

# EVELYN NESBIT THAW IN THE WITNESS BOX.

## Court Hears Read Some of Thaw's Letters to Her—Talks of Having Nothing to Live for.

### Mrs. Thaw Tells How She Met Stanford White and How He Forced Himself Upon Her.

**Evelyn Thaw in the Box.**

The familiar figure in blue, now for the first time without her veil, appeared from the judge's chambers. She stood near the jury box as Clerk Penny administered the oath.

"I swear," repeated Mrs. Thaw, in an audible voice at the end of the formal declaration which was made just a little more impressively than usual.

Mrs. Thaw took her place in the witness chair calmly. She looked steadily ahead at Mr. Delmas and gave her answers to his first questions in a clear and firm voice which was soft in its quality.

Harry Thaw smiled at his wife as she walked to the witness stand, but she apparently did not see him at the time. After she was seated, however, she smiled faintly at the prisoner.

Mrs. Thaw's beauty was generally commented upon in the court room. The simplicity of her dress seemed to heighten the effect. Her long dark lashes and heavy eyebrows were noticeable now for the first time to those who have followed the trial. In the excitement of testifying, her paleness of the past two weeks fled before a flush of crimson tints in her cheeks.

**Tells Her Age.**

Mrs. Thaw, in answer to Delmas' first question said she was born, Dec. 23, 1884. She told of going to the cafe Martin to dinner on the evening of June 23, with her husband, Thomas McCaleb and Truxton Beal.

"While at the Cafe Martin, did you see Stanford White?" A.—"Yes."

"At what time did you see him?" A.—"I don't know. It was sometime after we arrived."

"Where did you first see him?" A.—"Coming in at the Fifth avenue entrance."

"How long did you see him?" A.—"I don't know. He passed through and went on to the balcony."

"While he was on the balcony could you see him?" A.—"No."

"Did you see him leave?" A.—"Yes. I saw him come in from the balcony and go out of the Fifth avenue entrance."

"While you were in the Cafe Martin, did you call for a pencil?" A.—"Yes."

"From whom?" A.—"I think Mr. McCaleb. He said he did not have one on her left. Beal on her right and that Thaw was facing her."

"Did you ask again for a pencil?" A.—"Yes. I got one from some one, I don't remember whom."

**Write a Note.**

"Did you write a note?" A.—"I did."

"On what?" A.—"A slip of paper. I think Mr. McCaleb gave it to me."

"What did you do with it?" A.—"I passed it to Mr. Thaw."

"What did Mr. Thaw do?" A.—"He said to me: 'Are you all right?' I said: 'Yes.'"

"What was your condition as to being disturbed or affected?" Mr. Jerome's objection to this question was sustained.

"Was there anything unusual in your manner that was visible to others?" Again an objection was sustained.

"After the show how long did you remain?" A.—"Only a short time."

"Mrs. Thaw, have you that slip of paper now?" A.—"I have not."

"Have you seen it since?" A.—"No."

**At the Roof Garden.**

"Did you write a note for Stanford White?" Mr. Jerome objected, on best evidence. This objection was sustained. The questions were turned to the visit to the roof garden. Mrs. Thaw told how they reached the place and how they were seated. She was next asked as to Thaw's manner on the roof. "It was just the same as ever. I conversed with him constantly."

"Who suggested leaving the roof garden?" A.—"I did."

"The play was not interesting to you?" A.—"Not a bit."

"How did the party leave?" A.—"I went in front with Mr. McCaleb. Mr. Beal and Mr. Thaw were following us."

"How far had you gone when something unusual attracted your attention?" A.—"We had almost reached the elevator when I turned around to say something to Mr. Thaw and he was not there."

"Whom did you see when you turned around?" A.—"I saw Stanford White."

Mrs. Thaw pronounced the name distinctly and with a shade of emphasis in her voice.

"Where was he?" A.—"He was seated at a table."

"How far were you from him?" A.—"About as far from him as from here to the end of the jury box. Mrs. Thaw indicated the distance, about 25 or 30 feet."

"When you saw Stanford White there did you see Mr. Thaw at the same time?" A.—"No. I did not see Mr. Thaw until a moment or two later."

