

DIES AS CAMILLE DID

Origin of Vera Douglas, Famous American Beauty, is Disclosed.

DAUGHTER OF A CANADIAN FARMER

Her Body Refused Burial Rites by American Church in Paris.

PRESIDED OVER A COURT OF FLATTERERS

When She Had Run Her Race Adorers Sought Other Shrines.

LAST LETTER TO GRAND DUKE VLADIMIR

His Russian Highness Ignores Her in Her Final Illness—Glimmering Pages Gleaned from a Misspent Life.

(Copyright, 1900, by Press Publishing Co.) PARIS, Jan. 6.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Light has been thrown upon the origin of Vera Douglas, the famous American beauty, who died here at Christmas, abandoned by her grand duke and all her rich admirers, save one, she was the daughter of a small farmer at Mitchell, Canada.

She was able to supply the authorities with full information as to the result of his efforts to save the dead woman from the dissecting table. Her real name was Vera Douglas. She had married an adventurer who called himself Malakoff and who is now in jail in Algeria. Her parents' family believed her to be a real countess and a person of considerable fortune in London and Paris society. Their letters were directed to "Mme. la Comtesse Malakoff." I called this Mitchell, Ontario.

"Mme. Malakoff died here today. Can you identify her? Else all property will be seized by state."

On December 28 came the answer: "Mme. Malakoff is my daughter, Maria Douglas. Am writing."

There was evidence that these simple people, not knowing that the daughter's triumph was of the half-world, were about to leave their home for the great city to have the exposure and the more brilliant success. If the unhappy girl had not been seized with the malady that ended her immortal prototype, Camille, they might have enjoyed their lot in the shadow of a grand duke of Russia. Here a letter Vera wrote to the Grand Duke Vladimir when he was here five weeks ago:

Letter to a Grand Duke. "It was at this season last year that we loved each other so madly. "Do you remember the crowds that lined up when we came out of the opera? "The sweet moonlight night on our dear yacht, only one year ago? Come and see whether you can recognize me. I am so constantly ill now that sometimes, as tonight for example, I feel discouraged. But I shall get well and then I'll go back to my country and be good. Meanwhile come and comfort your poor Vera."

Her highness did not accept the dying woman's invitation to visit her, but she was not to die in vain. Her admirers did not forget her. Her friends, Anna Robinson, the actress, who had shared her triumphs in Paris, was present at the time of her death. Her admirers who acted for R. H. Henning, a rich Australian living in London, Henning, while he was not with Vera Douglas in her last days, exhibited more fidelity than her other admirers. He was ready to be brought to see her every month or so. On learning that I had discovered her parents he sent \$500 to his admirers here to insure respectful treatment for her body pending the decision of her relatives.

Body Thrown into a Pine Box

The Rev. Dr. Morgan, pastor of the American church in Paris, lent himself at first to these arrangements, fully knowing the melancholy history of the dead girl. Bodington & Kelly say that he consented to allow the body to remain in the mortuary for a month in consideration of an advance payment of 500 francs. Thither, accordingly, it was taken, but instead of the treatment contemplated by Mr. Henning, it was thrust into a rough pine box and put aside.

The Rev. Dr. Morgan told me in answer to inquiry that unless the body were taken away at once it would be turned over to the administration of public charity to be buried in a ditch or else find its way to the dissecting table. Certain members of the church had protested against the presence of Vera Douglas even in death. They pointed out that the bodies of four respectable Americans were lying in the mortuary chapel awaiting transportation to the home land and said that it was scandalous for the body of a French girl to be in the same place.

They had been deeply indignant when he heard about it and disputed Dr. Morgan's right to eject the body from the chapel.

United States Consul Goodly, before whom I laid the facts, would willingly have done something, but the case was out of his line of duty, inasmuch as Vera Douglas was a Canadian. The British consul is a severe, unbending character and declines to interest himself in the remains of such a woman as Vera Douglas.

It was impossible to discover what had become of her own resources. There is everything to show that she was well-to-do. Her shawls were famous. Men of celebrity had speculated for her and won. It was known that from time to time, in her carefree way, she had bought railway and mining securities. Her apartments were at 39 Champs Elysees. They were a fit abode for her by Henning. After her death they disclosed no clue to the whereabouts of her property.

Her servants, Olive Miller and the janitors, were asked whether she had not owned a great quantity of jewelry. There were some, was the ambiguous reply, "but not so many as people thought."

Robbed in Her Illness. Nor could they throw any light on the substantial bank account that is said to have stood in her name. In the days before her death vanished, she presided over a court of flatterers and admirers and when death set its mark on her the courtiers showed

STANDING OFF DEATH

Paris Savant Seeks to Prolong the Natural Span of Human Life.

MAN SHOULD LIVE TO MUCH GREATER AGE

Reasoning from Analogy He Ought Two Hundred and Fifty.

CAUSES OF DECAY OF THE HUMAN BODY

Experiments on Serums Which Will Build Up the Animal Tissue.

