

AMERICAN GIRLS RUINED BY MARRYING TITLES.

Drunkenness, Blackguardism, Brutality, Infidelity, Cheating at Cards and Insults.

And Always, Always Demands for Money Have Destroyed the Lives of Many of Our Loveliest Women.



American Girls Whose Lives Have Been Wrecked by Disastrous Foreign Marriages.

- Consuelo Yznaga—Duke of Manchester.
- Clara Ward—Prince of Caraman-Chimay.
- Mary Wheeler—Count Pappenheim.
- Miss Carey—Baron de Stuers.
- Julia Scott—Major Johnson.
- Bessie Curtis—Marquis de Talleyrand-Perigord.
- Miss McVicker—Major C. G. Norton.
- Miss King—Marquis of Anglesey.
- Mrs. George Stelle—Sir A. Aylmer.
- Julia Mackay—Prince Colonna.
- Winnaretta Singer—Prince of Sceaux-Montbelliard.
- Nellie Grant—Algernon Sartoris.
- Frances Work—Hon. J. B. Burke-Roche.
- Caroline Carroll—His Excellency William Haggard.
- Emily Schaumberg—Col. Hughes Hallett.
- Mary Plummer—Georges Clemenceau.
- Miss Fitzgerald—Lord Edmond Fitz Maurice.
- Florence Audenried—Count Divonne.
- Miss Corbin—Earl of Orford.
- Miss Huntington—Prince Hatzfeldt.
- Florence Garner—Sir W. Gordon-Cum-mling.

A GENIUS IN NEBRASKA.

One Year in Bryan's Town Was Quite Enough for This Pianist.

There is a queer chapter in the history of Martinus Stevking, the young Dutch pianist, that is generally unknown. As in his first American tour there is a general impression abroad that it is his first appearance in America. But the fact is that he spent the year of 1894-95 in this country, and of all the remote and out-of-the-way places in this country, in Lincoln, Neb., the town that awoke one morning to find itself famous through William Jennings Bryan.

In 1893 Stevking came over to the World's Fair and established himself in Chicago as a private piano teacher, being at the time plentifully supplied with funds from home. Now, Chicago is always overrun with piano teachers, and it is not an easy place for a new man to start, even if he brings recommendations directly from the Conservatoire of Paris. Besides, Stevking is eminently a virtuoso rather than an instructor. It was not long, however, before the musicians of Chicago discovered that they had a remarkable man among them, and Clarence Eddy and the young Hollander became fast friends.

About that time Mr. Willard Kimball was about to open a musical conservatory at Lincoln in connection with the State University of Nebraska. He was in search of a first-class piano teacher, and Eddy recommended Stevking. Just at that time Stevking was low in funds and generally "down on his luck." Kimball offered him \$6,000 a year, with various perquisites, and the desperate young man recklessly signed a three-year contract without even stopping to investigate as to the sort of place he was going to.

The practical, bustling West proved a prison of the dreariest description to the artist. Only the women there have time to study music. Of these he found that few had any talent, and he frankly told them so whenever he felt inclined to do so. His nerves began to break down and at the end of a year he broke his contract and left the town. But he was not even to leave quietly. The morning of his departure his dog, Tad, got into trouble with a policeman, and Stevking laid the policeman flat on his back, and when the two officers fell upon him, he handled them in exactly the same way. The result was that he rode to his train in a patrol wagon.

Last winter, soon after his departure from Lincoln, he made his debut in Boston. His first appearance there cast the die. His career since then, his mysterious disappearance last Spring and his return to America are known to every one. And the amusing part of it is that if he had kept his contract he might still be teaching little girls out on the plains to play the scales, instead of being the idol of the sophisticated music-loving public.

RUINED BY MARRIAGE.

Black List of Noble Husbands Who Have Made American Women Unhappy.

Marriages between American women and foreigners of rank have turned out unhappily to an extent that is appalling. An investigation shows that at least three-quarters of them have been disastrous.

The stories of drunkenness and cruelty and unspeakable depravity that have been told in connection with these marriages are enough to make the ordinary American man sick at heart. The women of his race have been publicly shamed, starved and beaten by husbands who are accounted of gentle blood in European countries. In order to find all this misery the women have left a country where the very ground they walk on is worshipped and where their sex is infinitely more honored than in any other part of the world.

In view of the known and published record it seems incredible that American women should go on contracting these marriages with any frequency. As a matter of fact they become continually more numerous. The glamour of a title and a supposed exalted position in a foreign land are too great temptations for the women. Moreover, the foreign men have the advantage of being different from the American men, and therefore appealing to the American eye's sense of curiosity. In many cases the foreigners are more accomplished and more attractive superficially than the Americans. So they continue to carry away American brides.

An event of the week was the marriage of Miss Louise Bonaparte, of Baltimore, and Count Adam de Moltke-Huttfeldt, a secretary of the Danish Legation, in Washington. This marriage has a peculiar interest because the bride is a descendant of the most historically unhappy marriage that was ever contracted between an American and a European.

