

THE "LITERARY EXECUTOR."

What Resulted from the Too Great Haste of General Adam Badeau.

GRANT'S DYING DENUNCIATION.

Badeau's Claims Indignantly Disputed by Members of the Grant Family—A Death-Bed Scene.

Philadelphia Times: Among the closing events of General Grant's life is a sick-room scene, in which General Adam Badeau, at one time military secretary to the general, was the principal figure. Great surprise is expressed by friends who were close to General Grant in his last moments that this occurrence has not been made public long before this and that Badeau has been permitted so long to continue to pose in the war literature of the country as the friend and literary legatee of the departed commander. Badeau, who is a New Yorker by birth, turned up in April, 1862, as an aide-de-camp, chief of staff to General Sherman. The staff of General Grant as chief topographical engineer, was James H. Wilson, a native of Illinois and a graduate of West Point in 1839. Wilson had been assigned to duty at the camp in that capacity with General Grant in the flank movement on Vicksburg in the direction of Oxford, Mississippi, in November and December, 1862. Subsequently he was assigned to movements of the army of the Tennessee against Vicksburg, and as topographical engineer accompanied General Grant in the preliminary movements of the armies of the military division in the Mississippi. It was through General Wilson that Badeau became connected with General Grant. It appears that Wilson knew Badeau, or thought he did, and introduced and recommended him to duty on the staff. Wilson's skill as a topographical engineer had attracted the attention of the commanding general, which fact gave weight to his efforts in behalf of Badeau. About January, 1864, we find Badeau installed at headquarters of the army as part of General Grant's military family. From March, 1865, to May, 1869, he was chief of staff and aide-de-camp to the general, when he was placed on the retired list.

After General Grant became president Badeau persuaded him to appoint him secretary of legation in London and to the consular generalship at London. This consular post, with Paris and Liverpool, had always been regarded as among the most desirable in the diplomatic service of the government. Peculiarly they were better than a diplomatic mission. These offices were, therefore, considered as the legitimate rewards of important services. The appointment of Badeau to the pick of the consular service, therefore did not meet with a very cordial reception from the press and among the dozen or more war governors, ex-senators and others who had been relegated to private life, and thought that they had a pre-emption right to such fat places. He was nominated and confirmed nevertheless, and during President Grant's term did very well in the discharge of his duties. General Hayes became president, one of the earliest subjects brought to his attention was Badeau and his performances at London. His removal was determined upon "for cause," but was withheld through the personal solicitation of ex-President Grant. Three times that administration had decided to get rid of him, but through General Grant's influence he was retained.

Finally the official axe did drop, and General Adam Badeau found himself financially embarrassed. He returned to New York where he sought his benefactor, Grant, as the world knows, was long-suffering toward those whom he had trusted. He was apt to overlook many things which he would regard as reprehensible in others. Badeau had early conceived the idea of turning his attention to the preparation of a military life of General Grant. At that time the general had no idea of the value of his own recollections and for that reason acquiesced in according facilities to Badeau. The general gave him access to certain papers which he reviewed and intelligently. He had nothing, however, to do with the preparation of the work. Badeau was the responsible author, and whatever returns he received in prize were to go to him. The first volume of Badeau's work was published in 1867, and when he went to London he was said to have carried with him a quantity of money which he had saved in the United States. The succeeding volumes, however, were not prepared until after his return to New York. The work from divers sources of information was not made a literary success. It seems that this literary effort gave him the "big head" to such an extent that he insisted on terms with the publishers which deprived them of an interest in the work. They accordingly permitted the enterprise practically to go by default. The volumes had a restricted sale, and when it became known that General Grant would himself prepare the memoirs of his military life, the autobiographical work superseded the work of the biographer.

THE PREMATURE ANNOUNCEMENT. In the early months of 1885, during those days and weeks of suspense when the whole country and the world were momentarily expecting the announcement of the general's death, Badeau was an occupant of General Grant's residence. He had a room there and his books and papers were there. He might have been said to have been one of the faithful attendants in the general's illness had been reached. In breathless anxiety Mrs. Grant, his mollified daughter Nellie, his sons and the household in general, were gathered about the dying hero. For a moment it was thought that he had passed away. It had been whispered, "He is gone." With indolent haste, without stopping to verify the first announcement, that death had come at last, General Badeau, who was in the house, hastened down stairs. Rushing excitedly out upon the front steps he hailed the vigils of the press, who had long held watch upon the means of access from the mansion. In a state of great agitation he announced that General Grant had just died, and that he had made him his "literary executor."

