

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

A Seattle Actress Found a Daughter Stolen Years Ago.

ROMANCE OF TWO LIVES. Played Upon the Same Stage Without Discovering Their Relationship.

FOR YEARS THEY WERE RIVALS.

Action Will Be Brought Against the Man Who Caused Their Separation.

SEATTLE, WASH., Aug. 10.—Lizzie Ada Coats, a pretty, young variety actress who has appeared in nearly all of the variety theaters on the Pacific Coast, made the discovery to-day that a rival actress, many years her senior, was her own mother, from whom she was abducted by her stepfather while they were living in Leadville, Colo., just fifteen years ago.

The case is one of the most remarkable on record. For six years, off and on, the mother and daughter worked side by side on the stage. They have been good friends at times and very often enemies, and it was not until to-day that they found that they were mother and daughter. All the while that they have known each other, the mother had been searching for her daughter after the marriage that the wife discovered that he had once served a term in the Penitentiary at Denver under an alias for the crime of forgery. She left him.

Fitzgerald had taken a great liking for Mrs. Fitzgerald's daughter Lizzie, and one night stole her and conveyed her to a neighboring town. Mrs. Coats summoned the police, and with the aid of Detective Cuddehe of this city, who was then City Marshal of Leadville, traced him to the town and the house where he had secreted their child. The house was surrounded and Fitzgerald was arrested.

Mrs. Coats, having secured possession of the child, dismissed the action against Fitzgerald. Two weeks later, while the child was playing in a street in front of her mother's home, Fitzgerald came along and by promises to buy her dolls and candy, enticed her down the street. It was a winter's day, but notwithstanding that fact, according to the story Lizzie now tells, he compelled her to walk in snow nearly up to her hips from Leadville to Denver. He made her call him uncle, and when she refused to do so slapped her in the face. At Denver he put her on a train and took her to Salt Lake City, placing her in charge of a Mormon family, while he went to Ogden and married a woman named Belle Mortimer.

In a few months he went away, but came back again without seeing the child. She met him on the street, spoke to him, but at first he refused to recognize her. When she pleaded that the family with whom she was living was very abusive to her he accompanied her back to the house and held a heated conversation with the woman in charge. Then he went away again, and the woman was more abusive than ever. One day she went out in the yard, and when she returned had several big willows in her hand, with which she beat the child about the face.

Fitzgerald showed up a second time in Salt Lake, and when the child met him again she complained of the cruel treatment she was receiving. Fitzgerald was accompanied by his new wife, and went to the house with her and concluded to take her away. They then took her to the home of Fitzgerald's mother in Utah, where they left her, and continued their journey to San Francisco. They then went into business, and some months later sent for Mrs. Fitzgerald and her family. Later they all went to San Francisco to live, where Lizzie had much trouble with Fitzgerald's wife, who, she claims, abused her until she finally ran away from home. She was brought back, but ran away a second time. Then she commenced earning her living on the variety stage. She says she often met her father on the streets, but he would not have anything to do with her, and did not even recognize her.

Six years ago she left San Francisco and came to the city and accepted a place in Cort's variety theater. Her mother, who is still a young woman, was filling an engagement as an actress in the Great West, married a man named G. E. Gadwood, only to continue her life on the stage, which she had entered into soon after her father was abducted.

It is said that at one time, soon after Ada's arrival at Cort's, she and her mother formed an affection for the same man. The mother won him and for a long time they were enemies. Later they made up, but had many more quarrels concerning the same man as well as other men. But of late years they have been good friends. When the mother learned last night that the young woman was her daughter she was beside herself with joy. To-night she announced her intention of going to San Francisco and prosecuting her former husband (Fitzgerald) for abduction. Her friends have advised her against it, but she says Fitzgerald must go to jail for his crime.

FLAG-RAISING AT PINER.

A Ceremony That Attracted Crowds to the Scene.

SANTA ROSA, CAL., Aug. 10.—The Piner school flag was unfurled to the breeze yesterday afternoon. Some time ago the people of this prosperous school district determined that the public school should have a flag and pole. They procured an elegant 18-foot flag and a pole 80 feet long. The ceremony of raising the flag attracted a large crowd, many going from Santa Rosa for the purpose of witnessing the occasion. The address of the occasion was delivered by Rev. E. W. Davis, County Superintendent of Schools. There was a sumptuous banquet, and a program of songs, drills and recitations by the school children was well carried out. Piner is one of the large and rich school districts of Sonoma County. It is about three miles northwest of Santa Rosa.

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Miss Mala Helm of San Jose Lowered a Cycle Record.

VIRGINIA FAIR OUTDOONE

Ten Miles Covered by the Fair Rider in Thirty-Five Minutes.

SHE IS THE LADY CHAMPION.

Friends Assert That This Time Will Be Considerably Shortened in the Next Attempt.

