

DEATH OF Miss MISSOURI MILLER.—We copy the following report of the evidence taken at the inquest held on the body of this young person, from the Courier and Enquirer. It appears that the verdict, as published in all the papers, yesterday, was not correct. As rendered by the jury, the verdict was simply that the death was caused by inflammation of the brain, originating in mental excitement. The part relating to the violent conduct of Miss Missouri's mother, was added by some person unknown.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

ADELIN MILLER—Is the mother of the deceased; her name is Louisa Missouri Miller. She was 17 years old. She has been instructed by Mr. Hamblin to play on the stage. She was under his instructions more or less for the last nine months; it was her choice to go on the stage; I always objected to it, and made use of every means to prevent it, until I found her so very determined, I finally consented. I had a conversation with Mr. Hamblin about it, and consented to let her go under his instructions; but I found when she began to study with him, she began to lose her affections for the family. I then endeavored to persuade her to go to the Park Theatre, if she still insisted on following the stage. I found she was getting somewhat singular in her manners, and I finally refused to allow her to stay with him any longer. After I took her away, I found copies of notes which she had sent to Mrs. H., saying she would follow their advice; but what that advice was, she would not tell me. I forbade her writing to Mrs. H., or having any thing at all to do with her; if she persisted in writing, or having any thing to do with Mrs. H. or the stage, I would send her to Montreal, and keep her there until she was of age. After I told her I would send her to Montreal, I never saw her again until I saw her here a corpse.

It is three weeks next Monday since I went to Philadelphia on business, and returned on Tuesday night. That same night I came here, and Mr. H. behaved very rudely to me, and told me if I wanted to see her I must go to the proper authority; that Mr. Bloodgood was her guardian. I saw Mr. B. the same evening; he told me he had become her guardian, and he would take care of her; but would not let me see her. I told him it was a very improper place for her (Hamblin's house), and he promised to take her away, and the next day I understood he had put her in a very genteel boarding house in Houston street. I went there to see her, and the lady said she was not in. I spoke to one of the servants, who said Mr. B. had come there the night before and had taken her away, and she had not yet got back. On Monday, while I was in Philadelphia, she came to my house, with an officer, and took away her wardrobe, and every thing she claimed as belonging to her. After I was at her boarding house, I went to Mr. B.'s, and asked him to see her, and he refused, saying she did not wish to see me. After that I got out a writ of replevin, and got her things from Mr. Bloodgood's house.

I have sued Mr. Hamblin, Mr. Bloodgood, Mrs. H., Mr. Merritt, and Mr. Sparks—the four first, because I thought they had conspired against me, and Mr. Sparks in order to recover the goods, &c. I told Mr. Bloodgood if he would take my child to his house, I would be satisfied. The legal steps I afterward took were taken after consulting Messrs. Talmadge, Graham and Hunt. When the deceased was placed under Hamblin's care, it was with my consent, as well as her own. She was at Boston, and playing there. I think Mr. Bloodgood was influenced by Mr. Hamblin.

NEILSON H. MILLER—the brother of the deceased.—All the family were very much opposed to my sister's playing on the stage, and especially opposed to Mr. Hamblin. She played ten nights at the National with Mr. H., and Mr. H. then proposed that they should go to Boston, and play there, as he said, to keep up the excitement. He wanted to go on alone with her, but my mother would not consent to let her go, unless I went with her. I did go with her, and staid fourteen or fifteen days. I always waited upon her to and from the theatre. Mr. H. was taken sick, and sent for Mrs. H., who came on, and we all returned together. Then I told my mother she should not play with Mr. H., as it would injure her character. I have not seen her but once since she left my mother's house, and that was in Mr. H.'s. Once I saw her in the street, but did not speak to her. I do not remember what I said to her in his house. I called there several times to see her, but she was not in. She was in her usual good spirits the night she left home. I never had any thing to do with a paper called the Polyanthos. I did write a card, and sent it to the Herald to have it published, and paid for it as an advertisement. They afterward refused to publish it, after which I saw Mr. Dixon, and he said if I would pay him the same money he would publish it in the Polyanthos—I did so, and he published it.

JOHN M. BLOODGOOD—On Sunday the 27th of May, I was awoke by Mr. H., about 10 at night, who handed me a letter from the Recorder, requesting me to call and take charge of a young lady therein named, as he had issued a writ of habeas corpus, to bring her before him. I refused to act in the premises on that request, and told the gentleman it was the Sheriff's business. They shewed me a statement, complaining in severe terms of the treatment of Mrs. M. to her daughter. I still refused to have any thing to do with it.—They shewed me a writ of habeas corpus—one of them then stated, that there ought to be something done, or there might be violence done that very night. I then said, put this statement in the shape of an affidavit, and I have as much power as I want.