As the world knows, General Grant did not die at that time, but rallied sufficiently to meet many of his friends and receive many letters of congratulation upon his improvement.

THE GENERAL'S WRATH. A very short time after this rally General Grant asked for the newspapers. One having been handed him he opened it and began to read. His eyes rested upon the accounts of his supposed fatal attack. His attention was specially attracted by the statement that General Grant, before his death, had named General Badeau as his "literary executor." This the general pronounced a falsehood in every respect. He was greatly irritated and excited, but calmed himself until he could ascertain whether Badeau had really made the statement himself or whether it was simply an inference drawn from his hasty appearance and premature announcement of the general's death to the reporters at the time. A friend of the general was deputized to make the investigation. The reporters present all agreed in the fact that General Badeau had himself declar-

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HILLSDALE Still leads the procession. Houses rapidly spring up in this addition, because a lot that costs only \$150 TO 175, And bought for \$15 to \$20 down, balance \$5 to \$8 a month, is A BARGAIN, Especially when the ground is situated as beautifully as Hillsdale is—besides being surrounded by such an excellent class of houses and neighbors. No lots, remember, can be found as near to the Belt Line, and with such prospects of a rapid increase in value, as HILLSDALE. Money is made by such investments, and money is saved by such terms as you can get. AMES, 1507 Farnam street.

ed to them that he had been named General Grant's "literary executor." This information was conveyed to General Grant. Having it from undoubted sources, he sent for Badeau and at the end of the interview asked him by what authority he had been announced as his "literary executor." Badeau, nonplussed by the suddenness of this unexpected interrogation, tried to waive the matter off as one of the unauthorized statements of the press. The general asked him whether he had not conveyed the intelligence of his supposed death to the members of the press on the night of the 21st, and Badeau endeavored to evade that, but upon being narrowed down to a direct reply admitted that he had given out the premature information of his death. "And," added the general, "I have satisfactory proof that you announced yourself as my literary executor, which was false in every particular and a breach of faith. I command you to leave my house, never to enter it again." General Badeau, overwhelmed by this withering rebuke, left the house. His books and papers were packed by servants and sent to his address.

GRANT'S PAPERS. After the exit of Badeau General Grant's filing of information upon this affair seems to have known no bounds. It rankled in his mind. For days in the midst of his sufferings he brooded over it, making notes men while of the tolerance he had shown Badeau, how he had never expected such violation of confidence. Badeau claims to have the original of General Grant's announcement of General Lee's surrender. This is correct, and it is about the only paper of the general's that he has. The original of the surrender of the confederate forces by General Lee, on April 9, General Grant started back on horseback, accompanied by some of his staff and a small escort, for Burkeville, about thirty miles distant, where he intended to take the cars for City Point. Having ridden some distance it suddenly occurred to the general that he had not formally announced the surrender of General Lee, and he turned back to the camp. The wires of the field telegraph were stretched along the roadside. The dispatch was sent and soon the country knew of the crowning act of the campaign in Virginia.

Badeau asked permission of the general to make a copy of the dispatch, allowing him to retain the original and give the copy. It is presumed that General Grant gave assent to this. If so, General Badeau has copies of any other papers, unless he can show authority for their possession, he has them in violation. It is charged, of the confidence of his former chief. He has had no access to any documents nor to the family since about April, 1885. It was asserted that Badeau had a contract with General Grant in regard to certain literary work. General Grant never admitted any such arrangement. The family have never been able to see the contract, and none is believed to exist. Judicial proceedings will elicit that fact if the allegation is new.

It was observed that at the funeral ceremonies at Mount McGregor and at New York that General Badeau was not among those who had been near to the

departed chieftain in his military and civil life and were his mourners with his family around the catafalque and his grave. RANDOLPH.

