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# THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1908.



# WILL DIVIDE FORTUNE

## Mrs. Weightman Walker Said to Be Worth $60,000,000.

### RECALLS SUIT TO BREAK WILL

**Philadelphia Woman's Wealth Derived from Father—Produced, in Great Part, from Conservative Investments in Real Estate—Widow to Become Bride of Penfield.**

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 22.—The source, the size, and the wonderful growth of the Weightman fortune have been more or less a subject of public interest for the last four years.

That interest is now revived in a marked degree by the announcements regarding the coming marriage of Mrs. Anne M. Weightman Walker, daughter of William Weightman, the builder of the fortune, to Frederick Courtland Penfield, of New York, formerly of Connecticut, who was American consul general in Egypt under President Cleveland.

William Weightman, who was popularly known as the richest man in Pennsylvania, and whose daughter by some is believed to be the richest woman in the world, died on August 24, 1904. There followed a sharp contest in the courts over the distribution of his wealth. The result was that the whole of it remained in the hands of Mrs. Walker, whose talent for affairs had guarded the great business of her father in the last years of his life, and whom he had made his partner several months before that event.

The idea has been rather widely spread that quinine was the basis of Mr. Weightman's vast superstructure of wealth, which at his death was estimated at $50,000,000. The estate in Mrs. Walker's hand has since increased, it is understood, to more than $60,000,000.

**Fortune in Real Estate.**

The truth seems to be that the real source of the bulk of his fortune was the increase of real estate values incident to the growth and development of Philadelphia. Mr. Weightman, at his death, owned many pieces of real estate in this city and in New York, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Wilmington, Williamsport, Cape May, and eleswhere. It is said of him that he sold but one property of this nature in his whole lifetime, and that was the Bingham House, which cost him originally $125,000, and on which he realized $975,000. A list of his realty holdings in this city, published the day after his death, filled the greater part of a newspaper column, and their assessed valuations amounted to more than $8,700,000.

Mr. Weightman had never in his long career allowed a year to pass without laying away a part of his net surplus income for profitable return. The preferred species of investment was houses and land. Each investment remained intact from the moment it was made, and paid out of its own earnings the subsequent cost of improvement and repair. The elder John Jacob Astor and his leading heirs followed a like course in New York.

**Adds to Holdings.**

Thus, after the lapse of a few years, the realty so acquired yielded to Mr. Weightman even more than the extensive business that constantly enabled him to add to his profitable holdings. The history of that business is curiously interesting, especially the part of it which relates to the quinine trade. One of the erroneous opinions on this subject is that American manufacturing chemists made their greatest gains from the manufacture and sale of quinine during the war of secession; but the fact is that their profits from this trade in the Crimean war were vastly greater.

Mr. Weightman and his family never manifested the desire to be conspicuous. Although Mrs. Walker, his daughter, was well known in a restricted coterie of the Philadelphia social set, even before she was announced as sole heir to her father's enormous fortune, she spent most of her time after her marriage in Williamsport—from which place her husband was sent to Congress—and in Washington. She entered very little into the social activities of Philadelphia, and when she came here to live in the great red mansion in Walnut street below Broad her entertainments, although rich, were quiet and little discussed.

**Leaves All to Daughter.**

Mr. Walker died five years ago, and then followed the death of Mrs. Walker's father. When his will was read it was found to contain this simple clause:

"I give, devise and bequeath absolutely all my property and estate, real and personal, of which I shall die seized and possessed to my only surviving child, my daughter, Anne M. Weightman Walker, wife or Robert J. C. Walker, to her and her heirs and assigns forever."

So far as outward signs were concerned the will caused little disturbance among the chemist's grandchildren, but those in close touch with their families say that there were murmurings of bitter dissatisfaction.

All appeared calm for several months, and then, as if it had been the explosion of a bomb in the midst of Philadelphia's exclusive social ranks, came the announcement that Charles E. d'Invilliers, guardian of Martha R. Weightman, a grandchild of Mr. Weightman, and daughter of Mrs. Jones Wister by her first husband, William Weightman, jr., had filed a petition in the orphans' court to break the will and obtain for Miss Weightman a share of her grandfather's fortune. The house at once became divided against itself, some of the grandchildren siding with Mrs. Walker and others with Mrs. Wister and her daughter.

