home is open to her.

(Mrs.) Evelyn Florence Holman. DEATH OF J. R. STEVENSON, NATIVE OF NEW YORK CITY. Pittsboro, N. C., April 16.—Mr. John R. Stevenson of New York City died here this morning, of heart disease. Mr. Stevenson and his son moved to this section about six months ago, hoping the climate might improve his health.



Respectable Charge Made by Mrs. Nesbit in Her Closing Address to the Jury in the Thaw Case. Mrs. Nesbit made a speech in which she suggested in the closing of her address that the jury should find the defendant guilty.

TWELVE BIG WAY UP TO FREEDOM

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 15.—Twelve men, including one woman, were arrested yesterday afternoon and taken to the jail for alleged participation in the highway robbery of a mail train.

(Special to The Evening Times.)

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

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FIVE HUNDRED PERISH IN A VAST CATAclysm

GIRLS SAY HE IS BENEATH A MASK

BLACK REFUSES TO TOUCH CASE

Mexico Scene of Disaster Indicated in Dispatch to Times Yesterday

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Winston-Salem, N. C., April 16.—Rev. George N. Kenaston, pastor of the First Congregational church, northside, held by the grand jury under \$5,000 bonds on charge under the law, all under a search warrant, and mention of his church.

They accuse the pastor of creating them in his study, and some of them make more serious charges. Judge Williams held the pastor to the grand jury on the charges preferred by the grand jury. Mr. Florence (northside) in bonds \$5,000.

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THREE CITIES SAID TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

City of Mexico, April 16.—A frightful loss of life and property was caused by the earthquake which threw this city into a panic and lasted four and a half minutes. It is reported that 500 persons met death and as many more serious injury.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

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A Sudden Fire and Two Men Missing

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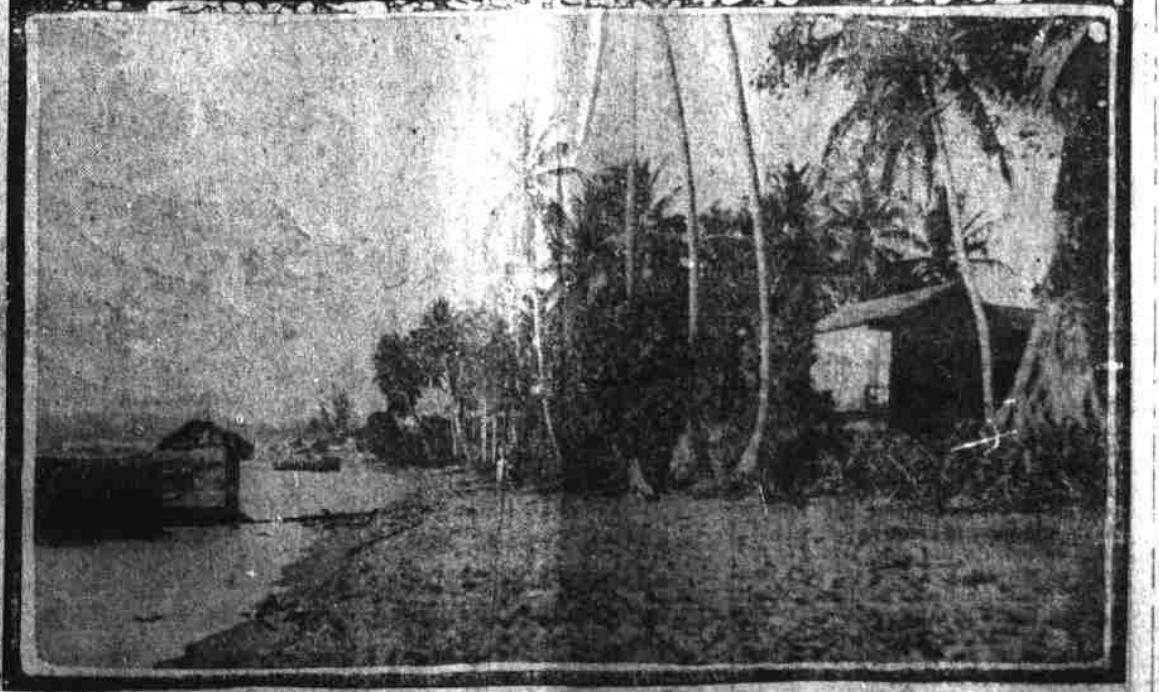
(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

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This is a typical scene on the Isle of Pines, from a photograph by Estrada of Havana. The Supreme Court of the United States recently officially ruled that the island is foreign territory and therefore a dependency of Cuba.