

# And Yet the Aged Millionaire Couldn't Keep His Young Bride



Mr. E. B. Alsop.

*"Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater  
Had a wife and couldn't keep her,  
He put her in a pumpkin shell,  
And there he kept her very well."*

THE old Mother Goose method of keeping a wife was not tried by the venerable Mr. Alsop. But Mr. Alsop seems to have tried nearly every other expedient and yet he lost his young and very pretty bride.

Mr. Edward B. Alsop is a Pittsburgh millionaire. He is 75 years old. Miss Effie Pope Hill was only twenty.

When the engagement to the aged millionaire was announced Miss Hill's friends had misgivings—would they be happy?

"Don't worry," said Miss Pope. "I'd much rather be an 'old man's darling' than 'a young man's slave.' Mr. Alsop is devotedly in love with me; we shall be very happy."

But they were not happy. Mr. Alsop was devoted. He provided generously all the material things which are dear to a young woman's heart—city homes and country houses, servants, automobiles, chauffeur, travel, unlimited accounts for clothes and expenses.

But the young bride was not contented and very soon threw it all over and departed. Mr. Alsop did not tango, at nine o'clock in the evening he felt sleepy, he could not match the brisk, tireless vivacity of the lively bride of twenty. His friends sat sleepily around and entertained her with over-and-over repeated stories of things that happened before the Civil War—the joy of being a petted "old man's darling" was a delusion.

Just what the aged millionaire did to hold the affection of his young wife is told here in his sworn testimony in his recent suit for divorce in a Pittsburgh court:—

QUESTION (by Mr. Alsop's lawyer)—What is your full name?

ANSWER (by Mr. Alsop)—Edward B. Alsop.

Q.—And what is your residence?

A.—Sewickley Heights township, Allegheny County, Pa.

Q.—What is your wife's full name?

A.—Effie Pope Alsop.

Q.—When were you married to Effie Pope Hill?

A.—In 1912; I have forgotten the date—the 12th.

Q.—Which month?

A.—I think it was in February.

Q.—Where were you married?

A.—In New York City.

Q.—Where did you take your wife after your marriage?

A.—Washington, D. C.

Q.—Was that shortly after your marriage?

A.—Yes, very shortly; within two weeks, I think.

Q.—Where was your Washington residence?

A.—Corner of Massachusetts avenue and Twentieth street.

Q.—Did you maintain that residence as long as you and your wife lived together?

A.—I did.

Q.—What was the fact as to the manner in which you maintained your residence there and supported your wife? Give a general statement as to the—

A.—We lived together in a large, comfortable house, with every comfort and luxury which a person of means would be expected to have. She was never restricted in her expenditures. Whatever she asked for she got.

Q.—What servants did you have?

A.—Two servants, besides a maid and cook and a chauffeur, also.

Q.—You maintained an automobile and a chauffeur?

A.—Yes, and a chauffeur.

Q.—What was the fact as to whether or not Mrs. Alsop was free to contract bills and buy such things as she might desire?

A.—I never restricted her. She bought what she wanted. Whatever she wanted, I paid the bill.

Q.—Did she have charge accounts at various stores?

A.—Yes; I never questioned her expenditures at all.

Q.—What use, if any, did she have of the automobile?

A.—Whenever she wanted it.

Q.—When did your wife leave you?

A.—She left me after we had been paying a visit in the South.

Q.—When was that visit in the South?

A.—In December, 1913.

Q.—Was it before Christmas?

A.—Yes, before Christmas.

Q.—Shortly before Christmas?

A.—Shortly before Christmas, I think it was. I think we went down to see my son, and I think he was married on December 12.

Q.—Did you and your wife return from that trip?

A.—We returned together as far as Washington, where I got off. She went on to New York. I wanted her to come home to Washington, but she insisted on going to New York. We came as far as Washington together. She didn't leave the train.

Q.—What, if anything, transpired between you and your wife prior to her leaving you and going to New York at that time, to occasion any such separation?

A.—I don't know of anything. We had no dispute. We had no quarrel or anything of that kind. She simply wouldn't come home; that's all. She preferred to go to New York.