SAN JOSE, CAL., Aug. 10.—Miss Mala Helm of Santa Clara yesterday lowered the ten-mile bicycle record recently made by Miss Birdie Fair at Conej Island twenty minutes. Miss Helm, pedaling a tandem, rode the ten miles, from Irvington to Milpitas, in thirty-five minutes. The stretch of road is one of the best to be found and the conditions were favorable for making fast time. This time will probably stand as the ladies' ten-mile record for some time to come.

One day last week Miss Mala Helm made the run from Santa Clara to San Francisco and return, a distance of 100 miles. Her actual riding time for the century run was eight hours.

Miss Mala Helm is, undoubtedly, the fastest lady rider on the coast and her records assert that she can lower the record she made yesterday several minutes.

MRS. ROTHE DISCHARGED.

Quick Termination of the San Jose Abduction Case.

SAN JOSE, CAL., Aug. 10.—Mrs. Clara Rodhe was examined on a charge of abduction before Justice Gass this morning and the case against her dismissed. The charge was sworn to by her husband, William Rodhe, a motorman on the First-street Railway, who accused her of kidnapping their two-year-old son, Elmer, from the residence of Rodhe's mother on June 14. A short time before the couple agreed to separate and Rodhe began a suit for divorce. The child was to remain in the care of its grandmother until its custody should be settled by the court.

On June 14 Mrs. Rodhe called to see the child and took it home with her. Rodhe went before the Superior Court and got an order citing Mrs. Rodhe to appear with the child and show cause why it should not be returned to the custody of its grandmother. The matter has been continued from time to time and about two weeks ago Rodhe appeared before Justice Gass and swore to a charge of abduction.

Rodhe took the stand this morning and admitted that the matter was pending in the Superior Court, but said he had got tired of the postponements made in that court and he swore to the complaint in the Justice Court for the sake of hurrying the matter up. This statement did not please the court and he reproved Rodhe for adopting such tactics and immediately dismissed the case against Mrs. Rodhe.

THE FROST INQUEST.

Rumors of Startling Testimony Yet to Be Given.

SAN JOSE, CAL., Aug. 10.—The inquest into the cause of Elmer Frost's death was resumed this morning. Nothing of a sensational character was developed at today's sessions, although rumors are circulated that when Dr. Cunningham, who made a chemical analysis of the stomach and brain of Elmer Frost, takes the stand some startling testimony will be given.

The morning session was taken up by examining Dr. Case, the physician who attended Frost during his illness. He stated that he mixed his own medicine. He exhibited a medicine-case from which he had mixed the medicine, and turned it over to Dr. Cunningham, who will examine the drugs in it.

Mrs. Frost was put on the stand again and subjected to a rigid cross-examination. She said she had given her husband doses of morphine and quinine as per orders of Dr. Case. As to washing the body after death, Mrs. Frost testified that she simply rubbed out the wishes of her husband. The oiled sack on the breast, which has been alleged, contained papers telling of the location of thousands of dollars of buried money, was a testimony, was nothing but a sack to contain a poultice for a sore place on the neck.

Dr. Trueman, who had assisted at the autopsy, was called as a witness, and described the condition of the dead man's body. It was his opinion that death had resulted from disease of the kidneys.

INVOLVED IN LEGAL TANGLE.

New Developments in the Fight Over the Peter Smith Estate.

SAN JOSE, CAL., Aug. 10.—The case of Milton B. Smith, who is trying to establish his claim to a half interest in thirty acres of land in the Willows, valued at \$25,000, is becoming more complicated, and if the young man receives anything it will only be after a long and tedious legal battle.

To-day Francis W. Reid, one of the present owners of the land, filed a petition asking that the power of executrix in the estate of Peter W. Smith, granted to Kate Smith in 1872, be revoked. A few weeks ago Reid applied for letters of administration on the estate of Peter W. Smith, for the purpose of perfecting his title to the land in dispute.

Judge Reynolds made an order citing Kate Smith or Mrs. Lauthier as she is now known, to appear on August 23 and show cause why the power of executrix granted her should be revoked.

After the widow had been granted the power of executrix she sold the land and removed from the county without even submitting the sale for confirmation to the court or asking to be discharged as executrix.

MAPA COLLEGE OPENING.

Auspicious Beginning of the Fall Semester at the Institution.

Dr. Hirst of San Francisco Addressed a Large Audience of Students.

NAPA, CAL., Aug. 8.—The fall semester of Napa College, a part of the University of the Pacific, opened most auspiciously Wednesday. The opening lecture was delivered by Dr. A. C. Hirst of San Francisco to a large audience of students and townspeople.

Professor M. L. Peterson, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, and a student of Edwin HOLLAND of the Royal Academy and George Henschel, has been elected director of the musical department.

Professor R. D. Hunt, who has been under leave of absence at Johns Hopkins

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