

Mary Pickford's Own Story of Her Wretched

Astonishing Revelations of the Popular Movie Star's Sad Honeymoon with a Drunken Bridegroom, Her Repeated Efforts to Win Her Husband Back After His Various Desertions and Her Humiliating Confession That Mr. Moore Told the Fascinating Actress That She "Didn't Appeal to Him Any More"



The Newly Wedded Pair—Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks—off on Their Recent Brief Honeymoon Immediately Following Mary Pickford's Decree. Charlie Chaplin Accompanied the Couple to the Railroad Station and Carried Some of Their Luggage. Charlie Chaplin Has Matrimonial Troubles of His Own.



Owen Moore, Divorced Husband of "Our Mary."

It was late in the afternoon of March 2 when a childish figure gowned simply in black with her face disguised by large colored goggles was called to the witness stand in the County Court of Minden, Douglas County, Nevada. It was the divorce suit of Gladys M. Moore against Owen E. Moore that was before the Court—the name Mary Pickford was not even whispered in the court room. No one suspected that the demure little figure in black was "Our Mary" of the movies.

Seating herself in the witness chair as if it were in the film studio Mary Pickford took oath to tell the truth and her testimony then began thus:

QUESTION BY P. A. McCARRAN, Mary Pickford's lawyer—Your name is Gladys M. Moore?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD (Mrs. Owen Moore)—Yes, sir.

QUESTION—Is Owen E. Moore, the defendant in this case, your husband?

ANSWER—Yes, sir.

Q—Where were you married?

A—In Jersey City, New Jersey, the 17th of January, 1911.

Q—At the time and date of your marriage, how old were you?

A—17 (Seventeen).

Q—After your marriage where did you and your husband first take up life together?

A—Cuba.

Q—Cuba?

A—Yes.

Q—In what city?

A—Havana.

Q—How long did you live in Cuba?

A—Three months.

Q—During your stay in Cuba what was the nature of your marriage life as to being happy or otherwise?

A—Very unhappy.

Q—And why?

A—My husband quarreled with me constantly.

Q—And during your stay there state what occurred between you and your husband?

A—Well, he left me the day we arrived there and came back in an intoxicated condition and he quarreled with me and left the hotel again and I didn't see him for three days.

Q—And when you next saw him what occurred between you and your husband?

A—Well, I cannot just recall, but he came back and we lived together at the hotel.

Q—And what if anything happened after that? Did you continue to live together?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—Where did you next take up life together?

A—At the Hotel Flanders, New York City.

Q—And how long did you live there?

A—About two months.

Q—What if anything occurred there?

A—He continued to quarrel with me and to drink.

Q—And was there anything in the way of a separation there?

A—No, sir.

Q—How long did you live together before he again left you, if he did leave you?

A—About a month.

Q—What happened then?

A—He didn't come home one night for dinner and he didn't phone me and I was naturally worried about him and I waited for him and he came home under the influence of liquor and I told him I was worried and asked him where he had been and he told me that it was none of my business.

Q—What did he do after that?

A—He slept after that. He continued to quarrel with me and said that he didn't want to be bothered with a wife and moved down town.

Q—Do you recall the date of that instance, approximately?

A—Well, I should say it was in the Fall of 1911.

Q—How long did he remain away from you on that occasion?

A—A week.

Q—And what did you do, if anything, to bring him back?

A—I telephoned to his brother and asked him to talk to him and ask him to come back, and we did go back and live together.

Q—You induced him to return?

A—Yes.

Q—How long then did you live together?

A—Well, until the first of 1912.

Q—And where were you living at that time?

A—New York City, 157th street.

Q—And what occurred the next time he left you?

A—Well, if I may be permitted to tell the Court, from the time of my marriage I was forced to support myself, my mother, my brother and sister, and I was forced to work and my husband said that a wife was a luxury and that he did not intend buying my clothes, and we had been in Chicago and it was necessary for me to seek employment with a company and that company was going west to California, and I asked my husband to go along and I offered to pay his fare, but he said that he wanted to stay in New York.

QUESTION BY JUDGE LANGAN—What year was this?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD MOORE—1911, 1912 rather.

BY LAWYER McCARRAN—And where was it that you again met him?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD MOORE—At Los Angeles.

Q—And what if anything did you do then in the way of taking up life together?

A—We had an apartment there and he finally told me that he was tired of it and intended going back to New York and I told him that I would try and seek employment there and he said no and packed up his things and went back to New York.