Q.—Had Mrs. Alsop prior to that been living away from home at Washington?

A.—A great deal of the time.

Q.—What trips, if any, of consequence, did you and Mrs. Alsop take?

A.—We went to Europe together.

Q.—About when was that in relation to your marriage?

A.—I think it was about the middle of May, in 1913, and we got back about the middle of June. We went to London, Paris—we were gone about a month.

Q.—Where did you live in the Summer of 1913?

A.—Beverly, Mass.

Q.—Where did you live in Beverly?

A.—We rented a furnished house that belonged to ex-Governor Claflin—I rented it furnished.

Q.—Was that a commodious house?

A.—Very commodious and convenient, and a pretty place.

Q.—How did it compare with other Summer homes at that place?

A.—Better than the great majority. It was surrounded by beautiful lawns and trees and a garden; a complete Summer residence with garden attached, and everything very pretty.

Q.—What was your wife's attitude in regard to taking that place for the Summer?

A.—She favored it very strongly.

Q.—How long did you live there?

A.—We lived there from about the 1st of June until about the 29th of October; at least the latter part of October. I don't remember the date. I think I rented it from June to November. We were there very early in June, and stayed there until about the 28th or 29th of October.

Q.—When you left the Beverly house the last of October, 1913, where did you go?

A.—Waldorf Hotel, New York.

Q.—Who went with you?

A.—Mrs. Alsop and I together.

Q.—How long did you remain there?

A.—I should say in the neighborhood of—well, between two and three weeks.

Q.—What was the occasion of your staying there? Any special occasion?

A.—Yes. I was unwell; sort of rheumatism in the hip.

Q.—To what place did you go from New York?

A.—Went to Washington.

Q.—Did Mrs. Alsop return with you?

A.—No, sir; she refused to go with me.

Q.—And she remained in New York, did she, as far as you know?

A.—As far as I know.

Q.—Has Mrs. Alsop returned to your habitation at any time since?

A.—She has not.

Q.—Since that time?

A.—She has not.

Q.—Do you know of any reason for her absencing herself?

A.—I do not.

Q.—What do you say as to whether or not there is or has been any reasonable cause for her absencing herself from your habitation in the manner you have stated, since December, 1913?

A.—I know of no reason; I know of no good reason for it.

Q.—What is the fact as to whether you have at all times maintained a residence for her and been ready to have her return?

A.—It has always been open and ready for her—the house has always been open and ready for her.

Q.—Have you made any effort to have her return during this period?

A.—I have frequently made an effort to have her return. I have told her I wanted her to come back.

Q.—Have you told her that personally?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—As well as by letters?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Do you have any letter that you have written to her?

A.—I presume I have; I have at home.

Q.—You haven't any that you could get at?

A.—No.

Q.—But you say that you have had personal interviews with Mrs. Alsop?

A.—Yes, on several occasions.

Q.—Where did you see her since she left?

A.—I have seen her in New York and Atlantic City.

Q.—Did you live at any of these places since she left?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—What disposition, if any, was made of her personal effects, if you know?



Mrs. Effie Pope  
Alsop the 20-  
Year-Old Wife  
of the 75-Year-Old Pittsburgh Millionaire.

A.—Why, during my absence—I couldn't tell you when—during my absence in Pittsburgh—I spent a great deal of my time there—she sent to the house; sent a telegram to the house—she didn't telegraph me; she telegraphed her maid to send her things. When I went home they told me that she had sent on for her things. That was the first time I knew of it.

Q.—Did you authorize or give any directions as to her personal belongings?

A.—No. I thought that she might come back at any time. Her rooms were ready for her any time.

Q.—You know nothing about it, except you found on your return that they had been taken out of your house?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Did you see the telegram?

A.—Yes, I did.

Q.—Do you know where Mrs. Alsop was when your complaint in this case was filed?

A.—No. I only knew that—I understand that she was West—in California.

Q.—Did you make any inquiry to find out whether she could be served or whether she could be found?

A.—Yes, I did.

Q.—Did you say that you received information that she was in California?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And did you have any investigation made to verify that?

A.—Yes. I endeavored to, on account of wishing to serve the notice.

