

DIGGS PAINTED COWARD, WINCES UNDER TIRADE

Prosecutor in Argument Declares Despoiler Would Have Left Victim to Shame When His Fancy Ended—Wife by Side.

Thought Only of Self in Hour of Trouble—Intended to Keep Girls Out of State.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Aug. 20.—Winning as though it were the generally anticipated verdict of "guilty" and covering close beside the wife he had deserted for twenty-year-old Marsha Warrington, Maury I. Diggs, at the close of his trial on a white slavery charge, was forced to listen to what is declared today to have been the most scathing denunciation ever heard in a federal courtroom here.

Special Prosecutors Matt I. Sullivan and Theodore Roche, for the government, were making the closing argument to the jury, which before night, will be charged by United States Judge Van Fleet.

Diggs was lashed not only as the despoiler of the girl with whom he eloped to Reno, but as a coward who was willing to relinquish his young and pretty victim to further degradation when he had done with his illicit pleasures and the reckoning with the law was at hand.

That it was only because of his speedy apprehension by the police in the bungalow at Reno and not by virtue of any intent of Diggs that Miss Warrington was saved from relying on the resources of a penniless and friendless girl hundreds of miles from home, was submitted to the jury in no uncertain terms by Roche.

"He was seeing to it that Miss Warrington did not go back home; he was intent on keeping her out of the state," said the prosecutor, referring to Diggs' anxiety that Miss Warrington and Lola Norris should not return to Sacramento under any circumstances.

"Miss Warrington, as far as the testimony shows, didn't have a five cent piece in her possession at that time," continued Roche. "While the two men could go back to their wives, they knew full well that neither of the girls they had taken away with them could ever regain the social position they had left. What did Diggs have in mind that the two girl victims could be expected to do after he returned to his home? If, as he testified, Diggs planned to remain away but a short time—until the scandal blew over—and Caminetti his companion in crime, was planning to go back to his hills in Amador county, he realized that there was practically but one course left the girls.

"And if they followed that, he would not have to bother about Miss Warrington any longer, nor would he have to worry about her condition and his responsibility for it.

"Unquestionably Maury Diggs is guilty of every charge laid against him in the six counts of the indictment."

"Marsha Warrington did not desire any money or presents from Diggs. She did not even ask for any jewelry other than a vanity box. She only wanted one thing at his hands—the marriage he had promised.

"She was preparing for motherhood before she went to Reno, and Diggs was responsible for her condition.

Roche continued: "Diggs comes into court and testifies that every drop of liquor drunk by the girls was supplied by him; every automobile ride furnished by him and every roadside visit made at his instigation."

During this sweeping arraignment Mrs. Diggs gave no sign of feeling other than a frown.

"Entrance to houses of prostitution is not reached in one bound," said Roche. "The chasm between a good home and a brothel is too wide to be so easily bridged. It takes several steps. It is by such acts as these that decent and innocent girls are forever ruined and doomed.

"For the first time a native Californian has based a defense on his own depravity, the story of which he wrings from the unwilling lips of his victim."

California State Official Dead. SACRAMENTO, Cal., Aug. 20.—State Controller A. B. Nye is dead today at his home of pneumonia, following a third stroke of paralysis. He is survived by a widow only.

LAWYER FLAYS GIRL IN CASE; SEEKS MOTIVE

(Continued from page 1.)

"We have proven that threats of newspaper notoriety against Diggs were made and that he was afraid," Devlin continued. "You are trying this man on the specific charge of white slavery. He may be a moral monster. He may have committed many crimes but if he is not guilty of this specific charge in the indictment you must acquit him."

Devlin then launched into an attack on the Warrington and Norris girls.

"They had no respect for their parents," he said. "Young girls now get drinks, they take automobile rides; they go to beaches and resorts—and the rest was as a matter of course. You cannot single out one man for the sins of society."

"Miss Warrington was thrown at Diggs under a fictitious name by Monte Austin, a saloonkeeper. This is her own story. She knew Diggs was married. She knew his wife and child. What does all that mean is that the way of a virtuous girl?"

"The defendant may have offended moral laws. He has at least since then been manly enough to bear all the abuse without throwing mud. Not a single word against the girls.

"These women in their desire to marry these men either intended driving their wives and children out into the world without compunction or else they wanted to fall as low as women can. A woman who will betray a man who is going back to his wife will say anything."

"The defense in this case is a remarkable one," began Prosecutor Roche, resuming his argument. "Ordinarily it is based on the innocence of the defendant, but in this case it is based on Diggs' depravity. He hides behind the skirts of his wife and child. There has been no other

N. Florence Clark
VIOLIN TEACHER
Studio 1116 West 4th Street

conclusion since the outset of this trial but that the defendant coerced the girl away from Sacramento."

Mrs. Lena Diggs, wife of the defendant, holding her daughter Evelyn on her lap, again sat beside her husband today. Mrs. Caminetti was not present.

"You cannot believe," continued Roche, "that the counsel of Diggs and Caminetti with the girls was for any other reason than to persuade them to leave Sacramento."

"The only argument he could advance to get the girl to accompany him was that he would divorce his wife and marry her. That was her star of hope, for which she left her parents and gave up her future, as far as her friends were concerned."

"This testimony, uncontradicted, stamps the defendant for what he is. He never intended to keep his promise."

"When he got to Reno he intended to abandon these girls to their fate after they had been placed in such a compromising situation that they could not return home. And by that same promise he tried to suborn Marsha Warrington's testimony and bring her into this trial to save him."

"Diggs' character is shown by the fact that he brought Miss Warrington into his own home for immoral purposes, into the sanctuary of his own wife, while the latter was absent."

THAW TO FIGHT

(Continued from page 1.)

Canadian immigration authorities, he was insured the safety of the shelter of the jail for tonight at least.

Thaw won this point when Judge Glabensky granted a preliminary order of habeas corpus, making it returnable tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

It was learned this afternoon that it is a fact that Thaw, as he claimed,

has a ticket to Detroit. This afternoon his lawyers made a photographic copy of it, fearing it may possibly be lost.

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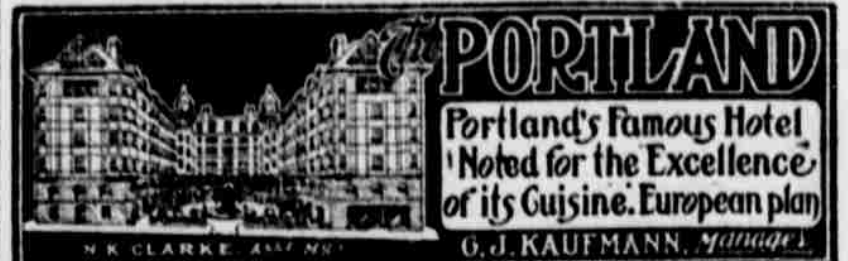
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