SENILE ATROPHY TO BE Warded OFF

Possibility of Prolonging Life Considered to Be Fully Established—Explanation of the Theory on Which It is Done.

(Copyright, 1900, by the Associated Press.) LONDON, Jan. 6.—The appointment of the duke of Ireland as lord lieutenant of the British Empire has led to a speculation as to whether he will succeed Lord Wolsey, whose term expires in November, as commander-in-chief. Lord Roberts is his likely successor, but until he is chosen by command in South Africa the general impression was that he would be too old to be selected for the office when it became vacant.

General Buller was a favorite, but his not being a British subject has been a serious obstacle to his appointment. It is more than probable that Roberts, if successful in South Africa, will fill the office of commander-in-chief for a short period and that he will then be succeeded by the duke of Connaught, whose popularity and military knowledge are strong enough to overcome the prejudice against a member of the royal family holding that office.

The Times, which, with the rest of the British press, has been under the impression that the duke of Connaught would be appointed, has been disappointed. The duke of Connaught, today prints a letter from Toronto saying the anti-English press in the United States is enjoying itself over the reverses the empire is at present enduring, and adding that he is not prepared to accept the office of commander-in-chief of Great Britain's destinies and the needlessness of his colonial sojourn.

The action of the English insurance companies in charging an extra five per cent for not risks already referred to in these columns, has created no little unfavorable comment and uncomplimentary comparison of their action with that of the American companies. One paper says: "In answer to the protests the companies say sentiment cannot enter into business transactions. The best answer to the English companies is that the American officers are making no such demand, and if the extra premium it might be thought that the enormously wealthy English officers could easily do the same. Their refusal is as shortsighted from a business point of view as it is unpatriotic. Unfortunately, it is in keeping with the general trend of English insurance management."

Much interest is exhibited in the new duke of Westminster, who has decided to remain at the cape during the war. It appears that he has a keen taste for racing horses, and his father's splendid stable in the manor of Epsom, in London, is the headquarters of a great number of racing over a great string of American horses is hailed here with interest and pleasure. One sporting authority writes that Mr. Corrigan never does things by halves, adding that "his English officers could easily do the same. Their refusal is as shortsighted from a business point of view as it is unpatriotic. Unfortunately, it is in keeping with the general trend of English insurance management."

LION TAMER'S AWFUL DEATH

Clawed to Pieces by the Fierce Beasts in the Vienna Zoological Gardens.

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Horse Meat Butcher Kraus was the first to reach the lion house. There he found the keeper, Radowsky, lying on the floor under the claws of a lion. Kraus, a fat and savage tempered fellow, Kraus fearlessly rushed into the cage, armed with a pointed iron rod, with which he ineffectually strove to drive Kraus from his prey. While he was thus engaged the other keepers saw the danger and rushed to the aid of the lion tamer. Five other lions drawing around Kraus, who had barely time to get out before they set on him. Several rods were now pushed into the cage to frighten the lions from the body of Radowsky, which they had begun tearing at in places. His clothing being quickly torn into ribbons. His cries had now ceased and the unfortunate man was already dead. While Sara furiously gored his face and body with her claws, the other lions greedily licked up the blood and devoured the strips of flesh torn from his body. All the beasts were insensible to blows and jabs from the outside. A lion was now turned on, but the case was out of his line of duty, inasmuch as Vera Douglas was a Canadian. The British consul is a severe, unbending character and declines to interest himself in the remains of such a woman as Vera Douglas.

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Married Man Gonne's Sister

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Only Eight Americans Remain in Charge of Postoffices in Cuba—Mrs. Wood Arrives.

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The caucus selected minor officers and the slate prepared by the Bowen forces was adopted as follows: Chief clerk, S. M. Carl, Indianola; first assistant clerk, John A. Cook, Hampton; second assistant clerk, W. J. Hanton, Chickasaw county; engineering clerk, Mrs. Mollie G. Hicks, Wayne county; collecting clerk, Miss Clara Keller, Louisa county; journal clerk, Roy Burns, Clark county; assistant postmasters, Jennie Brice, Palo Alto county; Elie Clark, A. W. Parson, Sioux county; bill clerk, Benjie Comger, Washington county; sergeant-at-arms, P. G. Greer, Page county; chief doorkeeper, Thad H. Maxon, Cedar county; speaker pro-tem, M. L. Temple; temporary clerk, J. D. Rowen.

The result of the caucus tonight demonstrates beyond a shadow of doubt that Senator Gear will be named as the republican candidate for United States senator and that he will receive at least seventy-six votes in the joint assembly.

It was apparent early this evening that the Bowen forces had the right of it, although many wagers were laid by the caucus people a few minutes before the caucus that Eaton would get the gavel. A large crowd gathered at the state house and awaited the result. The caucus was held in secret session in the ballroom of the house. The Gear men insisted the ballot be open, showing that if such a ballot were taken they would win, for they had forty-three pledges. The Cummins men fought this line of procedure and insisted on a secret ballot. After a long parley the matter was settled, the open ballot being chosen.

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