Her great-grandmother, Elizabeth Patterson, was one of the most beautiful women of Baltimore, and also high bred, accomplished and amiable. She married Jerome Bonaparte, Napoleon's brother. At the Emperor's demand her husband cast off her and her children, and married another woman. The Emperor offered her money if she would renounce her claims to be Jerome's wife, but, like a good woman, she refused to accept shame for herself and her children. The Pope, under all the pressure that Napoleon could bring to bear, "declined to declare the marriage invalid."

Miss Bonaparte went to France and claimed her rights, but was insulted, maltreated and driven from the country. But she was never beaten, and her grandson, Victor Bonaparte, father of the girl just

married, was received as a Bonaparte at the court of the late Napoleon III. Everybody should wish well to the newly married couple, but it is impossible that this story, historical for American brides, should not be recalled.

A summary will show how the great majority of American-European marriages have turned out disastrously.

There is no more disgraceful case of the ill-treating of an American wife by a foreign husband than that of the late Duke of Manchester. When he was Lord Mandeville, and here to the dukedom, he married Miss Consuelo Yznaga, a remarkably beautiful New York girl. After a few years of married life Mandeville developed such vile habits that he would not have been a fit associate for jailbirds. The British public had a view of him when he was hauled up in a police court with his boon companion, Bessie Bellwood, who had assaulted a cabman. The miserable, drunken

and broken down nobleman did not seem good enough to be the consort of the music hall singer.

The Dowager Duchess is still known as one of the most beautiful women in London. The present Duchess of Marlborough, formerly Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt, was named after her.

Divorce proceedings have lately been instituted by the Belgian Prince of Caraman-Chimay and by the Bavarian Count Pappenheim against their American wives. The Princess of Caraman-Chimay is a native of Michigan, was Miss Clara Ward

prior to her marriage, and was reared in a lumber camp out West. Her domestic experiences have been of so disappointing a character for herself that after seeking consolation for the miseries of her home in the companionship of her husband's coachman, she finally eloped with the butler of a Tzigane band, whom she proposes to marry as soon as ever the divorce demanded by her husband has been decreed against her. In compromising herself with her coachman she merely followed the example of the Parisian wife of her husband's uncle, Princess Alphonse Chimay, who eloped with her English butler, a man of the name of Johnson, for whom she subsequently obtained through purchase an Italian title of Count, and to whom she is now married.

The Countess Pappenheim was formerly Miss Wheeler, of Philadelphia, and was a very beautiful girl. She was warned both privately and even in print against conferring her hand and her fortune upon Count Pappenheim, whose antecedents were of the most unsavory description. In spite of this she persisted in marrying him, and after a short spell of wedded life was forced by his behavior to leave him and to return to her mother, with whom she has since lived. The Count, having married mainly for money, and finding himself out from any further participation in his wife's fortune, is now suing for divorce on the ground of desertion, and in the hopes of securing large alimony.

Madame de Stuers, a daughter of John Cary, and a niece of William Astor, found life unbearable with her Dutch husband, who is the Envoy of the young Queen of the Netherlands at Paris. She deserted him, proceeded to Dakota, where she obtained a divorce, and is now married to Mr. Elliott Zborowski, of New York.

Before marrying Count Erdosy, of Hungary, Miss Julia Scott, of New York, was married to Major Johnson, of the English army, to whom she bore three children. Three years ago, however, Mrs. Johnson proceeded to South Dakota, where she obtained a divorce from her English husband on the alleged ground that he was an habitual drunkard, and she has since married Count George Erdosy.

Then there is the case of the Marquise de Talleyrand Perigord, formerly Miss Bessie Curtis, of Boston. Her titled husband, a descendant of the great Talleyrand, was disappointed in the size of her fortune, and after leading her a life of great wretchedness, finally deserted her. He subsequently secured a dissolution of the marriage in order to permit him to wed the wealthy Mrs. Frederick Stevens, of New York. Miss Bessie Curtis retains her title of Marquise de Talleyrand Perigord, while her successor, the ex-Mrs. Stevens, is now known as Duchesse de Dino.

The daughter of the late Commodore William Henry McVicker was first married to Major Charles Grantley Norton. Then she became the wife of his nephew, the present Lord Grantley. She eloped with the latter, was divorced and the decree was immediately followed by her marriage to Lord Grantley, which took place exactly five days before the birth of her eldest child.

The Marchioness of Anglesey, daughter of J. P. King, of Sand Hills, Ga., has been so shamefully treated by her husband that she has been obliged to secure a separation from him, and now lives in Paris.

Mrs. George Stelle, of Chicago, daughter of T. Douglas Reid, of New York, divorced her American husband in order to marry Sir Arthur Aylmer, of Bonenden Castle, County Kildare, but was divorced from him after only a year's marriage.