Q—How long were you separated?

A—About eight weeks. I wrote him several letters and he did not answer them and finally I returned to New York.

Q—Did you again take up life together?

A—Yes, we did.

Q—And how long did you live together and where if you recall?

A—We lived together all of that Summer and during the Winter.

Q—That would be late in the year 1912?

A—Yes.

Q—And what, if anything, occurred then?

A—I was working very hard that Summer—of course we are like soldiers—and I told my husband that I didn't wish to go down to the country. That made no difference to him. He wanted to swim and play ball and if I cared to live with him I would have to go to the country. So I did. I would have to be up in the morning at seven o'clock and he would quarrel with me about that, but he wouldn't listen to me and it would be a period of about six weeks that he would not speak to me at all.

Q—What, if anything, happened in the way of a separation?

A—Well, that Fall, from unhappiness and overwork, I was taken sick and went to a hospital, and he came to see me under the influence of liquor, which disturbed me that night, and I was just coming out of the ether, and four times he came there and made me cry, and my doctor told the nurse that he was not allowed to come into the room, and until my temperature was normal he was not permitted in the room. Mother took me to a hotel when I came out of the hospital, and he came up to see me and quarreled with me again.

Q—Did you take up life together again?

A—A little later.

Q—When was the next time you went to live together as man and wife?

A—Well, I was again sent West with the company and I wrote to him and asked him to come West, and he did, and I went down to the station and met him and took him out to our house.

Q—How long did you live with him?

A—About three months.

QUESTION BY THE JUDGE—Now that was in Los Angeles?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD MOORE—Yes, 1914.

BY LAWYER McCARRAN—The early part of 1914? Now you say you lived together about three months. What happened then?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD MOORE—Well, he quarreled with me and went back to New York.

Q—What did he say on his departure for New York?

A—Well, he told me that I was the cause of his failure in life and that I caused him to drink, and was sorry that he ever had a wife.

Q—Did he make any explanation as to what he meant by that?

A—Yes. If he wanted to dine out or stay out until all hours, why, he didn't want anybody questioning him as to where he was, and he thought that I interfered with his career.

Q—He then packed up and went back to New York?

A—Yes.

Q—What, if anything, did you do then to bring about a reconciliation?

A—I told him not to go; that I would finish up and go back with him, and as I was in the middle of a picture, why, I could not leave. He said he didn't care.

Q—Did you make any effort to bring him back?

A—Yes. I went to New York and telegraphed him, and then when I returned to New York I saw him.

Q—How long did you live there?

A—For about a period of five months.

Q—During that time what was your life with him?

A—More unhappy than ever.

Q—And that was due to his conduct toward you?

A—Yes. He said that I should demand more of the company, and when I said that I didn't think that it was quite the right thing to do he said that I was a fool and had no intelligence.

Q—How long did you live together?

A—Five months.

Q—Then what happened?

A—I was coming home one evening from work and my aunt was very ill, and as I hadn't seen her for some time, why, I thought I would stop in and see her, and I was five minutes late in getting to the hotel for dinner. It was five minutes after six when I got there, and when I explained to him he became very abusive and called my mother terrible names, names I do not care to repeat; and I said that he would have to apologize for that, and he said he would not and said that I could get out of there; he didn't want me any more and said he was absolutely through with me and wanted to live a bachelor's life, and that I didn't appeal to him.

Q—What was the date of that?

A—It was around the latter part of October, 1914, I think. I said I would go in the morning, but he said I had better leave that night.

Q—And what did you do?

A—There was nothing left for me to do but to move, and I did not wish to take another apartment in the hotel, so I packed my things and went home.

Q—What, if anything, did you do after

EVERYBODY knows that Mary Pickford got a divorce recently from her husband, Owen Moore, in the little town of Minden, Nevada. Like many a part she has played in the movies, Mary Pickford's divorce was dramatic and full of surprises.

And the end is not yet, for the Attorney-General of the State of Nevada has begun proceedings to upset the divorce, accusing Miss Pickford of misleading the judge by false testimony! Meanwhile, "Our Mary" has married Douglas Fairbanks. And if the divorce decree is cancelled and Mary Pickford becomes Mrs. Owen Moore again, what about her marriage to Fairbanks and—well, it might all be made into a scenario for a nine-reel feature picture, based on Miss Pickford's own sworn testimony, about like this:

MARY PICKFORD'S MATRIMONIAL MISHAPS.

