

A QUEER CASE.

A Man Mourned For Years as Dead Turns Up

AND TWO WIVES SUE.

Man Believed Drowned Startles "Widow" by Asking Aid Against New "Wife." Seeks Decree Her-self and Spurns Request to Kill Rival's Action and Rejects Offer of His Return.

This queer tale comes from Chicago. Some twenty-nine years ago Andrew Buckley, beloved husband of Phineena Buckley, was drowned, having disappeared from an overturned rowboat. He is now defendant in two suits for divorce.

One pleasant day in October nearly three score years ago he went for a walk. Next day the boat was found bottom up, and Buckley was found not at all.

A sufficient time having passed without his coming home to his wife, she was led to believe that he had been drowned, and she was left a widow.

As a widow, she fixed up a nice grave and decorated it with flowers every year. As a widow, she received the condolences of her friends and extolled the virtues of the late lamented Buckley among the neighbors.

Luxuriating in recollections of the happiness which she remained true to the past and brought up her son in fond reverence of the memory of his worthy father.

During twenty-nine years she had become firmly fixed in the habit of believing she was a widow and was reconciled.

Therefore, she was surprised, to say the least, when she recently received a letter from Buckley. The letter bore a water mark, but no other indication of having come from a man who had gone to a moist and permanent death.

On the contrary it gave evidence of coming from one who was very thoroughly possessed of vitality and animation. In fact it went so far as to show that the writer had been leading a double life.

The writer explained to the loving and affectionate widow that the constructive corpse was in trouble and needed her assistance. He related that the woman with whom he had been living since his vicarious death was suing him for divorce and asking alimony.

He wanted his widow to sign a disposition that she was his wife in order to upset the claims of his second wife, living in Seattle, Wash. "Phineena darling," said the letter, "won't you please make this disposition? I want to prove to my wife that she is not my wife, but that you are. You have always been good to me, and I am sure you will be so now. My present wife is hard to convince. You were never so. She wants alimony, but if I do not have to pay her I can have her. It is enough for me to have you back to me, and I will live with you all my life. I presume our son is earning money now. Please forward by return mail.

Believing that she had been injured by the supposedly drowned man, who had originally deprived her of support and then of a widow's comfort, Mrs. Buckley called Judge McCreary to grant her a divorce from the waterlogged mate of former years.

FOUND DEAD IN BAY. Supposed to Have Fallen Overboard While in a Fight. The New York American says two dead sailors, with arms loaded, revealed a river tragedy Thursday afternoon, when found floating near the Statue of Liberty. What the circumstances of their death were could not be ascertained, but it was assumed that they had been fighting and had fallen from the ship.

HE DENIES IT.

Rev. C. M. Billings Publishes Card In Augusta Chronicle.

Mr. Robert B. Pickling, of Blackville, Replies to Same Through The Columbia State.

The following communication appeared in the Augusta Chronicle one day last week: "On June 23 and 24 dispatches were given to the press to the effect that I had been expelled from the Blackville, S. C., Baptist church on account of letters containing expressions of endearment for a house-maid who had formerly served in our home. A further statement to the effect that I had forsaken my wife and child and gone away with this servant was made."

"I want to say by way of explanation for my silence that for the first 10 days after these dispatches appeared I was not in a physical or mental condition to make the statement I wish to make. Besides, friends as well as myself thought a statement which would finally be made by myself a denial of the charges of a satisfactory to the general public. But finding that many of my friends are expecting a statement from me, I am waiting impatiently for it, I wish to declare."

"First. That the letters in question were not written by me; neither have I been allowed the privilege of seeing them. Second. The statement with reference to the relations of endearment existing between me and the servant in question are libelous. Third. At the time that the dispatch went out I had not only forsaken my family, but was at home with them. This the author certainly must have known."

"The evidence contained upon these letters I was excluded from the church, but I had absolutely no opportunity to defend myself. I was preaching for the first time since I was preaching for a friend in Augusta and did not reach home until 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day."

"This is my final statement until a body of reputable brethren hear the case and their findings made public." "Rev. C. M. Billings."

Contradicts Billings. To the Editor of The State: It has been the purpose of your correspondent to have nothing more to say in regard to the awful Billings matter which has been the talk of our town and the whole State and caused grief to the Christian people here and elsewhere.