Princess Ferdinand Colonna, step-daughter of John W. Mackay, of San Francisco, is separated from her husband, who has on several occasions acquired unenviable notoriety by attempting to kidnap her children. Indeed on one occasion she was compelled to flee to America in order to prevent them from being taken from her. He insulted her and treated her cruelly.

Miss Winnaretta Singer, who is now married to the French Prince Edmond de Polignac, was formerly the wife of the so-called Prince Louis de Sceaux-Montbelliard, a nobleman whose title is of unknown origin. His disgusting behavior compelled her to obtain a divorce.

Miss Nellie Grant, President Grant's eldest daughter, married Algernon Sartoris, of England, and was so ill-treated by him that she lived apart from him during the greater part of his life. His conduct was so bad that his own father sided with her.

The beautiful Miss Frances Work, daughter of Frank Work, of New York, married the Honorable James Boothby Burke-Roche, brother and heir presumptive of Lord Fermoy. She was insulted and ill-treated by her husband, who had a habit of referring to her father as a low American stock broker. She returned to this country and obtained a divorce, the validity of which he denied.

Count Paul Hatzfeldt, now German Ambassador in London, was forced by Prince Bismarck, when the latter was still Chancellor, to divorce his American wife, Miss Helen Moulton. Since the fall of Prince Bismarck the couple have become reconciled, and have remarried.

The novelist Rider Haggard's brother, William, who is now British Minister at Quito, married, while attached to the British Legation at Washington, Miss Caroline Carroll, but deserted her after a few years of matrimonial infidelity, whereupon she returned to the United States and obtained a divorce from him. She has since married again.

Miss Emily Schaumberg, of Philadelphia, married Colonel Hughes Hallett, of England, but was compelled to separate from her English husband in consequence of the latter's disgraceful conduct with his own step-daughter, which was such as to cause his ejection in the middle of the night from a country house where he was staying with the girl.

Miss Mary Plummer, daughter of J. Plummer, of New York, has been obliged to secure a divorce from M. Georges Clemenceau, the celebrated French statesman.

Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, formerly Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in London, brother of the Marquis of Lansdowne, now Secretary of State, was married, in 1889, a daughter of W. J. Fitzgerald, of Litchfield, Conn. His wife has been compelled to leave him, and is now divorced.

The marriage of Jennie Jerome and Lord Randolph Churchill was anything but a happy one. He was a drunkard and the victim of a painful disease. A separation between Lady Randolph Churchill and her eccentric spouse took place, and those who know her best do not hesitate to declare that it is only since his death that she has recovered the life and spirits which she enjoyed as a young girl.

The life of her American sister-in-law, the Hauserley Duchess of Marlborough, was not one of unalloyed domestic bliss. Before she had been at Blenheim a year her brilliant, but dissipated husband compelled her to receive at her table Lady Colin Campbell, whose co-respondent he had been in her divorce case. As if to add insult to injury, he bequeathed by his will a sum of \$50,000 to Lady Colin, which his American widow was forced to pay;

that, too, after having been subjected to social ostracism in England for having married such a man.

The matrimonial miseries of the daughter of Mrs. Audenried, of Washington, who is wedded to the French Count Divonne, are matters of common gossip at Washington. They have been mainly due to the financial exigencies of the Count, who insists that his American mother-in-law should support him.

Miss Corbin, daughter of Daniel C. Corbin, of New York, and niece of the late Austin Corbin, married Captain Walpole, now the Earl of Oxford. After a few months of married life he was made the defendant in a suit for betrayal and desertion of such a character that a public subscription was raised to enable the plaintiff, Miss Wiedemann, to prosecute her claims.

Viscount Deerhurst, who married Miss Bouynce, of California, was the defendant in a similar suit a year after marriage, but it was withdrawn.

Prince Hatzfeldt, husband of Collis P. Huntington's daughter, has been in extreme financial difficulties ever since his marriage.

Count Ferdinand Franz Blucher, great-grandson of Russia's famous Field Marshal, "Vorwaerts," and son of Prince Blucher, first eloped with a young Brooklyn girl, and finally returned to New York to die in the pauper ward of a hospital.

Then there is Miss Florence Garner, of New York, who conferred her hand and her fortune upon Sir William Gordon Cumming immediately after the close of the so-called bacarrat trial, which branded him for life as a card cheat.

The common cause of unhappiness in these marriages is the absolutely cold-blooded way in which the husbands let their wives know that they have married them solely for their money. In most cases, too, the men have no hesitation in expressing their contempt for all things American, including their wives' relatives. There are houses in England with American mistresses to which other Americans are not admitted. The best hope of domestic peace for an American woman married to a foreigner is to cut every tie that binds her to her native country and to resign herself to a code of morals and a social system hateful to the American nature.



PIANIST WHO DIDN'T LIKE NEBRASKA