

FUGITIVE BRIDE FOUND AT ASTOR AGAIN IN FLIGHT

Mrs. Thomas, Who Married Chauffeur, and Her Mother Hurriedly Leave Hotel.

Mrs. W. A. Speer, the wife of an Atlanta millionaire, and her beautiful young daughter Silvia, who eloped with and married her father's chauffeur, Russell Thomas, last Monday hurriedly left the Hotel Astor this morning when word reached her that the pursuing bridegroom was in New York.

This afternoon the luggage of Mrs. Speer and her daughter was sent to the Old Dominion line pier, to go aboard the steamer Jefferson, on which they sailed for Old Point Comfort, Va., at 1 o'clock, returning thence by rail to Atlanta.

The seventeen-year-old bride and heiress was recovered from her husband by her parents in Atlanta, and brought on to this city, virtually a prisoner. Meanwhile young Thomas has been pursuing his bride as fast as railroad trains can bring him north. His mother-in-law got a day's start on him before he learned where they had gone. The exit of Mrs. Speer and her daughter from the Hotel Astor this morning was accomplished with precipitate haste, immediately following a telephone conversation with Mr. Speer in Atlanta. They left no address when departing from the hotel, and gave instructions that the destination of their trunks should remain secret.

Detectives at Work. The Speers have kept in touch with the movements of young Thomas through communications with private detectives, who were hired to follow the movements of the chauffeur. These detectives were engaged immediately after the elopement, and it was learned that the girl bride was torn from her husband.

A. H. Casano, of Atlanta, one of Mr. Speer's business partners accompanied Mrs. Speer and her daughter to New York, and he is now a guest at the Astor.

To an Evening World reporter Mr. Rambo said that he has a distinct impression that Mrs. Thomas was a prisoner or in any way in captivity.

"Mrs. Thomas is voluntarily with her mother," said Mr. Rambo, "and will continue to act under her mother's direction. I am not at liberty to say what the family will do in regard to this marriage, but I am sure the matter will all be straightened out very shortly."

Mrs. Lester, who called at the Astor today to see Mrs. Speer, was greatly delighted to find that the mother and daughter had just the man hoped to give them advice and assistance in straightening out the tangle involved in Silvia's hasty marriage. "All this noise," she said, "has been brought upon my friend's terrible. It is a shame the way Silvia is being hounded and the way Silvia is being treated. They came on to New York, thinking that no further publicity would be given to the unfortunate affair, only to find that the notoriety is worse than ever."

"I feel sure that all will be eventually straightened out. Silvia was desperately in love with Mr. Thomas, and from all I can learn he is an excellent young man. The family has no serious objections to him, but they consider that the girl is too young to be married. If they can induce the young man to wait a few years before claiming his bride, then everything will come out beautifully."

Her share to \$1,000,000. The young woman, who is the victim of this strenuous situation, is heir in her own right to \$1,000,000 left by her grandfather.

An Atlanta despatch says Thomas is seeking a warrant to stop Mrs. Speer from taking his wife out of the country and is expected to arrive here today. When Mr. Rambo was informed of this he said that he was ready for any steps Thomas might take and under no circumstances would he be allowed to even see the girl.

Mrs. Thomas' feeling on the subject are unknown. She is said to be desperately in love with her chauffeur husband, despite the statements of lawyers for the family that she is anxious to repudiate the marriage and obtain her freedom. When Mrs. Speer and Mrs. Thomas arrived in New York they registered at the Hotel Astor as "Mrs. W. A. Speer and daughter," and were assigned to a small inside room on the seventh floor. Yesterday afternoon, accompanied by the watchful Rambo, they made a slight-seeing trip of the city.

While passage for mother and daughter has been secured it is not known on what steamer they are to sail tomorrow. "We want no scene at the pier," said Mr. Rambo today.

HAINS CASE IS HALTED TO SEEK TWO WITNESSES

District-Attorney Darrin began to-day to offer evidence before the Queens County Grand Jury against Capt. Peter Hains, U. S. A., and his brother, T. Jenkins Hains, the author, who are in the Long Island City Jail, charged with killing William Annis at the Bay Side Yacht Club after Annis had been named by Capt. Hains in his suit for divorce. The District-Attorney expected that by night indictments for murder in the first degree would be returned against both the prisoners.

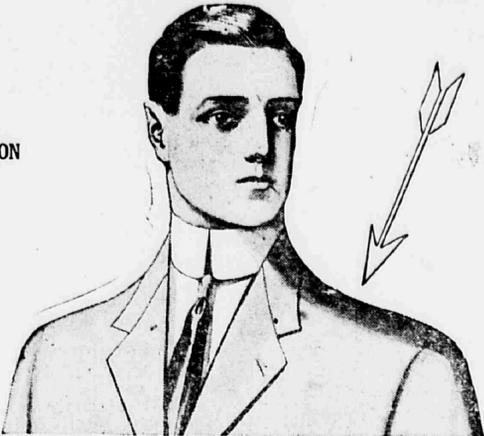
But, after an hour or so, he encountered a hitch. Two material witnesses, upon whose attendance he had counted, failed to appear. At noon Mr. Darrin told the Grand Jury that he had been unable to locate these witnesses and had no idea that he would be able to find them to-day. He therefore withdrew the cases of the brothers from their consideration.

The October Grand Jury will be sworn next Monday. Their first duty will be to take up the Annis shooting. It is expected that indictments will be drawn in time to start the trial at the date that had been tentatively settled upon. Mr. Darrin would not give out the names of his missing witnesses.

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FAR ROCKAWAY AIDS SIC 'BABIES' FUND

The fund for the sick babies of the New York tenements has been enhanced by \$151.50 received in the Evening World office to-day. This sum was raised at a bazaar held in the Far Rockaway district last night at the residence of Lena Acknowledged donors were 101 that one of the committee having the matter in charge was away on vacation. Mrs. Conrad M. Schmitt, who conducted the affair, regretted that the bazaar had to be postponed from the Saturday night selected for the following Monday owing to rain. This was a serious drawback to the affair. Mme. Bertin, the well-known milliner of Third avenue near Sixty-sixth street, raised \$27 among some of her friends in the country, which she contributed to the fund.

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