But the statement in your paper today, copied from the Augusta Chronicle, is so misleading to those who read it that I feel compelled to know the facts in the case and is so totally devoid of truth until this informant must come forth.

Now, every reputable man in this town has known my name to the fact that these awful letters written by Billings to the negro who had been his house maid are in Billings' own handwriting and mailed to Bamberg, where the maid had gone after leaving his home on account of the fact leaking out here.

Mr. Tom Buist, of Messers, Norwood, Capt. McMillan, and other gentlemen had come up in the meantime and formed a plan to join hands, and to the ladies from the shallow water to the beach.

As soon as all had been gotten ashore prompt efforts at resuscitating Miss Wammamaker were begun. Dr. Wammamaker, uncle of the young lady, Dr. R. K. Kirk, Surgeon Kirkpatrick and Contract Surgeon Hudson, of the United States army, and three trained nurses did everything possible to suggest and skill perform, but their efforts were wholly unavailing. Miss Wammamaker never regained consciousness, and she succumbed to complete collapse.

Miss Julia Wammamaker would have been sixteen years old next Monday. Her father and mother, left Charleston Wednesday for New York. They were telegraphed Friday night the sad news of their daughter's tragic death. They returned to Blackville, S. C., July 17, 1907.

BURIED CITY FOUND. In Texas Which Was Long Ago Densely Populated. Prof. T. L. Everly, an archaeologist and instructor in the Canadian college at Hereford, Texas, has discovered a buried city in Ochiltree county, in the extreme northern part of the State.

The appearance of a number of mounds upon what was otherwise a level plain attracted Mr. Everly's attention, and he began investigations. His excavations have revealed buried buildings, in which are human bodies and ancient pottery and stone utensils. The mounds are rectangular in shape, and their sides are steep.

CLERKS ERROR. Ignorant Girl Served Years in Prison For Months. Because a clerk wrote her name instead of month, Lena Rivers, an ignorant girl, has served almost a year of years in Alabama prison when the real time was less than two years. She died just before her time was up and her mother now asks the Alabama legislature for overtime pay.

AWFUL TRAGEDY.

Miss Julia Wammamaker a Victim of the Undertow.

SWEET YOUNG GIRL

From Orangeburg Swept Off Her Feet and Out to Sea While Surf Bathing. Near Station 19, on Sullivan's Island, Heroic Efforts to Save Her Failing—Two Others Narrowly Escape.

Caught in the merciless grip of the undertow, in water barely waist deep, Miss Julia Wammamaker, the beautiful young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wammamaker, of Orangeburg, was drowned while in surf bathing on Sullivan's Island, opposite the street leading from station No. 19, near the rocks, late Friday afternoon.

Joseph T. Cunningham said he was drawing a salary of \$15,000 as manager of an electrical company with offices at 111 Broadway, Manhattan. His wife, Mrs. Isabel S. Cunningham, has been living with one Lizzie Dempsey at 5817 Fifteenth avenue, Borough Park, and by whom he has had two children.

The three ladies named and Prof. Francis L. Parker entered the surf about 6:30 o'clock. The tide at that time was high and the water was comparatively shallow, being not more than six feet deep. The undertow was so swift that they were unable to retain their footing. The ladies called to Prof. Parker that the undertow had them. He quickly seized them, hunched them together and called for help.

Mr. Tom Buist of Charleston, was the first to reach them, and Prof. Parker turned over Miss Wammamaker, who had become panic stricken, to him. He had been swimming, and was, however, for Mr. Buist to make a long run up the beach before reaching them and he was practically exhausted when he undertook to support Miss Wammamaker, and could not keep her head above the surface.

Mr. George Huguenin, also of Charleston, being attracted by the calls for help, hastened to Mr. Buist's assistance. Mr. Huguenin has been ill recently and his strength was soon gone. He was unable to support Miss Wammamaker and she sank. Mr. James Adger, who had been swimming, joined the other two, and they made a long run up the beach before reaching them and he was practically exhausted when he undertook to support Miss Wammamaker, and could not keep her head above the surface.

Meanwhile, Capt. McMillan, of the United States army, and Quartermaster Hudson, of the same service, and Prof. Parker, up to his neck in water by this time, and still struggling with Mrs. Bell and Miss Cart, Capt. McMillan seized and supported one of the ladies, and Prof. Parker and Fulton assisted Prof. Parker. Other gentlemen had come up in the meantime and formed a plan to join hands, and to the ladies from the shallow water to the beach.