This was done and sworn to, and I then went to the house where Louisa M. Miller was, but from the statements made to me I feared some resistance and took the precaution of having some watchmen near the house; I then went to the door, and having knocked, it was opened by a large black man. I asked if Miss Missouri was there, and he said yes; I asked if I could see her, and he said no. I rapped for the watchmen, and placed them on the stoop, and then commanded the negro to conduct me to the young lady. He went with me to her bed-room; when I went in she was in bed, and seemed much alarmed. I told her I had come as a friend; I was accompanied to her room by her servant, Mary Richardson. There was a female sitting on her bed when I went in, and I ordered her out of the room. I told Miss M. to get up, as I wanted some conversation with her. The reason I ordered the girl out of the room was because I was afraid she was under a male and female guard, and I supposed this girl to be one of them. After she got up I had a chance to see her, and told her the purport of the affidavit—she said it was true—she did not wish to leave the house that night, as her mother was going to Philadelphia early the next day. I told her she had completely disarmed me, bade her good night, and left her; I told the gentlemen who were with me I could do no more.

Next morning I received a letter from the Recorder, to attend at his office—went there, and found the door closed—went into the keeper's room, and found young lady there, who was then introduced to me as Miss Missouri, and she requested me to become her guardian; I objected to it, and Mr. C. O'Connor solicited me, and urged me very much, to act as such; I finally went to the Surrogate's office, but did not complete the business—left there and went to the police office, and finally came back to the Surrogate's office and consented, and signed the necessary bond. I then requested her to go to Mr. H.'s house, having learned she had been under his tuition some time. Soon after, I went to Mr. Hamblin's house, where I found her in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. H. I then said to Mrs. H., I put this child under your protection, and wish you to guard her as you would the apple of your eye, until the return of her mother. Mrs. H. promised to do every thing in her power. I called there two or three times before her mother came back—on Tuesday, went to Mrs. M.'s house and saw her, and she appeared to feel very bad, and asked why I had placed the child with Mr. H. I told her I thought as he was her tutor, it would be a very proper place for her, until she (the mother) came home; but if it was her request, I would immediately procure another place for her. She said Mr. H. asked \$2,000 for instructing her, and she would pay him by the services her daughter had already rendered him, and the balance in money. She then said, if I would only take her to my house, she would be satisfied—if I would only do that, I might take her and do with her as I thought best, and she would not complain.

The next day I called and told Mrs. M. I had put her in a respectable boarding house; she then told me Mr. Sparks had been there, and had taken all the things which Miss M. had claimed as belonging to her; she said she wanted very much to see her child—I told her the child did not want to see her. While at Mr. H.'s, Miss M. was very nervous, fearing her mother or brother would see her and molest her. After she went to Crosby st., she asked me if she could not walk out in the day time, as she was much confined—I told her she might—on Friday, about 8 o'clock, P. M. I called there and we walked out together. We stopped at Mr. H.'s and found Mrs. H. at home. A shower came up, which continued until 11 o'clock; and I then told her she had better stay all night and go home early in the morning. Next day Mrs. MILLER came to my house and wanted to see her daughter. I told her she could not, and requested her not to come to my house again. In the morning I called at her boarding house and was told that she had gone out.

I walked down Broadway, and a gentleman, (Mr. Warner) who kept the house where she boarded, spoke to me and said Miss M. had left his house, and was then at Mr. Hamblin's. He said he would be willing and glad to keep her. I went to Mr. Hamblin's, and found her there, and playfully scolded her, and told her—"Louisa, come, put on your hat and shawl and go with me." She burst out crying, and came near fainting. I led her to the sofa, and she told me her mother had told her she could not have her (Miss M.) there. I then requested Mrs. H. to keep her until I could get another boarding house for her. She was very much excited, having heard something of a publication in the Polyanthos. Mr. and Mrs. H. and myself consulted upon the propriety of letting her see the paper, and came to the conclusion that it would be better to let her see it, than to keep her in ignorance of its contents. When she saw the paper she was very much affected, cried very much, and nearly fainted. She continued to grow worse from that time until her death—Saw Dr. Pennell, and he told me she was under great mental excitement. Mr.

and Mrs. Hamblin have, as I verily believe, done all in their power for the girl. They both frequently requested she should be placed somewhere else.

