

## BLIGHT OF BOUGHT TITLES

Marriage of American Heiress United to Foreign Aristocracy.

## FORTUNES WASTED ON GILDED RAKES

Some Throw Off the Galling Yoke, Others Suffer in Silence Rather Than Undergo the Publicity of Legal Separation.

The marital troubles of Consuelo Duchess of Marlborough and Anna Countess de Castellane evoke little sympathy in their native land. Possessing great fortunes, the fakes of foreign aristocracy flaunted their gilded coronets before their eyes in the same manner as the gold-brick artist dazzles a victim. They paid the price and presently discovered on close inspection of the package that they were deceived.

The heiress to the Vanderbilt millions long has been held the one prominent exception to the seeming rule that marriage between moneyed Americans and titled Europeans cannot be happy. The domestic trouble of the Marlboroughs, however, offers one more strong argument to the opponents of such alliances, who claim that they result in misery, even where the public hears no rumors of unhappiness.

The duchess of Marlborough is far from the first American heiress to treat the wine press of disillusionment and marital anguish. Many fair, golden fingers before hers have grasped the coveted aristocratic leaves encircling a coronet to be pierced cruelly by the concealed thorns.

Many of the numerous American women who have found titled husbands "impossible" have had recourse to the divorce courts. Others have agreed to separate and others still have resigned themselves to their fates, preferring to suffer in silence rather than have the notoriety of a separation.

Consuelo Vanderbilt's marriage to the duke of Marlborough, eleven years ago, was society's greatest event of that year. Miss Vanderbilt brought her husband a dowry of \$2,000,000, and there was every prospect that if she survived her parents the duke of Marlborough would gain control of the Vanderbilt multi-millions. The marriage of her father, however, effectually destroyed the air castles the duke had been building, and it is said that since that time he has neglected her more and more. It was remarked frequently by those who knew the beautiful duchess walking or driving abroad that she seldom was seen with her husband. Now comes the news from England that they have agreed to separate. The public reason for taking the step is "incompatibility," but there are, as usual, rumors of a woman in the case.

Anna Robinson and Lord Rosalyn. Anna Robinson, the former actress, is one of the latest American young women to find her titled husband unendurable. She was married less than a year ago to the ubiquitous Lord Rosalyn. Lord Rosalyn won notoriety three years ago by devising a scheme with which to break the bank of Monte Carlo. Like others who have tried that game he failed, and later went on the stage. In London he met Anna Robinson and made her Countess Rosalyn. A few months ago they separated in Paris. She declared that the English nobleman was "impossible" to an American woman of any spirit.

Miss Bessie Beers Curtis of Boston mar-

ried the eccentric Marquis de Talleyrand-Perigord, later the Duc de Dino. When the marquis ceased to receive his enormous allowance he neglected her for other women. He came to this country, visited New York, Newport and other places. At Newport he met Mrs. Richard Stevens of New York. He returned to France at the end of the summer and informed his wife that he intended to divorce her. In the meantime Mrs. Stevens made a similar announcement to her husband.

The Marquis de Talleyrand refused to consent to the loss of her dearly bought title, whereupon the elder Talleyrand gave his son his title of Duc de Dino. Mrs. Stevens and the duke were married. They lived together for some years, more or less unhappily, and then the duchess secured a divorce. "Incompatibility" was the cause given in the court decree, but it generally was understood that this word covered a multitude of sins.

The story of Helen Morton, daughter of the former vice president, Levi P. Morton, reveals a tragic misalliance. Helen Morton was a fine type of the accomplished American heiress and an ornament to any society. Brought up in the most refined manner, and with literary attainments, she married the dissolute Duc de Valencay, fascinated by the glamour of his title. They married in grand style in 1901. She suffered for several years from the cruelties, neglect and indignities of her husband, and although she saved his family from absolute ruin and his family property from the brokers, she afterwards discovered that not only had her dowry been forfeited to the zord family of her husband, but that she had no right to wear the soiled and mud-bespattered title of Duchess de Valencay, and that her right was clear only to the title of countess.

There Are Others. A dozen or more years ago there came a dissolute son of a decayed French nobility across the sea, to the United States, fortune-hunting. This fellow carried as his only asset and passport to the favor of some wealthy American girl—to any American girl who had the desired ducats and would listen to him—a title, vain and vague and gay. He was introduced as Count Boni de Castellane. This title gave him entrance to the select circle in which moved the daughters of the late Jay Gould, and finally to the Gould mansion on the Hudson. The man who had amassed the Gould millions, the father and natural guardian of the family, sagacious, hard-headed, old Jay Gould, was dead; his youngest daughter, Anna, was charming, rich and twenty, the owner by right of inheritance of an estate in cash and equities amounting to \$10,000,000.

