

ASTOR BOY COURJEN' PA'S GIRL'S SISTER

Colonel's Son May Marry
Katherine Force, Who Is
Older Than Madeleine.

FRIENDS DISCUSS RUMOR

There Is Prospect That Betrothed of
Head of Famous Family Will
Become Mother-in-Law
to Her Own Sister.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 16.—(Special.)—The prospect that Miss Madeleine Talmadge Force, the betrothed of Colonel John Jacob Astor, may become her own sister's mother-in-law, through a queer succession of circumstances, is evident from letters received by friends of the Force family in San Francisco.

Miss Katherine Force, the elder sister, on the authority of Miss Madeleine herself, is to marry Vincent Astor, the 19-year-old son of Colonel John Jacob Astor.

This statement is contained in letters received today from intimate friends of the younger sister. How Vincent Astor's bride will relate to her younger sister in the position of mother-in-law is not reported.

Instead of speaking of the case as the "Astor-Force alliance," those who are in the secret are frequently mentioning the "Force-Astor annexation."

San Francisco society women who are acquainted with both families regard the situation with mixed emotions. The fatal weakness of the house of Astor is thought to have been found; it is the house of Force.

Miss Katherine Force is said to be proud of her authority over her younger sister on the score of her greater age. Yet she, by her own act, is placing herself in the subordinate position of daughter-in-law to her younger sister.

ASTOR TO GIVE BRIDE FORTUNE

Colonel Testy When Asked About
Reported \$2,000,000 Settlement.

NEW YORK, Aug. 16.—(Special.)—Colonel John Jacob Astor was asked today concerning reports as to the ante-nuptial settlement on his fiancée, Madeleine Force. He evidently was displeased at first, refusing to listen to questions concerning the matter. The reporter said: "We understand you have agreed to settle \$2,000,000 on Miss Force. Is that true, Colonel?" "What is the source of your information?" Astor snapped.

"It comes from a good source," "I have absolutely nothing to say," he declared, and turning on his heel, went into the house.

Prominent lawyers representing both families were in conference today to arrange an ante-nuptial agreement. In this agreement Colonel Astor is to make a handsome settlement upon Miss Force before she becomes his bride. This is in accord with the custom of men of the Astor family, who have set aside specific fortunes for their wives in lieu of dower rights.

The lawyers who were arranging the agreement today are ex-Supreme Court Justice Henry A. Gladders, representing Miss Force, and Lewis C. Ledyard, representing Colonel Astor. Neither of them would talk concerning the affair.

'SWATTING ALDRICH' SPORT

McLachlan Characterizes Attacks on
Monetary Commission.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—James McLachlan, ex-Congressman from the district and now a member of the National Monetary Commission, said today that the Cummins' resolution, demanding the final report and dissolution of the Commission by December, was useless, for the reason that Chairman Aldrich and his associates had always intended to make their final report at the opening of the next session of Congress.

McLachlan, who was appointed to the Commission when William L. Stephens succeeded him in Congress last autumn, declared that he had no intention of resigning his place.

"Swatting Aldrich is the fashion," he added. "That is what all these attacks on the Monetary Commission amount to. It has always been our intention to report the results of the monetary investigations at the opening of the regular session of Congress in December. That is what the Cummins' resolution demands."

PLEA MADE FOR CHALCRAFT

Hawley and Richardson Urge His
Retention at Chemsawa.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 16.—Representative Hawley and Representative Humphrey called on the Acting Secretary of the Interior today and urged the reinstatement and retention of E. L. Chalcraft as superintendent of the Chemsawa Indian School. The Secretary said that he had not yet considered the recommendation of the Indian Commissioner, but promised to give consideration to the recommendation of the members of Congress.

Representative Hawley also urged the Secretary to take up and act upon the Siletz entries that are ready for patent under the act of Congress passed March 3d last. He pointed out that settlers have been much hampered in getting title and should not longer be held up where the record is straight. The Secretary promised to take these cases up at an early date.

SEASIDE LOSES ITS CASE

Assessments for Walks Are Declared
Illegal.

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 16.—(Special.)—A decision that is of great interest to every owner of property in West Seaside was handed down by Judge Eakin, of the Circuit Court, today when he granted a decree to the plaintiff in the case of the Grimes Grove Land Company against the City of West Seaside.

The suit was brought to set aside the assessments levied on the plaintiff's property to defray the expense of constructing a board walk along the beach from the Moore Hotel north. The court in handing down his decision

held that the ordinance levying the assessment was illegal for two reasons. First, that the Council exceeded its authority in the manner of making the assessment, as, the charter provides, that an assessment covering the actual cost of improving a street or building a walk may be levied on the abutting property, but the Council has no authority to create a district and levy assessments according to benefits and damages, as was done in this case.

The second ground on which the ordinance was held illegal is that the Council meeting at which the ordinance was passed was held in the City of Portland and the Council of an incorporated city must hold its meetings and business sessions within the territory of the district. The court further held that, as a portion of this walk was built over private property, this would make it an illegal improvement. The complaint alleged that the Council was illegal, in that its members were nonresidents, and that the charter was unconstitutional in providing that only property-owners can vote and further in permitting nonresident property-owners to vote and hold office, but the court did not pass specifically on those points, although he said that without giving the matters the consideration that would be necessary before definitely deciding them, he is of the opinion that the contents of the complaint are sound.

This decision virtually decides five other cases that are pending concerning the same question. The actions brought against the City of West Seaside by E. M. Grimes, Mary

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After inspection of Katala Bay and Controller Bay, a gasoline launch will convey the party 15 miles up the Bering River, a glacial stream, which can be ascended only when the tide is favorable. The boat will land its passengers at Stillwater, four miles from the Cunningham coal claims, and the remaining distance must be walked, according to advice just received.

In his itinerary the Secretary has allotted two days to Katala, Controller Bay and the coal fields, but field men of the Land Office say that two days will be consumed in actual travel to and from the coal fields, so that at least one more day must be allotted.

From Katala the cutter will carry the travelers to Cordova, the terminus of the Copper River Railroad, whence they will proceed to the end of the railroad at the Bonanza copper mine, 194 miles distant.

The party is scheduled to return by rail to Chitina and then go on horseback and by wagon over the trail to Valdez. It is possible that this 125-mile overland trip will be abandoned in order to save time. If it is abandoned the party will return to Cordova by train, rejoin the cutter and sail for Valdez and Seward, which is

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