"Where was he?" He was standing directly in front of Mr. White, about 15 feet away."

"Your husband was directly in front of Mr. White?" A.—"Yes."

"What was his position?" A.—"He had his arm out like this." (Mrs. Thaw indicated the gesture of a man about to fire a pistol.)

"Then what happened?" A.—"I heard three shots."

"Did you exclaim anything?" A.—"Yes. I think I turned to Mr. McCaleb and said, 'My God, he has shot him.'" Mr. Thaw walked toward me."

"What did you say to him?" A.—"I said, 'Harry, what have you done and

why have you done it?' He came up to me and said, 'It's all right; I have probably saved your life.' Then I heard Mr. McCaleb (I think it was) say, 'My God, he must be crazy.'"

Mrs. Thaw remembered going down in the elevator. She and Thaw were married on April 4, 1903, in Pittsburg.

"Where was the ceremony performed?" A.—"At the residence of the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church."

"Who was there?" A.—"My mother and her husband, Mr. Holman, and Mr. Thaw's mother and his brother Josiah."

"When did Mr. Thaw first propose to you?" A.—"It was in 1903, in Paris."

"Did you refuse him when he proposed to you?" A.—"Yes."

"Did you tell him why you refused?" A.—"Yes."

"Was it because of any event in your life?" A.—"Yes, sir."

"Connected with Stanford White?" Mr. Jerome objected. Mr. Delmas put the question in another way.

Mr. Delmas put the question in another way.

"In stating your reasons to Mr. Thaw did you say it was because of an incident in your life connected with Stanford White?"

"This time Mr. Jerome did not object and Justice Fitzgerald warned Mrs. Thaw that she should tell only what she told Thaw at the time of his proposal."

"What did Thaw do after the refusal?" A.—"He came over to me and said he loved me and wanted to marry me. I told him I could not. He asked me why. He said 'don't you love me?' I said 'Yes.' Then he said 'why?' I said 'Because.' But tell me why, he said. 'Give me a reason.' I said, 'Just because.' He came over to me and put his hand on my shoulder and looked straight at me. 'White?' I said 'It is he.'"

"What was Mr. Thaw's manner toward you?" A.—"He was kind, nice and looked straight at me. He said he would never love or marry anybody else."

"What did you do?" A.—"I cried."

for a pension he said, 'This is no baby farm.' I cried, and he let me see the rehearsal. Then the stage manager asked me if I could dance. Some body played a piano and I danced. Finally I was taken into the elcguas."

**Longfellow's Letters.**

Fred. W. Longfellow, who acted as a legal adviser for Thaw, was called, and produced a number of letters written by Thaw. The first one was quite lengthy, requiring more than 15 minutes in the reading. The letter began: "Dear Longfellow, and said, among other things: 'Evelyn has left me six or seven letters and telegrams from the seclusion. If they wish to begin a row I am ready for it. I prefer to reach New York so as to go to Philadelphia and Pittsburg, and then to Port Huron in time for the wedding, on Nov. 14th. I would return to New York in time to meet Lady Yarmouth, who landed on the 15th of the same day. The better. 'Maybe we will be married after the Lady Yarmouth arrives; maybe after the row. Her mother don't count.'"

The letter then referred to some unnamed woman, whose name was omitted, as a "trick scheme," etc. Thaw referred evidently to Miss Nesbitt and her mother, when he spoke of "them" as an unfortunate and the "blackguards who are blackmailing her."

The matter of being married is most secret," the letter continued.

"If the suit for kidnapping is begun it must not be mentioned, but we will need two staffs of reporters. You get one staff and I know the kind I want, and will secure them for you."

The letter constantly referred to "that blackguard," and said: "Miss N. would give all she possessed if she could have been sent to school by me instead of him. She should never, never had anything on the stage so long, and if they had listened to me, she would not. It resulted in her name being falsely connected with two other blackguards."

"Poor girl, she was poisoned when she was 15-14 years old."

"Remember, that if I die my property is all to go to my wife, but in the event of her death, must not go to her relatives. Her wretched mother must not receive anything, I would provide for her brother, however."

"Poor girl, if I die she may not live to be 21."