**Ending Is Dramatic.**

The case, which promised to be full of sensations, and which did not fail to fulfill this promise, came to trial on October 15, 1906, and the contest which it was thought would be of almost Jarndyce vs. Jarndyce length, was dramatically concluded on the same day.

Dramatically and mysteriously. For it ended absolutely and completely a few minutes after counsel for Mrs. Walker had handed the lawyers for Mrs. Wister a small slip of yellow paper, on which a few words were inscribed. These were read by Mrs. Wister, who paled, left the courtroom almost immediately, and the case was dropped. Mrs. Walker had triumphed, but it had been guessed from the first, from her indifference to the suit, that she had a winning card that would be played at the proper time. It was played, and it had its contemplated effect.

Society spent weeks gossiping over this "scrap of paper," which caused as much of a sensation as did the one in the famous play of that name, but, excepting a very few persons, no one was let into the secret as to what was written on the yellow slip. All sorts of conjectures were made, and perhaps some of them were correct, but those who guessed aright were never told of their success.

**Reason for Dropping Case.**

It is now, however, indefinitely conjectured, in view of recent decisions announced by Mrs. Walker, that some inkling of her intentions regarding the division of the fortuned was contained in the celebrated piece of yellow paper, and that on this acount the case was dropped and nothing more was said by either side.

Soon after this sensation had ceased to be a theme for drawing-room gossip, Mrs. Walker removed to New York, for which city she had always professed a great fondness, and her visits to Philadelphia became less frequent and of shorter duration. She recently began to entertain elaborately in her New York home, but few Philadelphians were ever numbered among her guests.

Mrs. Walker announced only a short time ago her engagement to Mr. Penfield. A few days later, on being pressed, she declared that in all probability she would divide her fortune with her nieces and nephews, one of the former being the same Martha Weightman who only recently attained her majority, and in whose name the will contest was made.

## DISCUSS FINDING OF GEMS.

**Archeologists in England Interested in Egyptian Excavations.**

London, Feb. 22.—Enormous interest has been aroused by the discovery of the jewels of the wife of Seti II, who was probably the Pharaoh of the "Exodus."

"The discovery of these jewels," said an expert yesterday, "is of the greatest importance, and it is a further triumph for Theodore M. Davis, the American millionaire, who is backing the excavations in the valley of the kings near Thebes, and also for E. R. Tyrton, the English Egyptologist, whose recent luck has earned for him the name of 'the King-finder.'

"The excavations in this valley are being directed by Mr. Quibell, for the Egyptian government Service des Antiquites, with the greatest care. These jewels will not come to England, neither is there any present possibility of their leaving Egypt. They will be removed to the Cairo Museum.

"The importance of the find lies in this, that although the actual mummy of the Queen has not been found, the bracelets of heavy gold, the huge earrings, the elaborately worked rings, and possibly the crown worn by all the Egyptian queens, together with a host of accessories, will have their story to tell of her life and history. They may even set at rest the claims that Rameses II was the Pharaoh of the 'Exodus,' and enthrone Seti II and the Queen whose jewels are now found as the rulers with whom Moses talked, who had his upbringing, 'who knew not Joseph,' who suffered the plagues, and were prominent figures in one of the most vivid chapters of the Bible."

## DEFINES POWER OF ETHER.

**Scientist Says It Could Break Rod Five Thousand Miles Thick.**

London, Feb. 22.—Sir Oliver Lodge, lecturing on "The ether of space," last night, before the Royal Institution, started with the axiom that in all cases of physical action across space, there must be a medium. Contact, nevertheless, does not exist between atoms of matter which acted upon each other through ether.

Sir Oliver said: "Ether, the omnipresent, is seemingly being found to constitute matter, but the latter is as gossamer as compared with the former."

He declared that the density of ether is fifty billion times that of matter, and that the force with which the moon is held is sufficient to tear a steel rod 5,000 miles thick. Sir Oliver believes that ether in motion, a motion of stress and recoil, is coming to be recognized as the fundamental thing in the universe. He concluded by asserting that if any one denied that ether had physical significance, he must withhold his agreement.