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Fatal Row Between Two Negroes on Public Road. A dispatch from McCormick to The State says news reached there Thursday afternoon of a difficulty which occurred on the public highway about four miles from this place between two negroes. One of the negroes was killed and his slayer has been locked up. The weapon used was a knife and the slayer is believed to be the cause of the trouble. The names of the participants in the tragedy are unknown at the time this dispatch was sent.

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Former Partner of Marshal Field Dead in New York. Albert G. Liscumb, formerly connected with the firm of Marshal Field and Co., was found dead in his apartments at the Chatsworth apartment house, asphyxiated from gas which was escaping from several burners. Mr. Liscumb's family is away in the country.

WANTS DIVORCE

So As Her Husband Can Marry Another Woman.

AWFUL TRAGEDY.

And Give His Two Illegitimate Daughters His Name and Thus Save Them From Shame.

With the formal application made Thursday in the New York Supreme Court for a final judgment of divorce, following an interlocutory decree signed by Justice Crane on April 6th last, is made public a startling story of marital infidelity and double life, in which a prominent resident of Borough Park, Brooklyn, the defendant, and a social scandal which has agitated Boston at times for several years is revived.

The man who is charged by his wife with leading a double life is Joseph T. Cunningham, said to be drawing a salary of \$15,000 as manager of an electrical company with offices at 111 Broadway, Manhattan. His wife, Mrs. Isabel S. Cunningham, has been living with one Lizzie Dempsey at 5817 Fifteenth avenue, Borough Park, and by whom he has had two children.

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Caused by Cloudburst in Ohio and West Virginia

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At Zanesville, Ohio, a cloudburst and electrical storm resulted in three deaths and much property damage. Taylor Davis was drowned while fording a creek at Museville and a man was drowned in the Adams Mill basin. His boat was upset by the wind. John Kinney, a miller of Conwellville, was killed by lightning at South Zanesville.

Along the Western Maryland railroad between Thomas and Elkkins, Va., the rain fell so fast that it will not be possible to operate that portion of the road for at least 24 hours. Two hundred and fifty feet of the track was washed over the banks of South Run from the station and Hendricks, and at the same point there is a 30 foot landslide. All telephone and telegraph wires are down between Thomas and Elkkins.

Between Douglas and Thomas, the tracks are washed out for a quarter of a mile. Rain is still falling and railroad officials fear even greater trouble. The dry fork railroad is reported under water and the big main of the West Virginia and Maryland Gas company was torn out at Parsons.

On the Baltimore and Ohio railroad there has been trouble between Terra Alta and Grafton, including washouts and landslides, and since 9 o'clock there have been no trains over that division.

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CUPID VS CUPIDITY

Blind God Routed in Honeymoon, Says Harrison.

UGLY CHARGE.

Alleged That Hammet Secured Affidavits Wrongly

Statements by Attorneys, Messrs. Stevenson and Matheson, Who Are Outspoken in Their Declaration to the Courts, Reflects Very Seriously on the Ex-Chief Constable of the State Constabulary.

"The affidavits were obtained by a method of legdemain, which in most instances smacks of fraud, and men like Mr. Tate of Eutawville were tricked by their former chum, Mr. Hammet, into signing ignorantly what was not true," is the positive characterization of the arts of U. B. Hammet, deputy collector of internal revenue for South Carolina and former chief dispensary constable for South Carolina, contained in the brief of Messrs. Stevenson & Matheson, attorneys at law, who are a special commission in the matter of the assessments of internal revenue taxes against the State of South Carolina.

The affidavits alleged to have been secured from various dispensers throughout the State by Mr. Hammet and other revenue officers serving under him and now on trial in the refunding suit, Michaj Jewell, collector of internal revenue of the district of South Carolina, demand was made upon the dispensary commission on May 7, for \$32,627 in license fees claimed to be due the United States government as a result of the fact, as alleged, that dispensers had sold beer in greater quantities than 7-8 gallons in single sales, making them liable for the wholesale liquor dealers license; \$4,267 of this amount covered a period of fifteen months prior to the date when the demand was made upon the commission for satisfaction; the other \$28,000 being charged up for the period beyond that date.