The next letter read to the jury was dated Nov. 15, 1903, and was also addressed to Mr. Longfellow. It said, in part:

"Please send someone to enquire at 292 or 294 or perhaps 296 West 46th street. If there is no one there, where a letter or telephone message can reach her. I slept 3-4 hours on the train, which is a record since she came home. My responsibility is gone. I know she can think me for any faith, human or Divine. Everything that she has lost is like a glass of water in a river. I am overstrained, you see."

At this point adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock.

New York dispatch: Great crowds today besieged the doorways of the Criminal Courts building, where the trial of Harry K. Thaw for the murder of Stanford White is in progress today. The corridors seen because of the curious, who clamored for a glimpse of the room where it was expected Evelyn Nesbitt Thaw would continue the story of her life, bringing the narrative from late in 1903, where she left off yesterday, down to date.

One of the windows of the bridge of sighs, which leads across the street from the Tombs to the Criminal Courts building, was up about eight inches today. The crowd in the street soon discovered this, gathered several hundred strong and waited patiently in the belief that they might catch a glimpse of Harry Thaw on his way to the court room.

The doors of the court room were not opened until 10 o'clock, and when they were taken today to see that those whose business compelled their attendance at the trial had the first opportunity to enter. Then enough of those who had found their way through the entire police lines to fill the room to its utmost seating capacity were admitted. There were not more than half a score of women among the spectators. They waited with evident impatience for the prisoner and his wife to appear.

Justice Fitzgerald took his place on the bench at 10:35, and Thaw was called to the bar. The defendant for the first time since the trial began had lost the spring in his step, and instead of walking briskly to his place at the table of counsel, he moved hesitatingly and looked constantly from left to right about the court room. The big crowd seemed to annoy him. The pallid face broke into a faint smile as the prisoner recognized his brother Edward Thaw, who was the only member of the family in court.

"Call Evelyn Nesbitt Thaw to the stand," requested Mr. Delmas of this clerk.

**Thaw's Letters.**

When she appeared and took her place in the big witness chair she was dressed precisely as on yesterday. She was extremely pale, and her lips trembled visibly as she replied to the first simple question asked by her counsel. This was after Mr. Delmas had stated that before any oral testimony was taken he would read to the jury in postscript of the last letter offered in evidence yesterday. The letter was addressed to

Attorney Longfellow. The postscript follows:

"No one could have made me believe since I first saw her that she would show care for any letter. I should have betted every cent in the world three weeks ago to get money for fabulous presents for you that after our trusting each other no hypnotism could make you forget all. I won't say, but it is inexpressibly sad. Mr. Delmas' first question to the witness was as to whether or not the "her" in the letter referred to the witness.

"Yes, sir," came the reply.

The letter continued: "I have been asked not to have anything to do with you because you are a dangerous woman. He never lied to you."

"From the first time he ever saw you he wanted to do his best to send you to school in Paris with your mother or to send you both to school, and he never did anything not respectful."

"Yesterday he saw you believed everything false people told you, as you did before, but as you are absolutely honest he would do you no harm ever for it, as he would do anything for you, but now you must get stronger without him."

"You said you would live anywhere anyway," he wished, he could have your exclusive friendship, and lose nothing himself. Instead, he wished to give up everything to do all he could for you. "I wish you would have spoken this evening through the fence."

"To make you sure I'll explain. After I saw the poor ill advised angel I was



D. M. DELMAS, Thaw's leading lawyer.

so sorry she meant to do so right and was right had she only kept the purest things from polluted, living double-minded, deceitful, money grasping, smooth tongued, hard hearted, but soft speaking professional deceivers."

The letter was also written to Mrs. Thaw. It said: "If I wished Evelyn to become mistress—" But through them had been drawn a line.

"Did the 'he' in the letter refer to Mr. Thaw? Did he speak of himself thus in correspondence?" asked Mr. Delmas.

"Yes, sir," replied the witness. "The letter and a small magnifying glass were passed to the jurymen who spent some time examining the paper."

The next letter, which was also written to Mr. Longfellow by Mr. Thaw while in Paris soon after he heard Evelyn Nesbitt's story, said in part: "Thank you for sending \$50 and \$20 and for White's telegram. I know a contented woman is happy. If you hear any thing please cable, but I think it will be a secret. I wasn't mistaken, being honest has finished me."