Q.—Did you have an address in California?

A.—She wrote me from, I think it was Warner Hot Springs, somewhere in California.

Q.—Have you seen Mrs. Alsop since the suit was brought?

A.—No.

Q.—What information, if any, have you had as to her whereabouts since this inquiry was made in California?

A.—She was in New York for a while, and then she has been living South with some of her relatives.

Q.—And what is the fact as to whether or not she was found down in the South?

A.—She was not found.

Q.—Has your wife offered, or expressed, or indicated any willingness, directly or indirectly, to return to you?

A.—She has not.

Mr.  
Alsop's  
Washington

Home Where the Youthful Bride Refused to Return to Him.

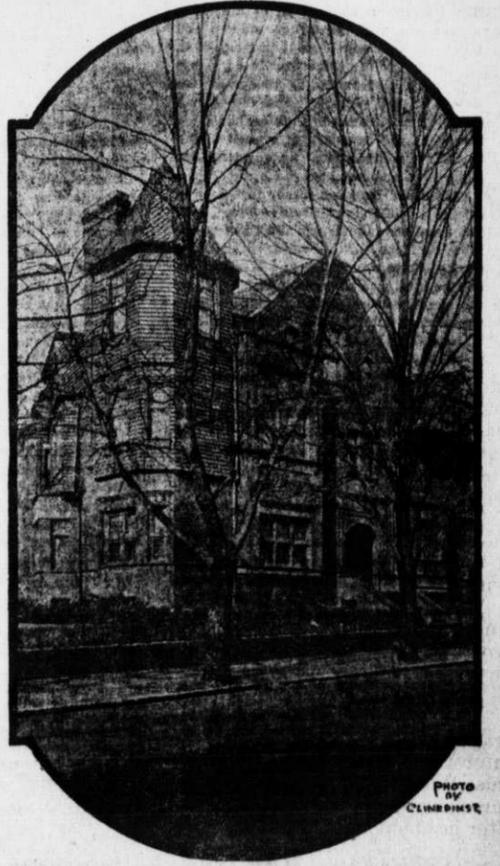


Photo  
by  
Clemens

## What Happens When You Drop Your Watch

Did you ever drop your watch and note, with satisfaction, that it was still running, only to have your elation turned to gloom a minute later by its uneven "tick" and final silence? Did you ever rap its rim against the palm of your hand and fancy you had revived its accustomed activity, only to find the revival merely spasmodic, not lasting?

It makes no difference whether your watch cost \$3.50 or \$35.00—the latter being the highest price asked for one of American make—if it stops after being dropped on the floor, a sure and certain diagnosis of its internal wound is "injury to balance staff."

The injury may, as in the case of a human limb after a fall, be a sprain or a fracture, but you can be positive it is the "balance staff" and no other of the vari-

ous "organs" of a watch's anatomy that has been put out of business by the catastrophe. Whether sprained—that is, bent—or actually broken, "hospital charges" for repair of the crippled time-piece will be about the same.

The balance staff is a tiny bit of steel which serves as upright axis for the little wheel with spokes whose vibrations are the pulse of the mechanism. Its length varies from a sixteenth to a quarter of an inch. It is thickest in the middle, and each end terminates in a pivot point finer than the business end of a needle. These tiny points rest in two rubies, the under one made fast to the bed of the works and the other to the under side of the bridge. It is these hair-like ends of the balance staff that suffer through the dropping of your watch. They are made of the finest steel, but their slenderness

makes it impossible for any watchmaker, no matter how much you pay, to guarantee they will not bend or break through the jar of a fall of more than a few inches.

If every time a balance staff is broken it were necessary for your jeweler to construct a new one by hand machinery at his own workbench, you would perhaps guard more carefully against dropping your watch, for the cost would be excessive; but as matters stand, all large jewelers carry a cabinet full of tiny spials, each numbered, which contain balance staffs, as many as 300 different sizes and shapes, to fit almost every variety of American-made watches, and they have but to consult the cabinet index to find one suited to your need. The cost of installing varies from \$1.50 to \$7.50, according to the value of the watch itself.

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