Here indeed was a plum worth the picking. Count Boni did not conceal or attempt to conceal the motive of his matrimonial quest. It suited his purpose, in connection with it, to make love ardently to the heiress. His success was advertised in one of the most brilliant weddings ever staged in New York. Anna Gould became Countess de Castellane, paying out of hand, it is said, for the title \$2,000,000 to the fortune-hunter's mother in France and \$5,000,000 to the successful suitor himself. The details of this shameful bargain and sale were known to all the world, yet when Anna Gould, Countess de Castellane, sailed away from her native land it was as a reputable woman whose sale of herself to a fortune-hunter and a libertine was legal and honorable.

Now, after a series of years in which her fortune has been squandered upon debts and vices unnamable, comes Anna Gould, Countess de Castellane, into court asking release from the chains she so will-

fully forged upon herself, and, seeking to retain the shamefully bought title, asks release from the dissolute spendthrift who conferred it for a consideration.

Florence Audenreid of Washington, a beautiful and sweet-hearted girl, married Count Divonne. The ceremony was performed in great splendor. Secretary Blaine gave the bride away to the impecunious foreigner, and the best man was Theodore Roustan, the French minister. Archbishop Corrigan performed the ceremony, and a great crowd of functionaries and the best society at the capital went to the church to look on.

But, like others of America's lovable young women, she found that her foreigner could not give her the happiness for which her heart was yearning. The Countess Divonne soon learned that her Frenchman was not a model husband. He turned out to be only a beribboned rook. He was a magnificent spender of money. He gave gorgeous entertainments and bought wonderful presents for demi-mondaines.

But the noble American girl stuck to her choice persistently, and even journeyed to Washington to obtain more money for her husband. Her family objected. They told her to let the count make the best of his financial situation. They refused to allow him more than \$200 a year. The count grew wroth at such treatment and vented his anger on his suffering wife. He has treated her so cruelly that she has become an invalid, and is cut off from even such happiness as her occasional visits to her home had given her.

Lady William Bagot, who has decided upon separation proceedings against her husband, has been married but three years. Lady Bagot was the beautiful Miss Lillian May of Baltimore, and the wedding, which took place in London, caused no slight sensation. Reports say that she never was a happy one, and disagreements soon came. It is said that Lady Bagot left her husband several times, and that reconciliations were arranged. Now she again has found the mistreatment accorded her by her husband insufferable.

The union of Eva Julia Bryant Mackay with Prince Colonna had the usual sequel—years of unhappiness and neglected misery for the beautiful American who was married and dropped.

## Isabel Buncie Was Unhappy

Baroness Bronsart von Schellendorf is a beautiful divorcee. Once she was Miss Isabel Buncie, an Ohio girl. The baron came to this country on borrowed money and society received him with its usual favor. Mamma with marriageable daughters smiled upon him. The young women looked upon him with admiring glances and thought him a wonderful person. The baron held, through his family, some sort of government position, which took him away from the more expensive life of Europe. He took his pick of the matrimonial offerings made at his shrine, concluded the business and returned to the affair, married in elat, and then took his bride and the money to the German colony in East Africa.

This American girl was accustomed to the American conception of conjugal proprieties and attentions. She found herself Baroness von Schellendorf, and she found more. The baron spent her money freely, consorted freely with native women, and seemed surprised when she ventured to remonstrate with him. So the baroness left her prize and secured a divorce.

The society event of a year was the marriage of Helen Zimmerman, Cincinnati beauty and heiress, to the Duke of Manchester. Recently reports have come to America to the effect that their life is a succession of disagreements. It is said the duke and his duchess have different views on the vital question of their open attentions to other women. It is not to be supposed, however, that in the case the American girl went blindly to her life of marital misery; for the duke was regarded at the time of the marriage as the poorest Duke of the peerage—poor, not in finance alone, but also in morals. His father had the reputation of being the most disreputable noble in England.

Countess Penelope, who was Miss Marie Reine Foss of St. Louis, was granted a divorce from her husband, who belonged to one of the oldest and most respected families in Spain. Respectability, she found, as have many before her, means much less abroad than it does in America. Her husband's favorite place of residence was Paris, but she could not endure the life he led. The saddest part of their case is the fact that they have two children, of whom she has been given the custody, and who will be taken from their profligate father.

May Yoke and Lord Francis Hope were another pair who were divorced after years of incompatibility. She found it impossible to retain her respect and love for her husband, and even allowed him to make her the defendant in the court that gave her freedom.

Few international titled marriages have proved successful. Out of 174 American heiresses of more or less note who have brought foreign husbands \$231,000,000 in dowries, there are less than twenty from whom reports of unhappiness have not come to America. Perhaps \$200,000,000 has been scattered among foreign husbands who have mistreated and humiliated the women who trusted them.

Rarely do American girls who marry titles ever attain the coveted social distinction for which they have longed. The American girl who goes abroad to live the life of a countess is taken away from a home life in which she always has been surrounded by loving companions—boys and girls whom she has understood and loved—taken away to a country the manners and customs of which she knows nothing and there obliged to live within herself or associate with depravity. It takes a long struggle for a girl to push these surroundings aside and raise herself up to social recognition. Only a few of the many have attained it. "A European never will forgive you for not being a noble born."