The next letter read by Mr. Delmas was very brief and was written by Thaw after reaching New York.

"Dear Longfellow," it read, "Enclosed find check. Send—a \$10 bill (always clean) in first typewriting to-morrow. Send \$20 to-morrow. Thank you more than ever, which is a great deal. I have nothing to live for. Yours, H. K. Thaw."

The next letter contained these words:

"Silent seven hours when— saw many Pittsburghers on the train. Mr. and Mrs. George Carnegie should be your loving sister and brother-in-law. I am so glad the Duse dress is pretty for you. I wish I always knew you would wear it first for me. I have something important to tell you when I see you. I saw all through it. I believe you are hypnotized but I know it is not your fault, and you meant no wrong. I want you to know I shall never hurt you. You know I never lie. I give you my sacred word that by the time that there is that heaven above, your pure soul shall go there. You have already been unkindly enough. You know I have always treated you with perfect respect."

The tone of the letter was most de-

pendent, and spoke of "one about to expire."

It was evident from this letter, which was sent to Attorney Longfellow to be delivered to Evelyn Nesbit, had been written subsequent to Thaw's interview with the girl in the Hotel Navarre after their return from Paris in 1903. At this interview the girl told him of the stories she had heard about him, and said she could not see him alone.

The letter, which in places was blurred and had to be inspected with a magnifying glass, went on:

"I have tried to forget you. You should have been at Joe's wedding."

Mrs. Thaw said the reference was to the wedding of Josiah Thaw, the defendant's brother.

The letter went on: "They would have seen out honestly and you would have been so respected. Your reputation as a beauty would have been greater over the world. You could have owned Pittsburg—not in money, but politically."

"Alone I can't settle down besides I have no one worth doing for. Twice I had to leave the table so they could not see, but—in some ways I am a bear at times—every other way I am more cheerful. I am not responsible now. You must know every story, including Billingham, is a free lunch, compared to all those letters—all sham—but I don't care a little brass."

"You know me better than any one and if you don't trust me and know I am true, and unselfish, compared to most men, then there is no hope for me. I am changed now, but not in truth, faithfulness or courage. Promise me one thing, don't drink any champagne. I am too poor and must live at home. I can't afford to go to the city. Of course if you are in need I can get loads of money, but it would make trouble. I must stay here or get a cheap ticket east. Of course don't say anything about this."

**Delmas Questions Mrs. Thaw.**

This ended the letter reading and Mr. Delmas returned to the direct examination of Mrs. Thaw.

"Did you tell Harry Thaw of an episode in your life connected with Stanford White and Abraham Hummel in New York, between your return from Paris in 1903, until Christmas eve of that year?" he asked.

"No," replied the witness. "I did not tell him until later."

"Did you ever tell him?" A.—"Oh, yes."

"When did you arrive from Europe?" A.—"In Oct., 1903."

"When did you tell Mr. Thaw?" A.—"It was early in 1904—in January."

"Please relate what you told Mr. Thaw."

"He asked me how I came to speak to Stanford White after my return from Europe. I told him I was driving down Fifth avenue one day in a taxicab with my maid, and we passed Stanford White. I heard him exclaim: 'Oh, look at Evelyn!' A few days later I was called to the phone, and it was Mr. White. He said: 'My! but it is good to hear your voice again,' and said he wanted to come and see me. I told him I could not see him. He said it was important that I should see him at once. He said he had had much trouble with my family and must see me. I asked if my mother was ill. He said it was a matter of life and death—he could not tell me over the telephone. So he came to see me at the Hotel Savoy."

"When he came in he tried to kiss me, but I did not let him. He asked me what was the matter. I told him to sit down, and asked him again if my mother was ill. He said no, and at once began to talk about Harry Thaw. He told me that different actresses had told him that I was in Europe with Harry Thaw. He said presently that Harry Thaw took morphine, and asked me why I went around with a man who took morphine. He said positively that Harry Thaw took morphine; that he was not even a gentleman, and I must have nothing to do with him."

"After that he came constantly to see me. He also sent people to me, who told me stories about Mr. Thaw—the stories told yesterday. I told Mr. Thaw afterwards that these stories worried me so much I could not sleep nights."