DR. DOANE—On Tuesday was first called to see deceased. When I came, was told she had been sick 14 days, under the care of Dr. Pennell, who was unwell, and relinquished the patient, and she then came under my charge. Found her in a state of great nervous excitement. Did not see Dr. P., and of course could not consult with him. I prescribed what I thought proper. The next day when I came there I understood she had been to the window while heated, and had a slight attack of rheumatism. On Thursday called in Dr. Francis to consult with him, and he continued to see her from that time until her death. On Thursday she became delirious, and continued so until this morning, when we found her sinking into a very placid sleep. She had no sleep for 60 hours previously. Gave orders that she should not be disturbed. Left her at 10 a. m., and at half past 4 she was sent for, and she was dead. When I came after she was dead, Mrs. H. said she was quiet until a short time before her death, when she noticed a slight difference in her breathing. Dr. Francis, Dr. J. R. Wood and myself have made a post mortem examination, and found the disease to be primarily in the brain, which was much inflamed. The dura mater was found to adhere to the bone. There was hardly any portion of the brain which did not present marks of disease. Our opinion was that that was sufficient to cause death. Examined the stomach, bowels, intestines, and every thing, and found no other disease sufficient to cause death.

DR. FRANCIS entirely agreed with Dr. Doane in every particular.

DR. WOOD stated that the first time he saw the deceased, was this P. M., and the only judgment he can give, is from the minute examination of every organ of the body. The examination has been very full, and I have no doubt a disease of the brain caused her death.

WM. H. A TREE stated that Mary Richardson, the servant of Miss M., came to the office, and said she came from Miss M., who wished to have a guardian appointed, as she wanted to be removed from the control of her mother. Went to see Justice Lowndes, and he was not in—then went to the Recorder, and on making to him a statement of the facts, he issued a writ of habeas corpus. Then went to Mr. Bloodgood, and went with him to Harrison street. Saw Miss M., and she said she would not leave that night. Next day, went with her to the Hall, and on the way thither, she said she was very much afraid of her mother. She could not get into respectable society while she was with her, and she earnestly requested to be removed from her. She said she could teach music, or singing, or any thing else, if she could get into decent society, and that she could not do unless she got away from her mother.

MARY RICHARDSON. I have lived nearly two years with the deceased,—a few months of that time I was with Miss Clifton. I have known Miss Missouri to be, at the time she was playing, three nights at a time without sleep, from the ill treatment of her mother. Her mother did wish her to go on the stage, as she got Mr. Hamblin to teach her and bought all her wardrobe for playing. The words I heard her use to Miss Missouri on the Saturday evening previous to her leaving her mother's house were these: "I will make you suffer the tortures of the damned for the next four years, and I will shut you up in a convent in Montreal."

THOMAS S. HAMBLIN—Shortly after my return from England, Mrs. Miller requested me to assume the tuition of her daughter, Missouri, for the stage. I was to receive either \$2000, or her services in this city for one year, as a remuneration for my trouble. I gave her four and five hours a day for eight months—and after her successful debut, her mother wished to break the verbal agreement with me, and assume herself the sole management of her daughter. This, the honesty and high principle of Missouri herself alone prevented her doing, as we had no written agreement. Placed in the responsible situation which I am now, I wish to assert before the jury what I told long ago to Justice Bloodgood—that if Mrs. Miller paid me \$2000, I should place it in his hands on Miss Missouri's account; and that now she was free of her mother, I wished him to consider her interest alone; that if by taking her to the Park, or to any other city, he could do better with her, I made her a free present of my services.

JUSTICE BLOODGOOD having been before examined under oath, rose again and said—

"Mr. HAMBLIN did make me that offer on Miss Missouri's account. Mr. Hamblin frequently expressed to me his desire that Miss Missouri should not be an inmate of his house, as her mother so violently disliked him. I consider Mr. Hamblin to have acted a most noble and generous part to Miss Missouri from first to last."

Mrs. LOUISA MEDINA HAMBLIN—I first became acquainted with Miss Missouri Miller while rehearsing the play of Ernest Maltravers. I was before, of course, aware that she had been Mr. Hamblin's pupil for months, and I often heard him say that her mother had tried her best to force her to act dishonestly toward him and failed in the attempt. I was with her at Boston, and easily perceived that she was nervous and sensitive to an extreme—the cause of such an unusual excitement in one so young, originated, as I learned from herself, in the constant oppression of her mother. I am not called upon to repeat the things she related to me concerning their conduct to her, but they fully accented to me for her mental misery and bodily weakness. On Saturday evening the 26th or 27th of May, I received from her a note, which I will read aloud to the jury:

(Copy of Missouri's note.)