## BISHOP H. Y. SATTERLEE.

Weep, O ye sacred pines on Alban's Hill,
The Heart of him who knew you best is still;
And, while from woods and skies true sorrow wells,
Thy music turn to tears, Cathedral Bells.

The knightly heart of him has ceased to beat,
Whom rising tower and sacred shrine would greet;
The saintly soul has floated on the tide
Where Red Cross Knights in peace and glory bide.

Beloved Bishop, in the peace of God
Rest, rest where martyred souls so long have trod;
Stay for us there as here thou lovedst to stay
To lead the wandering fold from Night to Day.

From us, thy loving children, take these flowers,
Which, with full hands, we bring like brilliant showers
Of tears. In sighs, in floral incense rise,
O Man and Friend of Man, to kindly skies.

God keep thee, Bishop, in His dear embrace
Till we shall see again thy kindly face;
Believing that the angels shall re'lume
The light that fades to darkness at thy tomb.

ELISABETH ELLICOTT POE.

# STORY OF MONUMENT

## Towering Obelisk Unveiled Twenty-three Years Ago.

### FIRST CONCEIVED IN YEAR 1783

**Congress Passed Resolution Providing for Memorial Soon After Death of First President in 1799—Monument Society Did Much to Complete Work—Halted During Civil War.**

Friday having been the twenty-third anniversary of the dedication of the Washington Monument, a short review of the monument will no doubt prove of interest at this time, particularly as many of the diplomats, statesmen, and officials who took part in the ceremonies are still among the living and residing in this city.

Although completed in 1884, the huge obelisk erected in honor of George Washington was not dedicated until February 21 of the following year. The dedicatory address was made by Robert C. Winthrop, who had laid the cornerstone of the monument in 1848.

The first movement toward the erection of this monument, the highest masonry structure in the world, was made in 1783, when the Continental Congress passed a resolution recommending the erection of an equestrian statue of Washington, supported by four marble pedestals showing the principal events in the war which he had successfully conducted. After his death, in December, 1799, the Senate and House passed a joint resolution for the erection of a monument under which his body should be placed; but Congress failed to provide for the execution of the work, and the matter was allowed to drop.

**Revived in 1816.**

In 1816 an unsuccessful effort was made by James Buchanan, then a young Congressman from Pennsylvania, to revive an interest in the project. Twenty-five years later, an association, known as the Washington Monument Society, was formed, and $87,000 was collected in sums of $1, each person so contributing being enrolled as a member of the society. The cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1848, and the building of the monument progressed slowly until 1855, when, owing to the failure of the Senate to concur in the passage of an appropriation bill giving $200,000 to the enterprise, all work upon it ceased. Later, during the civil war, the Washington Monument was for the time forgotten.

In 1876, Senator Sherman introduced a resolution providing that whatever was returned from the government appropriation for the Centennial Exposition should be appropriated to the completion of the Washington Monument. This resolution was amended in the House, and the sum of $1,000,000 was appropriated, to be paid in annual installments. A new foundation was then constructed, at a cost of nearly $100,000 and the work was pushed forward until its completion, under the direction of Col. T. L. Casey, of the United States Engineers.

**Total Cost About $1,500,000.**

The entire cost of the monument was about $1,500,000, of which amount nearly $300,000 was contributed by the Washington Monument Association. Its base is 55 feet square, the base of the foundation being 106 feet square and 28 feet deep. Its height is 555 feet, and the principal material is Maryland marble lined with blue gneiss.

Various memorial stones contributed by States, lodges, counties, organizations, and foreign countries are built into the interior lining, there being 176 of these memorial tablets, and no official copy of the dedicatory inscriptions on these stones being available, either at the Monument Society or at any of the government departments, Rudolph De Zapp, of this city, in 1899, not only made exact copies of all the inscriptions on the memorial stones, but wrote the first history of the Washington Monument, the contents of which were embodied in a "History of the Washington National Monument and Washington National Monument Society," compiled by Frederic L. Harvey, secretary of the Monument Society, which was presented by Senator Gallinger February 6, 1903, and ordered to be printed as a Senate document.