The dispensary commission paid the amount of the account, \$4,627, under protest and on the ground that the dispensers had made no sale of liquor for the period beyond that date. The commission on May 7, for \$32,627 in license fees claimed to be due the United States government as a result of the fact, as alleged, that dispensers had sold beer in greater quantities than 7-8 gallons in single sales, making them liable for the wholesale liquor dealers license; \$4,267 of this amount covered a period of fifteen months prior to the date when the demand was made upon the commission for satisfaction; the other \$28,000 being charged up for the period beyond that date.

Mr. Stephenson submitted numerous affidavits to the commission of internal revenue from dispensers throughout the State, and according to those affidavits, Mr. Hammet had secured the most questionable means to secure the affidavits which, he said, are on file at the office of Maj. Jenkins. Several of the affidavits submitted by Mr. Stephenson contain charges against Mr. Hammet of a serious nature. It is alleged that Hammet secured the affidavits in a fraudulent manner, and not only that, but that he made interlineations in the affidavits were signed.

ATTACKS AGED MINISTER. Rev. R. F. Bradley Seriously Cut by Negro Farm Hand. A dispatch to The State says great excitement prevailed at Troy, in Greenwood county Thursday afternoon over a murderous assault made by a negro on Rev. R. F. Bradley, the highly esteemed pastor of the A. R. P. church at Long Cape.

The negro, John Suher, who came from Georgia some months ago, was employed as a farm hand. Thursday the negro resented some order or reprimand given by Mr. Bradley and made an attack on him with a knife. Mr. Bradley was severely injured, and he was taken to the hospital. The negro also had a long gash across his back. The negro at once fled. Reports from Troy say that every man in the town and surrounding country is searching for the negro. Sheriff McMillan, as soon as the news reached him, left in an automobile for Troy. The dogs owned by the county were at Epworth, some 20 miles from Troy, but they were at once ordered to the scene.

A later report from Troy says Mr. Bradley is not fatally wounded. It is almost impossible to get communication with the hospital. Every one is beside himself with rage and resentment. Mr. Bradley is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the county. He is about 60 years old and a leading minister of the denomination and his known all over the State.

BABY OFFERED FOR SALE. Dying Mother Wishes to Pay Off All Her Debts. In order that she may leave this world without a single creditor, Mrs. Oscar Tomanos of Monessen, Pa., offered her four-month-old baby for sale at the price of \$50. With the money she intended to pay her doctor's and drugist's bills and a small debt for food. She said she knew that anyone who had a baby would be able to provide it a good home.

When friends of Mrs. Tomanos saw her advertisement in the paper offering the child for sale they advised her to get an ordinary order of poaching, but she insisted on offering for sale her sole and dearest possession. Her husband deserted his wife and child about three months ago leaving them destitute.

ORDINARY POACHING. Japanese Schooner Seized Near Seal Island off St. Paul. The State department was informed that two Japanese fishing schooners were seized by the revenue cutter Manning near the Seal Islands off St. Paul. The Japanese embassy was notified by the case as they agreed to give an ordinary order of poaching, but she insisted on offering for sale her sole and dearest possession. Her husband deserted his wife and child about three months ago leaving them destitute.

Intense Suffering in New York—People Sleep in Open. Eight persons are dead from heat up to 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon and the hospitals are crowded with heat prostrations in New York. The number of deaths in the hospitals, however, had not been reported. The temperature had added to a temperature of 88 at noon has caused the greatest suffering. Hundreds of persons camped on the sand at Coney Park, which has been opened for the public to sleep in at night. It is probable that thousands will sleep out doors to escape the killing heat.

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On the Baltimore and Ohio railroad there has been trouble between Terra Alta and Grafton, including washouts and landslides, and since 9 o'clock there have been no trains over that division.

The dam at Thomas has been weakened and it is feared it will give way, precipitating several million gallons of water over the town of Parsons. The coal and iron branch of the Western Maryland road between Elkkins and Durbin is reported tied up by washouts and landslides.

Disrupted from Grafton, Rowleyburg, Tunnelton and other towns in the valley, in northern West Virginia fell terrific rains followed by the river spilling out of its banks nearly its entire length, resulting in the death of three persons and causing property losses that will aggregate nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

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