My Dear Mrs. Hamblin—

Will you be so good as to inform Mr. Hamblin that my mother has forbid his visiting at this house any more, and has withdrawn me from the stage.—I am very sorry he has had been so much annoyed by my mother, but I cannot act as I wish, were it in my power I should do otherwise. You have been so kind in advising me, that I hope you will not now withhold your advice, for on that alone I depend. I will act entirely as you direct, for I have the greatest confidence in your judgment and kind heart.

Your obliged friend,

[Signed]

MISSOURI.

I was unable, from illness, to answer it, but early on the following Sunday her servant, Mary Richardson, came to my house, having been discharged at a woman's warning by Mrs. Miller, for the purpose of replacing her services about her daughter with negroes from her house of infamy—to the end that she might have no obstacle to her own plans concerning her. Mary stated to Mr. Hamblin and myself, that Mrs. Miller had used the most brutal and disgusting language to Missouri, had threatened to send her away to a convent in Montreal, and immerse her for four years, "to suffer the tortures of the damned"—that in consequence of these threats Miss Missouri was resolved to escape from her, and claim protection of the law of the land in which she lived.

This, I believe, was effected on Sunday. On Monday morning Miss Missouri came to us, about seven o'clock; she was excessively excited and terrified.—She had not dared to eat or drink on the preceding day, for fear of taking some sleeping potion unknown to her, in which state she might be carried off.

From the time that Mr. Bloodgood became her guardian she became more tranquil, until a succession of shoeks struck her down to rise no more. I can convey no idea to the gentlemen of the jury of the series of persecution suffered by this poor child. Our house was watched night and day by blacks, one of whom, Sidney by name, informed us that Mr. Neilson Miller had sworn to shoot his sister in the street. Again we heard that she should be hanged and pelted off the stage if ever she ventured to set foot on it again. Then, having been removed to Mr. Warren's boarding house, in Houston street, she was desired to leave it on account of Mrs. Miller having forced herself there and violently pushed her way up stairs. I went in a carriage to fetch her away, but she had rushed in the street in a state of frenzy, and I found her at home on my return, lying exhausted and almost fainting. This public exposure to the boarders in Mr. Warren's house was a dreadful blow to her health.

The next followed soon—they left her no breathing space. On Monday the 28th or 29th of May, she was lying in bed, much weakened by some medicine, which her state of body had rendered necessary for her to take, when her brother Mr. Neilson Miller came to the house with a sheriff and gang of men to search for her clothes. I requested them to await Mr. Hamblin's return. They refused. I then informed them that a member of my family was sick, and that it might peril her life if they forced into her chamber. They threatened to break down the door unless I gave them entrance, and after having vainly pledged the word and honor of a lady, that her clothes were not in my house, I could only prevent their forcible entrance to the sick chamber, by informing them where they would find her trunks, at Justice Bloodgood's. When they left, I found that Miss Missouri had been, during our altercation, in a state of such frenzied fever, that her servant only forcibly withheld her from springing out of the window. She had been exposed to draughts of air during the time, and took violent cold on calomel.

This was the second blow at her life. The third and final one, was the publication of the scurrilous print, called the Polyanthos. On reading it, she uttered a loud scream and rushing through the room, fell in strong hysterics on the sofa. Nothing could comfort her; for hours she only repeated the words, "My own brother to say this falsehood of me."—Gentlemen of the Jury, I am for the first time upon oath; I am called here at my own request, to repeat her words to me that night—they were these. "My mother has a thousand times wished me dead, and on my cooling board; she will have her wish soon, for she has broken my heart." From that hour she got worse and worse; I called Dr. Pennell to her, his own illness prevented his attending her long, and his place was supplied by her favorite physician, Dr. Doane, who had a year ago attended her in a dangerous case of small pox.

If skill and kindness could have saved her life, Dr. Doane would have saved her; but she got wilder and wilder, and raved piteously to be protected from her mother. On Friday night, it took two strong women to hold her down in bed, and on Saturday, between two and three o'clock, she expired in my arms. I have watched and nursed her night and day, assisted by her own servant Mary. She had had my clothes during her illness, her mother having stripped off all her own. I firmly believe that the dreadful shocks now related caused her death from inflammation of the brain.

WM. S. PORTER, examined for Mrs. and Mr. Miller. Has known the deceased for some time, and believes she was always affectionately treated by her mother and family.