FRANKS OF THE LIGHTNING. An English boy, 14 years old, who has been working for George Watt, Mountain City, Canada, was struck by lightning July 5th and instantly killed. His boots were torn off and found five feet from his body. During a severe storm near Macaungie, Lehigh county, Pa., July 27th, Amundus Defenderter, a farmer, was struck by lightning and instantly killed while working in his field. Five or six farm hands who were working with him were rendered unconscious for several hours. George L. Pringle, a wealthy farmer living about eight miles from Shickling, Pa., was instantly killed by lightning March 19. He was overtaken by a storm and was struck by a fatal bolt while in the act of crossing a stone wall. The deadly flash was the only one that occurred during the day, and was all the more surprising on account of the coldness of the weather. In Attleborough, Mass., July 29, a tenement house owned by Fred Fogz was wrecked. The lightning struck the chimney, running down to the roof, tearing the roof and shingles up, and entered the building in its downward course. Bennie Packard, aged 22 years, a hack-driver, was instantly killed. He was found lying against the door. The lightning struck the building, and the pieces, his underclothing and outside garments torn from him, and he was nearly nude. The 18-year-old daughter of James Bean, a farmer living near Gopler, Pa., was to have been married Saturday evening, July 17. She had a favorite Jersey cow which she called Daisy, and which she always milked herself. During the afternoon the girl took her milk pail and started for the barn. "I am going to milk Daisy for the last time," she said to her mother, as she went out the door. While Mrs. Bean was in the barn milking the cow, lightning struck the building, and the bolt killed both the girl and the cow. During a terrible thunderstorm on the night of July 25, in the vicinity of Ottawa, Canada, a fearful tragedy was enacted. The lightning struck the building, and the latter's aunt, who had died the day previous, was being washed up by some neighbors and relatives, when a bolt of lightning descended the chimney, and striking the coffin, which was near the fireplace, shattered it to pieces. Two young men who sat near the corpse were instantly killed, and six others who were in different parts of the room were seriously affected. While crossing the Iron hill, Colorado, July 4, George Edwards was struck by lightning. It was considered fatal, but he is now recovering slowly. His case is a most remarkable one, and is attracting considerable attention from scientific men. Edwards after the flash, remained unconscious for fully fifteen minutes before receiving assistance. The lightning struck him on the left cheek, knocking out a number of his teeth. It then passed diagonally across his breast to the right side, thence to the feet, coming out of the right foot, having passed entirely through the foot, leaving a hole very similar to one made by a bullet. His clothing was torn into fragments, particles being found a distance of 300 feet from the spot, and one of the boots, both of which were torn into shreds, was found sixty feet away. Immediately underneath where Edwards was standing the ground was torn up for a considerable distance. The lightning's course along the body was shown by a black streak one and a half inches wide. The worst result is the injury to the lung, the immediate effect being a severe hemorrhage, by which a quart of blood was lost. In three instances of a person being injured by a stroke of lightning, as at all times of over 10,000 feet, and where persons affected internally, as Mr. Edwards was, are not instantly killed.

BORROWED PLUMAGE. Hired Finery at Seaside and Mountain—Elaborate Toilets at Small Cost. Philadelphia Record: There is a curious brokerage business carried on in a suite of well-furnished rooms in a prominent office building on Walnut street. There is no sign out and no display made, but there is a frequent coming and going of well-dressed ladies, and every indication of a flourishing business. A brisk little man with an off-hand manner and a profusion of jewelry, is the manager of the establishment. His assistants are all women, and the place is the agency of a New York house which makes a business of hiring out costly dresses for summer, seaside or mountain wear, and even to parties who are making a trip to Europe. The business of hiring out gentlemen's dress suits for balls and parties has for years been an every-day thing, and a fair proportion of the claw-hammer coats seen at mixed gatherings are hired from the customer. The renters of these suits would cost \$300 for from fifteen to less than a month's rental. The price of a first-class frock suit for from \$50 to \$75 a night. If they are known they are not required to leave a deposit; otherwise the price of the outfit is left with the customer, to be returned when the dress comes back. "Such outfits," said a man who has been in the business in this city for ten years, "are often hired by brides and bridesmaids, and for a consideration we often make special outfits for the most costly character, who does not, as a common practice, rent out jewelry by the day, by the week or by the month. Of course it is an expensive luxury, this hiring of jewelry, but it is done by rich and often by the poor. A young lady who is about to get married, or has an invitation to a swell ball, if her parents are known to be responsible, will go to a jeweler and have a diamond necklace or a diamond chain, or something of that sort which she cannot afford to own, and for a few dollars can look for one night at least, as repaid as an express. If she has not the credit she may, for instance, get \$100 worth of diamonds by depositing that amount for the security of the stores, pay a rental of \$3 or \$5, and the next day get back the \$100 deposited. This is done every day, and jewelers are, of course, glad to get trade of that sort. They run no risk and the profit is great. The whole business is a good deal like borrowing money from a pawnbroker at an enormous per cent a month, and it is getting to be almost as common. In Paris and London the practice is such a matter of fact that no great honor is made of it, and very little is secretly observed. The nobility are especially guilty of the practice, and old family jewels which have been sold for years are regularly hired upon great occasions to disguise the unhappy state to which the family exchequer has been reduced. Getting Rid of a Book Agent. Santa Rosa (Cal.) Democrat: A lady in this city, who has a reputation of being a jobber, perpetrated one on a book agent on a recent day that he will long remember. About 10 o'clock one morning the agent, a young man of perhaps twenty-four years, approached the afore-said lady's residence, on Third street, and ringing the bell, waited patiently for the summons to be answered. Little did he know what was in store for him; if he had he would have given that house a wide berth. Soon the door was opened by our lady friend, who, upon noticing the book (family Bible), already opened in the agent's hands, while the face above was wreathed in a sanctimonious smile, assumed an artifice expression of countenance, and squinting her eyes behind her steel-ribbed spectacles, screeched rather than asked, "What'll you have?"

