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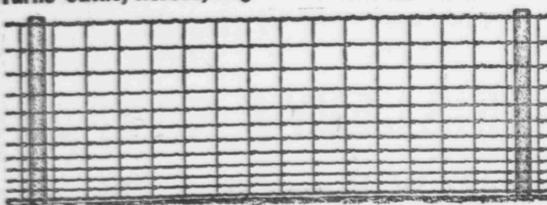
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MRS. MAYBRICK STILL SEARCHING FOR HER CHILDREN

—Almost twenty years since she was sent to prison—the last four years of that time being spent in a fruitless search for her children—Mrs. Florence Maybrick, probably the most famous woman prisoner in the world, is still determined to find the little ones she left behind as babies when she was thrown into an English prison twenty years ago. Mrs. Maybrick was in an English prison in Liverpool from 1886 to 1904, and she will celebrate the first four years of her freedom in Louisville today, having been liberated on July 25, 1904.

Mrs. Maybrick was sentenced to death for the murder of her husband, James Maybrick, after perhaps the most remarkable trial in the history of English jurisprudence, and it was only after the united efforts of the American public that her sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Queen Victoria, and which subsequently resulted in her parole.

Mrs. Maybrick was in Louisville last night, a guest at the Seelbach, resting from a lecture tour of the southwest. She talked interestingly of her trial and imprisonment in England and of the work she has done in the prisons of this country since her parole four years ago. Mrs. Maybrick, in her talks, cannot refrain from referring to her two children, babies when she last saw them, now a young man and young woman. At the time of her imprisonment the eldest child, James Maybrick, Jr., was four years old, and Gladys, the youngest, 2 1/2 years old.

Goes Back to Search Again

At no time since she was first arrested twenty years ago has Mrs. Maybrick been able to get any trace of her children, and since her parole she has visited England yearly in an effort to get some clue as to their whereabouts. As all of her efforts have been futile she is planning for another trip abroad this fall to renew the search. Since being released from prison Mrs. Maybrick has lived quietly in New York City with her mother, the Baroness C. Von Roques, and has devoted much of her time in prison work in this country.

While her case attracted the attention of the American public from its beginning, it was not officially taken up by the United States government until the fifty-fourth congress sent to England for a transcript of the court proceedings, and from that time until her release the administration fought bravely for her release. During her imprisonment her case was given official cognizance by Presidents Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt, and all of the congressional bodies since the fifty-fourth congress until her release four years ago.

Mrs. Maybrick was a resident of Virginia before her removal to England with her husband, and following his death in 1880 she was accused by his brothers of having fed him arsenic. At the trial Mrs. Maybrick's lawyers secured many witnesses from America, including a druggist from Virginia, to show that for eight years Maybrick had been an arsenic fiend, but even with all of this class of testimony, she was convicted and sentenced to death. It was shown later that Justice Stephen, the trial justice, had erred in his instructions to the jury, but as England then, as now, had no criminal court of appeals, it was impossible for the case to be reviewed and the sentence reversed.

It was the contention of Mrs. Maybrick's attorneys that Justice Stephen was not normal at the time of the trial, and this belief was subsequently substantiated when a short time later the justice died in an insane asylum.

Decision as to Virginia Property

After returning to this country Mrs. Maybrick endeavored to get hold of her property in Virginia, but learned to her astonishment that it had been sold during her long absence from America. She at once instituted suit against David William Armstrong of Virginia to recover the value of the property, and this case is now pending before Judge Greenan in the Old Dominion. At the time the suit was instituted, two years ago, Mrs. Maybrick's counsel took the depositions of several Kentuckians at Louisville and Lexington, and following this arguments in the case were made before the Virginia justice. It was more than a year ago that the arguments were made, and Mrs. Maybrick said last night that the decision was looked for by her attorneys at most any time now within the near future.

But with all her trials and tribulations in England, and her subsequent troubles over her property in this country the one thing that appeals most strongly to the noted woman is the whereabouts and safety of her children. She said last night in speaking of them that she would never rest until she had located them. She said that immediately following her arrest her mother, who was in Paris, France, went immediately to Liverpool, but the children had been spirited away before the arrival of their grandmother, and that all efforts on the part of the two women

after that to get some trace of them was fruitless.

While Mrs. Maybrick does not look like a woman with a prison life of fifteen years behind her she attributes this to the fact that during the four years of her freedom she has fully recuperated from the long mental and physical strain.—Courier-Journal.

JUDGE EMORY SPEER HOLDS UP RATE INCREASE

Judge Emory Speer has taken a broad and patriotic view of the freight rate situation as set forth in his decision handed down at Mt. Alry, where one of the most important cases in the history of present litigation has been under review in a unique environment which presented a strong contrast with the dignity of the court and the vital intensity of the cause.

Nine private cars, which in the popular mind at least are the very symbols of wealth and prominence, were parked in an insignificant siding. In a little red school house, where the rudiments of education are taught, to the accompaniment of singing birds and drooping bees, the nice complexities of the law, with its "codeless myriad of precedents, its wilderness of single instances," were argued by the legal representatives of the most extensive corporate interests in the world.

Up there among the oaks of North Georgia one of the most distinguished judges on the federal bench was deciding questions which are vitally important, not only to the people of Georgia and the south, but of the whole country, since the outcome probably marks the advance or retreat of the railroads in a movement which is as wide as the continent.

The plea to the jurisdiction was promptly overruled, in language which made it clear to the railroads that they could not override the rights of the people on the grounds of legal technicalities. The learned judge, in terms at once graphic and forceful, did not hesitate to say to the railroads that they could not come into this territory "and control the price of everything upon which the comfort and the very life of the people depend," so far as transportation is concerned, and then deny the right of those who are wronged to be heard, on the ground that the defendants are non-residents.

The net result of the proceedings is that the temporary injunction will stand for the time being, and the railroads will not be allowed to put into effect the increased freight rates agreed upon by the Southeastern Freight Association on next Saturday. The immediate consequence will be that the railroads will, as Judge Speer expressed it, "post with quick dexterity" to the interstate commerce commission for a hearing as to the reasonableness of the proposed rate, while in the meantime the shippers and consumers will not be required to bear the increased burden of additional freight rates while the litigation proceeds.

It will be remembered that shortly after the increased rates on hay, grain, and packing house products were announced by the railroads, a second meeting of the Southeastern Freight Association was held in Louisville in which a horizontal increase on practically all commodities was announced.

So a secondary result of Judge Speer's decision will be, in all probability, that the railroads will make no attempt to promulgate this further increase, with the practical certainty that it, also, will be enjoined.

The general effect of the decision will be felt all over the country and will have a distinct tendency to prevent the increase in freight rates for which certain railroads have been agitating.

It is an important fact that there has been no such strong determination elsewhere to increase rates as there has been in the south, where there is practically no competition. Conservative railroad men realize that the panic brought about a temporary condition of depression and that already business is becoming normal again throughout the whole country. This is the time of all others when there is at least excuse for increasing freight rates. Business can ill afford to be stifled just when it is at the turn of the tide, and on the other hand the railroads will soon come into their own again by allowing a continuance of the rates under which they have made the most phenomenal profits in the history of the country.

The railroads themselves do not deny that if they had been allowed to make this increase in rates, using the panic as a pretext, they would not reduce them again when business conditions become normal. It would have been little short of disastrous, therefore, if the shippers and merchants of Georgia had sat idly by and allowed the new rates to go into effect.

Judge Speer's decision comes as a wise and timely relief, and there can be but little doubt that the final outcome will be on the side of the people.—Atlanta Journal.

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