REEL I.—Little Miss Mary Pickford, seventeen years old, marries Owen E. Moore in Jersey City, January 17, 1911.

REEL II.—On the day the honeymoon begins in Havana, Cuba, the bridegroom leaves the bride for a three days' drunk.

REEL III.—Quarrels begin, the husband drinks heavily, the wife is deserted again and again, but she loves him and bravely tries to win him back and hold his affection.

REEL IV.—By the end of the first year the husband is swearing at Mary, calls her a fool, tells her he doesn't want to be bothered with a wife and he packs up and moves away.

REEL V.—For nine years they live a life of separations and renewals of matrimonial relations, the husband becoming abusive, and finally ordering Mary to get out and telling the fascinating little actress she no longer appeals to him.

REEL VI.—On February 15 last a demure little figure in black, with big colored goggles to disguise her face, steps off a train at Minden, Nevada, and says she is "Miss Smith." She drives to the Campbell Ranch, eight miles out in the mountains. It is Mary Pickford seeking to establish a residence secretly for the purpose of bringing a divorce.

REEL VII.—By extraordinary good luck Mr. Owen Moore comes into the State of Nevada and stops at a hotel in a nearby Nevada town just long enough to let Mary's lawyers serve him with the necessary legal notice of the suit. The divorce case is quickly heard by Judge Langan. Mary Pickford, with many sobs, gives the testimony printed in full on this page and wins her divorce on March 2.

REEL VIII.—Mary Pickford at once quits Nevada, goes to California, marries Douglas Fairbanks, settles down into a sweet honeymoon—when her dream of love is crushed by the news that the Attorney-General of Nevada will bring suit demanding that the divorce decree be annulled.

NOTE—One week elapses between Reel VIII. and Reel IX.—Next Sunday the scenario of the final Reel will be printed on this page.

REEL IX.—7,000-word sworn statement by the Attorney-General of Nevada accusing Mary Pickford of conspiracy to defeat the law, by false testimony, explaining how he claims the actress tricked the Court and asking to have the divorce revoked—all this will be printed in full here next Sunday with what "Our Mary" says in reply.

that to bring a reconciliation?

A—That Christmas I sent him a present; I wrote him several letters, and when I was coming West that Winter I asked him to come down to the station, which he did, and I asked him to come back and that I would do anything to please him, but he said he was happy. After much persuasion we finally registered at the Hotel Alexandria in Los Angeles.

Q—How long after that did you continue to live together?

A—From January until June.

Q—What year?

A—I think 1916.

Q—Now, during that time what was his conduct toward you as compared with past occasions?

A—It continually grew worse.

Q—Referring back now, Mrs. Moore, wherein he said that he was not satisfied with married life, did he repeat these assertions?

A—Yes, constantly, and that it was a great extravagance to have a wife. I always paid for my share of the bills and had always clothed myself.

Q—Now, at the end of that period what happened?

A—He left when he said he had had enough and went to New York.

Q—What, if anything, did you do to bring him back to you again?

A—I followed him on to New York and saw him in this hotel and we made friends again.

Q—Did you induce him to come back to you?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—It was on your persuasion that he did

come back to you?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—Then how long did you live together?

A—That was in the Summer, 1916. In 1917, in February, I arranged with the company for a new contract and they gave my husband a contract and I persuaded with him to come west with me.

QUESTION BY THE JUDGE—1917?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD MOORE—No, sir, in the Summer, 1916, and they gave him a contract.

QUESTION BY LAWYER McCARRAN—On your solicitation?

ANSWER BY MARY PICKFORD MOORE—Yes, sir, and on January 1, 1917 I was taken with tonsillitis and was threatened with pneumonia.

Q—Where were you living?

A—At the Algonquin Hotel. And the doctor said I would have to have a change and that I would have to go to a warmer climate. Of course, that was easy. So I told my husband about it and said that he could come with me owing to his contract, but he said he would not and quarreled with me very bitterly and I went West hoping I could persuade him to come, and I asked the management if they could, to send him West. He didn't come and I had two weeks in between pictures and I went to see if I could get him to come out. The first night we were there we met some friends at the theatre and later we returned to the Biltmore Hotel and Mr. Moore left the table and didn't come back until ten o'clock, and returned under the influence of liquor and was very insulting to the guests and mother. Mr. Moore and