More gnawing yet to the heart of the American maiden is the fact that often before the honeymoon has waned she has lost her love and respect for the man for whom she has given up a home of love, luxury and contentment.—St. Louis Republic.

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## Sweet Sixteen.

Her hair was of a beautiful old gold tint, her eyes a heavenly blue, her face a perfect oval and her complexion a dream of pink and white loveliness.

She was of the age at which timid girlhood passes swiftly yet almost imperceptibly into glorious womanhood.

"Standing with reluctant feet Where the brook and river meet"—she gave promise of a wondrous future as the undimmed wearer of a crown of beauty and the recipient of the homage which the world willingly pays to nature's own queens.

In the company of two women farther along in years—probably a mother and grandmother—she entered the car on the elevated railway and sat down with them on one of the side seats. Tastefully gowned, modest in bearing and graceful in every motion, she attracted instant attention, but appeared unconscious of the scrutiny of those about her. She sat in silence, listening to the conversation of her companions, but taking no part in it. Suddenly one of them turned and addressed a remark to her.

"My dear, what was it you were telling

## Diphtheria

The best authorities now agree that the chances for contracting diphtheria are greatly enhanced by colds. The cold prepares the system for the reception and development of the germs of this disease that would not otherwise find lodgment; that is why one child will contract the disease, and another exposed at the same time will not take it. The one that takes it, as a rule, has a cold. Even slight colds are dangerous, and should have prompt and intelligent attention. Whether for a child or an adult you will find no better preparation to cure a cold than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It can always be depended upon to effect a quick cure. There is no danger in giving it to children as it contains no opium or other harmful drug.

me about Harry Pladger just before we started downtown."

With heightened color she smiled and opened her beautiful lips.

"Aw, fergit it, maw," she said.—Chicago Tribune.

## COWS TOGGED WITH GLASSES

Spectacled Herd of Myopic Milkmen Attract Attention in Arkansas.

If one were inclined to make a pun he would say that the cattle owned by George Heppro and kept by him on his farm near Big Sandy, Ark., are "spectacles." It would be true of them in one sense of the word and to a certain extent, in both senses.

About twelve years ago Mr. Heppro was the owner of a prize cow named Arroyo, the best milk cow in that part of the country—no excellent animal that he was offered \$1,500 for her by the state agricultural college. He would not sell her, even at this high price, but not so long

after he had refused the offer he was sorry that he had not done so, for the animal became troubled with some sort of bovine disease in her head, and when she got well again she was afflicted with a bad case of short sightedness and feeble vision. She could not see things well, even when they were within two inches of her nose, and nearly starved to death in the pasture before it was discovered that she could not see the grass well enough to eat it.

Mr. Heppro's son Montmorency is an oculist in Little Rock and, happening to be home on a visit at the time the cow's difficulty was realized, he suggested that he could make a pair of spectacles for her that would enable her to see as well as ever. He was given the commission, with a promise of \$100 if they worked, and in a very short time he had fitted the high-price booby out with an excellent pair of bifocals that enabled her to graze and eat as well as ever with her head down and to see distant objects as clearly and distinctly as in the palm days when her head was lifted. She became as valuable as ever and the college renewed its offer, which

was again refused by the farmer. It soon developed, however, that the peculiarity of short-sightedness and feeble vision was hereditary in her descendants in the second and third generations, and inasmuch as her remarkable milking qualities were hereditary also, Mr. Heppro could not think of changing the breed. He held onto it, and, while adding to his bank account by means of the astonishing flow of milk that characterized all of the Arroyo strain, he continued to remedy their inherent visual defects by the use of the same kind of glasses that the noted ancestors of the herd always wore.

These aids to vision had to be placed on the calves at an early age and changed, both as to size and degree of refractive power, as the animals grew older, which latter change has also to be made occasionally, even after the animals have reached maturity.

He now has a herd of twenty-three of the wonderful myopic milkers, and it is a strange sight to see them roaming over his extensive pastures, all fitted out with large, strong, shining and expensive bifocal glasses—old cows, calves and all—

as solemn and serious-looking in appearance as an assemblage of Boston school-marks.

Mr. Heppro claims that the wearing of the glasses has a sobering effect on the animals, which is perfectly apparent even in the young ones, and that they never frisk about and play as other people's calves do.

The cattle are very fond of wearing the glasses and are very careful, scarcely ever breaking them. Some of the older animals seem to understand fully their use and something about their care, for quite often on very foggy mornings when the glasses are clouded with the moisture that settles on them several of the older cows can be seen wiping them clear again by rubbing them gently against the sides of the other animals.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Grangers at Leisure. DENVER, Nov. 17.—The National Grange convention this morning held a brief session at which an address on the dry farming system was delivered by J. L. Donahue of Colorado, president of the Scientific Farmers' association. The remainder of the day was devoted to recreation.



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