chase such an outfit as we could furnish her, it would cost her not less than \$1,500. We charge her \$500. She don't wear the dresses often enough to do them any serious injury, and at the end of two months she has had her full of the finery, and would not wear them a second season if she owned them, while we have our \$500 and she our outfit damaged probably \$250 worth. She has saved \$1,000, we have had a profit of \$250. Ain't that right? Our New York house has unlimited capital, and branches here and other cities. Now here is another instance which actually occurred in Philadelphia not long ago: A lady who has a very fair fortune was about to take a trip to Europe. She proposed to travel on the continent, and to do it in good style, but as cheaply as possible. But the cost of a wardrobe of fine dresses, which she thought necessary, made her hesitate. The outfit she desired would cost her, in addition to the fourteen weeks, and got the dresses back almost as good as new. Since then those dresses netted us more than they cost, and we sold them to a customer recently for \$500. He will use them for one night and the next day get back the \$100 deposited. No one knows now, except the woman whether she be rich or not, whether her splendid toilet is her own or whether it was hired from a customer, and especially Long Branch, Saratoga, and such places, are crowded with ladies who are sporting hired finery, and the diamonds and jewels which flash from their bosoms are nearly all paid for at so much a week for the season. "Do you rent out jewels also?" "No, we leave that to the fashionable jewellers. There is not a jeweller in this city who does not, as a common practice, rent out jewelry by the day, by the week or by the month. Of course it is an expensive luxury, this hiring of jewelry, but it is done by rich and often by the poor. A young lady who is about to get married, or has an invitation to a swell ball, if her parents are known to be responsible, will go to a jeweler and have a diamond necklace or a diamond chain, or something of that sort which she cannot afford to own, and for a few dollars can look for one night at least, as repaid as an express. If she has not the credit she may, for instance, get \$100 worth of diamonds by depositing that amount for the security of the stores, pay a rental of \$3 or \$5, and the next day get back the \$100 deposited. This is done every day, and jewelers are, of course, glad to get trade of that sort. They run no risk and the profit is great. The whole business is a good deal like borrowing money from a pawnbroker at an enormous per cent a month, and it is getting to be almost as common. In Paris and London the practice is such a matter of fact that no great honor is made of it, and very little is secretly observed. The nobility are especially guilty of the practice, and old family jewels which have been sold for years are regularly hired upon great occasions to disguise the unhappy state to which the family exchequer has been reduced.

A Ruined Wall Street Man. New York Correspondence Brooklyn Union: It is reported that a man who went in Wall street, and then disappeared. They generally disappear, I may remark, in ruin. They are soon forgotten. To name the man who has gone down with a crash would make too long a list. One year ago Henry N. Smith was a great figure in Wall street. Now he is never heard of nor thought of. He is ruined—ruined in the fact that he can be worked into a battery of less than six volts, while to enable an ordinary telegraph to overcome this resistance a battery of thousands of volts would be required. The man who has gone down with a crash would make too long a list. One year ago Henry N. Smith was a great figure in Wall street. Now he is never heard of nor thought of. He is ruined—ruined in the fact that he can be worked into a battery of less than six volts, while to enable an ordinary telegraph to overcome this resistance a battery of thousands of volts would be required. 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