

VANDERBILT DIVORCE SHATTERS RICH HOME

Justice O'Gorman Appoints Referee to Hear Case and Report Findings.

DEFENDANT GOES TO EUROPE

Millionaire Sails in Company With His Sister, the Duchess of Marlborough.

NEW YORK, April 1.—The big Mauretania was threading her way out of the harbor this afternoon with Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt and his sister, the duchess of Marlborough, aboard, while Justice O'Gorman, sitting in special term, Part 2, of the Supreme Court, was perusing the complaint and answer in a suit for absolute divorce begun by Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt.

Justice O'Gorman signed an order appointing Lawyer David McClure, 22 William street, a referee to hear, determine and report his findings. The order was granted on the signed consent of Mr. Vanderbilt's attorneys, Anderson & Anderson, who joined with Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, counsel for Mrs. Vanderbilt, in applying for a reference.

Mr. McClure had not been served with the order naming him as referee at a late hour tonight, but admitted to a reporter for The Star that he had been notified over the telephone that he had been named as referee in a suit entitled Ellen French Vanderbilt vs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt. Mr. McClure said that he knew nothing of the facts and had seen none of the papers. The appointment, in fact, was quite a surprise to him, Mr. McClure said.

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MRS. M'KEE

REFUTES CRUE

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The Mauretania sailed at 3 o'clock and a few minutes before the hawsers were thrown off Mr. Vanderbilt was seen by a number of shipnews reporters, to all of whom he expressed a decided disinclination to discuss his domestic affairs. He was asked pointblank whether or not a divorce suit in which he was concerned as a principal was pending in the Supreme Court of this county or elsewhere, but refused to answer and retired with his sister, the duchess, to what is known on the Mauretania as the "imperial suite."

Justice O'Gorman Reticent.

Justice O'Gorman, who had signed the order, declined to discuss the case in any way. He would not say whether the suit was a matrimonial one or whether it was for a separation or for an absolute divorce. Any information on those matters, Justice O'Gorman said, must come from the principals or the attorneys concerned.

No doubt is entertained, however, among those who have had occasion to follow the matrimonial adventures of Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt during the last few weeks but that the suit is for an absolute divorce, and based on the only ground which the laws of this state recognize.

It is understood that the complaint was served on Mr. Vanderbilt Monday, and that he entered a general denial, as his answer within a few hours of the service of the complaint.

Without such an answer, indicating at least a presumption that he intends to defend the suit, an order of reference, making a secret trial of the issues possible, could not be had. A law passed some years ago makes it impossible to have secret trials of undefended divorce suits, as had been the practice for years.

But there need be no active defense, and Mr. Vanderbilt's rapid departure for Europe indicates that there will be none. The hearings in the suit before Mr. McClure will undoubtedly be held in secret, either in his office or elsewhere, and all that needs be done for appearance's sake is to have present some lawyer representing Mr. Vanderbilt at the hearings. There is no obligation on the defendant to cross-examine any of the witnesses produced by Mrs. Vanderbilt, or to produce any witness in his own defense.

Mrs. Vanderbilt spent tonight with her friend, Mrs. Frederick Martin Davies, at 20 East Eighty-second street. She wouldn't see any one and no statement from her could be obtained.

Daughter of a Banker.

PARIS, April 1.—Maitre Labori's argument today on McKee in the hearing of her father for divorce. The procedure in McKee's suit against her father for defamation.

M. Labori went on to speak of cruelty and brutality which McKee had made and read from a letter written to Mr. McKee. There was not a trace of the alleged lateness of the nurse in arriving when McKee

was born, M. Labori explained due to the fact that the nurse was weeks sooner than it was

M. Labori denied that McKee attempted to get the husband's money. In connection with the ring of hers M. Labori showed that the sale of McKee and Mrs. McKee joint jewelry, McKee's other jewels, Mr. McKee reset, paying an extra amount.

Maitre Labori concluded his hour and then Maitre Labori on behalf of Mrs. McKee, denying that she ever had the heart of Lord Rosslyn. McKee of McKee's life.

DIANA MODEL IS

Original of St. Gaudens's statue calls Days of

NEW YORK, April 1.—St. Gaudens's statue of Diana adorns Madison Square. The beautiful woman earning her living at the Hotel Plaza. White sent to Augustus his model.

Nellie Fitzpatrick she back is bent from hard work is gray and her waist business and her limbs the made her an ideal figure the Hunt.

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Daughter of a Banker.

Mrs. Vanderbilt was Ellen French, daughter of the late Francis Ormond French, president of the Manhattan Trust Company and director of many railroads. Her mother has been abroad several years, but is returning for the wedding of her granddaughter, Miss Pauline Leroy French, and Samuel Wagstaff, to take place at Newport May 5.

Ellen, or, as she was more generally known Elsie French, was married to Alfred Vanderbilt Jan. 11, 1901. A year later their only child, William Henry, was born.

Mr. Vanderbilt, as the second son of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt, inherited \$60,000,000. He has been regarded as the head of the family since the estrangement which followed the marriage of Cornelius, the eldest son, to Miss Grace Wilson.

During the last year or so Mr. Vanderbilt spent much of his time abroad. Recently he returned from London, where he plans to drive the coach Venture as a public coach this spring between London and Brighton. Later he is to be one of the judges at the international horse show at London, where his horses won many trophies last year.

BECOMES GUEST OF BROTHER.

NEWPORT, R. I., April 1.—Mrs. Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt left her residence, Oakland Farm, in Portsmouth, a suburb of this city, Tuesday of last week and her personal belongings were removed the same day. Mrs. Vanderbilt went to Tuxedo Park, N. Y., where she became the guest of her brother, Amos Tuck French.

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Daughter of Old Virginia demands \$100,000 of Vanderbilt NEW YORK, April

R. Schenck, who was put her parents, Dr. and Schenck, of Norfolk, Virginia, turned to this country England, for her escape H. Wilson, manager of Vanderbilt's string of horses, guardian, Wilton A. Wilson for \$100,000.

The summons and copy in the county clerk's office while Wilson has signified defending the suit, he has answer. Miss Schenck and her family is one of the best in Virginia.

Music and

- English's**—William Colburn in the Rain," Friday evening afternoon and evening
- Park**—Barney Gilmore "Dan," remainder of matinee.
- Grand**—High-class vaudeville of the week. Daily
- Majestic**—Forepaugh's "Carmen," remainder Matinees today and Saturday
- Empire**—"The Toreador" the week. Daily matinee

A large and enthusiastic discriminating audience "Girl Question" on its run at English's last night. audiences, this audience

You've heard of