**Many Tablets Mutilated.**

More than fifty of the 176 tablets are in a mutilated condition, the work of vandals, and the damp temperature which used to prevail in the interior of the monument causing some of the tablets to decay and their inscriptions to become illegible.

Including the foundation, the weight of the structure is nearly 82,000 tons. The top of the monument is protected by a cap of aluminum, which is not affected by the elements. The thickness of the walls at the base is fifteen feet, gradually lessening to eighteen inches at the top. The ascent can be made by an elevator or by an iron stairway of nearly 900 steps.

On February 21, 1885, in the presence of the executive, legislative, and judicial officers of the government, officers of the army, the navy, the Marine Corps, and the volunteers, the diplomatic corps, eminent divines, jurists, scientists, and journalists, venerable citizens representing former generations, the National Monument Society, and the Masonic fraternity, the monument was dedicated.

Senator Sherman made the opening address. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Henderson Suter, rector of Christ Church, Alexandria, Va.; James C. Welling, LL. D., read an address, which had been prepared by W. W. Corcoran, first vice president of the Monument Society, which was followed by the Masonic dedicatory exercises performed by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of this city.

Col. Thomas Lincoln Casey, of the Corps of Engineers, the chief engineer and architect of the monument, then formally delivered the structure to the President of the United States and President Arthur accepted the structure, after which a procession was formed and moved to the Capitol, where orations were delivered by Robert C. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, and John W. Daniel, Senator of Virginia.

## A TRAGIC RESEMBLANCE.

**Pretty Southern Girl Tells Why She Dislikes Recalling Others.**

"I believe I would rather be downright ugly than have a face that reminds every Tom, Dick, and Harry of some one he knows or has known," said a comely Southern girl to her companion across the tea table. Only yesterday I had a most embarrassing experience, and it isn't the first I've had because I look like some one else," she went on. "I got into a subway train at the Grand Central Station and took a cross seat, opposite a woman. She looked at me and started perceptibly; then she leaned closer to me and looked squarely into my face and her own turned very pale. Suddenly she put her muff to eyes and sobbed until the tears rolled down over her coat. I was so uncomfortable and at such a loss what to do that I got up at the nearest station and waited for another train. I suppose I was the image of some lost daughter or sister."

**Mme. Melba's House for Sale.**

London, Feb. 22.—Mme. Melba's house, 30 Great Cumberland place, is to be sold by auction by Messrs. Elliott, Son & Boyton, on February 24.

## RIVALS FOR A THRONE.

**Each Asks that Kaiser Check French Military Operations.**

Berlin, Feb. 22.—It is stated that within the past fortnight both the rival Sultans of Morocco have, through the Kaiser's minister at Tangier, made separate and earnest appeals for the support of the German government in checking French military operations in Morocco.

The appeals, which were made quite independently of each other, and were essentially different in character, agreed on the main point, namely, begging the "mighty German Emperor" to take such steps as would induce the French government to abandon further military expeditions, particularly in the hinterland of Casa Bianca.

Both Abdul Aziz and Mulai Hafid represented that a continuance of French expeditions was calculated to excite the patriotic passions of the Moors, with inevitable danger to the lives and property of Europeans. Each protested that he was fully competent to "preserve and maintain law and order" in Morocco without the aid or intervention of a foreign military force.

Germany's reply is not obtainable in Berlin, but its character may be gathered from the fact that the Kaiser's government communicated to the French government not only the text of the rival Sultans' appeals, but the full tenor of its reply.

## NO BABY IN THE GO-CART.

**Middle Aged Man Arrested in Fifth Avenue at 4 A. M.**

New York, Feb. 22.—While walking down Fifth avenue near 117th street about 4:30 o'clock this morning, Policeman O'Connell, of the East 126th street station was surprised to see a middle aged man leisurely approach him, pushing a baby's go-cart.

"Where are you going?" asked O'Connell.

"Baby is restless and I am taking it for a walk," replied the man with a smile.

"Why," said O'Connell, looking closer, "there isn't any baby there."