## A PRICELESS FIND.

### TOMB AND MUMMY OF EGYPTIAN QUEEN MEIE IN THEBES.

Body Completely Enveloped in Sheets of Gold—Tomb Has Been Violated by Infatuated Priests During Religious Revolution Before Birth of Moses.

London, Feb. 11.—Another sensational discovery has been made at Thebes. Theodor M. Davis, the discoverer of the tomb of the parents of the Egyptian Queen, Meie, has just discovered the tomb and mummy of Queen Meie herself. Meie was the mother and inspirer of the famous "Heretic King" of Egyptology. Her tomb is a plain, square sepulchre, cut out of the rock and adjoins the tomb of Ramesses IX. Unfortunately the tomb lay in the bed of a watercourse, and owing to the percolation of water through the rock, such perishable objects as wood and the royal mummy itself, have suffered severely. Apart from this, the tomb when entered was in the same condition in which it had been left by the priests during the throes of the religious revolution that had spent its force before Moses was born.

The tomb of Meie bears witness to the blind rage of the victorious priesthood of Thebes and the intensity of their hatred towards the heretic King, whose name they carefully erased from every article in the tomb on which it had been inscribed. The men, however, who thus violated the tomb, were no common thieves. The jewelry of the Queen and the sheets of solid gold with which the sepulchre was literally filled were left untouched. Wherever the excavators walked they trod upon fragments of gold plate and gold leaf. The coffin is intact, and is a superb example of the jeweler's work. The wood of which it was composed is entirely covered with a frame of gold inlaid with lapis lazuli, carnelian and green glass.

The mummy itself was wrapped from head to foot in sheets of gold. The water which for so many ages has been draining through it had reduced it to little more than a pulp, and it fell to pieces when examined in the presence of several Egyptologists on January 26th. There were bracelets on the arms and a necklace of gold beads and ornaments of gold inlaid with precious stones around the neck, while the head was still encircled by an object, priceless and unique, the imperial crown of the Queen of ancient Egypt. It is simple and exquisitely fashioned, and represents the royal vulture holding a signet ring in either talon, while its wings surround the crown one day in a handsome cab behind by a pin. The whole is solid gold without ornament. It was difficult to avoid a feeling of awe while handling this symbol of ancient sovereignty, thus risen up from the depths of a vanished world.

## EXCITEMENT IN BELFAST

### OVER VISIT OF LLOYD GEORGE TO THAT CITY.

Inniskilling Fusiliers Held in Readiness in Case of Trouble Over Anti-Home Rule Demonstration—First Liberal Member to Speak There in Many Years.

Belfast, Ireland, Feb. 11.—The arrival here to-day of David Lloyd George, President of the Board of Trade, for the purpose of addressing a Liberal meeting to-night, was the signal for great excitement on the part of Orangemen, as the Minister is a supporter of Home Rule. In view of a possible anti-Home Rule demonstration to-night and consequent disturbances the Inniskilling Fusiliers are being kept in line to their barracks and have been provided with ball cartridges. The troops, however, will only be called out in the event of the police being unable to control the crowd.

Mr. Lloyd-George will be the first Liberal Minister to speak here in thirty years.

Jostled, Shoots Four Men.

New York, Feb. 11.—A trainman named Jones and Rufus Ayres were killed to-day by Gabriel Ferrera and Anthony Conolly and Edward Tompling were seriously wounded by the same man, following a scuffle in the yards of the New York Central Station. Ferrera, who is a laborer, recently left the employ of the railroad and returned to-day to secure \$40 due him. He was jostled by the men in line and going home, secured a revolver. On being jostled again he fired four shots into the crowd.

## JAPA'S HONOR.

### NOTHING DEROGATORY TO IT WILL BE ALLOWED IN DEALINGS.

Tokio, Feb. 11.—While ignoring the anti-Japanese feeling in a portion of the American press, the Japanese public is almost unanimous in demanding that the solution of the San Francisco school question must not involve the labor question. A treaty restricting the immigration of laborers is condemned here as a one-sided concession, sacrificing Japan's honor, without any recompense.

It is felt that nothing derogatory to national honor, however, must be admitted in the diplomatic relations of the two nations.

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