"That's funny," replied the man. "I was sure I had a baby when I started."

"You'd better come around to the station house," suggested the policeman.

When they got there O'Connell had the man locked up on the charge of being a suspicious person.

**A Boy's Composition.**

"Girls are sisters of boys and has long hare and wares dresses. First girl was called Christmas Eve, though I never could tell why. Most every family has one girl, and some of 'em that is in hard luck has two or three. We have a girl in ourn who is my sister. Fat girls want to be thin and thin girls want to be fat. Why girls were made nobody noes, but I think it were to go to church and eat ice cream. There is two kinds of girls, brunet girls and blond girls. Girls are afraid of mise and bugs, which makes it fun to put 'em down their baks."

## THE PILOT.

With conscience for a pilot
And truth his polar star,
He ventures o'er the ocean
To cross the roughest bar,
And anchors safe and early
Within the docks of peace
Where gold is gained by working
And love shall never cease.

The pilot on the billow
Has duty for his guide,
Honor in his searching soul,
And sea room far and wide;
Ever at the wheel of fate
To steer his course so true
Into the quiet harbor
Under the bounding blue.

And soon the ocean pilot,
With chart of heavenly plan,
Shall steer his ship of glory
Away from erring man,
And anchor in the haven
Beyond the sun and stars,
Where storms shall never enter
Or cross those golden bars!

JOHN A. JOYCE.

Washington, D. C., February 20, 1908.

# TRAGEDIES OF COLD

## Curious Accidents Caused by Ice and Snow.

### THAWS, TOO, DO MUCH DAMAGE

**Loss of Skaters' Lives, However, Forms Only Small Part of Annual Fatalities for Which Jack Frost Is Directly or Indirectly Responsible—Some of the Great Floods.**

Although scores of lives are lost yearly as a result of rash skaters venturing on ice too thin to bear their weight, yet the worst tragedies of frost are by a curious contradiction those caused by thaw.

In February four years ago there was a tremendous frost on the Continent of Europe. The Vistula, among other rivers, was covered with ice of immense thickness, and when the thaws came and the bonds of frost were loosened the roaring river became choked with gigantic jams of ice.

In Galicia, near Szuezin, the floes grounded in a shallow part of the stream, and instantly a vast barrier of ice began to rear itself, while behind it the choked river swelled into a mighty lake and, pouring over its banks, inundated the flat country for a width of nineteen miles.

A regiment of sappers, armed with dynamite, arrived by special train, but their efforts were of little use. Within twenty-four hours no fewer than ten villages were under water, eight hundred families were homeless, and nearly seventy persons were drowned.

**Disaster on Zuyder Zee.**

A dreadful disaster was that which hapened a couple of winters ago at Wieringen, on the Zuyder Zee, in Holland. This great shallow inland sea of brackish water usually freezes every winter for a long distance out. One January evening a number of persons were amusing themselves skating off the village, some at a considerable distance from the shore, when suddenly a great floe, acres in extent, cracked away from the rest of the ice, and a rapidly widening line of water divided a dozen skaters from the shore.

Some plunged in and swam back, but seven were carried to sea on the floating ice. Those on shore rushed for boats, but here the frost completed its deadly work. The boats were too tightly frozen into the sand of the beach to be moved, and by the time that one was loosened it was dark. Next day the unhappy skaters were found, frozen to death.

**Ice Reaches the Lungs.**

One of the most amazing tragedies of frost occurred in Colorado on a February day twelve years ago. The temperature was far below zero, but the air was dry and clear and the sun shining with amazing brilliancy. Five persons who were driving together across the tract of forest reserve known as North Park did not really feel the cold.

Suddenly the distant mountains disappeared in a white mist and the sun lost its brilliancy. Presently one of the women put her hand up to her cheek, crying out that something had stung her. A breeze began to blow and the air became charged with a mist of fine particles which glittered like diamond dust. They saw a settler, his face covered with a shawl, signaling to them furiously. They drove to his house and he hurried them in. Before morning all the party were dreadfully ill and one woman was dead. This fog is of fine icy particles, so intensely cold that they reach the lungs without melting. The Indians justly call this strange phenomenon the White Death.