

to my chief, likewise to his official family of which I had the honor to be a member, to attend a ball at the American Legation which of course was to be a swell affair.

I had not been long in the spacious ball room before Miss Barnett entered leaning upon the arm of Lieutenant D. I felt the warm blood rush to my cheeks. Now I could see why all Paris was raging over this simple American girl. She had grown a little stouter since I saw her eight months before. She wore a magnificent costume, which contrasted beautifully with her pink complexion, dark blue eyes, and a profusion of golden hair, which made her look queenly indeed as she moved gracefully through the mazes of a lively quadrille.

As I turned from this lovely picture I was confronted by mine host, who introduced Colonel Barnett, a stately gentleman and a splendid type of the West Pointer.

"I did not catch the name," said he to the minister.

"Captain Thornton of the U. S. army."

"Oh! Captain, I am glad to meet you," said he, extending his hand, as he continued; "I see my daughter is with Lieutenant Drayton; you shall have an introduction to her when she gets around this way. I supposed you danced?"

"I do, sir," said I.

The quadrille soon ended, and the Colonel fulfilled his promise.

We met once before, said I to the young lady after we had all been seated in one corner of the large rooms, "although it was under rather peculiar circumstances." "Really, I would like to know the circumstances," said she, "for I certainly cannot recall any incident that brought us together."

It was my turn now so I related briefly the story of that terrible night in the Rocky Mountains, the part I had played, asked forgiveness, presented her with the diamond ring which had caused me so much trouble, and assured her that I would not have been in Paris but for this unfortunate circumstance.

The old Colonel arose to his feet, shook me warmly by the hand, saying as he did so, "Captain Thornton, I truly hope you may never regret the interest which you have so generously taken in this affair."

As the Colonel resumed his seat Miss Fannie arose, and placed her arm in mine, as we walked to the center of the floor to form on for the next dance.

And now, kind reader, in conclusion I can assure you I have nothing to regret. It has been a goodly number of years since the above happened. Miss Fannie Barnett has long since changed her name to that of Mrs. Thornton. The old Colonel has taken one of those grand old mansions which line Dupont Circle at the national capital, where he insists on our making our home with him, together with my wife's old governess whom she has secured to teach the two bright children who have come to bless our already happy family. I should perhaps state that the young naval officer resigned and returned to his native land.

C. F. DURAND.

SALT LAKE'S VICTORY.

On Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 27, shortly before the adjournment of the Transmississippi commercial congress in session at Omaha, the question of the location at which to hold the session next year, was under discussion. Bute, Iusho: Hot Springs, South Dakota; Des Moines, Iowa; and Portland, Oregon, had each been named and urgently advocated, when Hon. George Q. Cannon of Utah arose and spoke as follows:

"The arguments which have been used by my friend from Wyoming will operate against the selection of Salt Lake City as the place for holding the next Transmississippi commercial congress, but there are other considerations besides those which he has advanced which seem to me to require consideration, and which ought to have weight with us in our decision as to where the next meeting of the congress shall be held.

"I take it the object of our meeting together is not to advertise any locality or to make its advantages known to the country. It seems to me that this congress has a great mission. I may indulge in too many anticipations, but it seems to me that the objects and results to be wrought out by the continued meeting by this Transmississippi commercial congress are innumerable, and can now scarcely be conceived of by us.

"There is a great empire lying west of us, and it has claims to the public attention which are such as to demand the wisest and most prudent management on the part of those who come here to take part in the meetings of this congress, in order that the whole country may know our wants and our situation, and that we may be able to present in an intelligent and convincing form the legislation needed in this great region. This region is so entirely dissimilar from that of any other part of the United States that those who visit it are as much surprised as though they were traveling in a foreign land.

"It seems to me, gentlemen of the congress, that we should aim to select a place of meeting where the greatest number of representative men from the various states and territories which comprise the Transmississippi region can meet with the least expense and the least difficulty. It is quite an expense for men to come thousands of miles and pay their own fare and pay their own hotel bills without any compensation. We feel that the wants of these various people should be known, and that they should participate in discussing their wants, so far as might be necessary to make our petitions effective in the United States Congress. This is the case with the delegates who are here today. We have borne our own expenses and have been very little favored by the railroads.

Now, Mr. President, it seems to me that in the consideration of this question these things which I have mentioned are of greater importance than the mere advertising of any city or region. It seems to me that we should decide on a place which is most centrally located and which will be most convenient to the members of this congress.

We have, I am sorry to say, a falling off in attendance since our last

congress in St. Louis. There are not so many members here. Wyoming is represented; Montana also, but we have no representative from the great state of Colorado. To me this is indicative of a lack of interest. If this lack of interest should increase, we will have but a skeleton organization here and our voices will not be potential. It seems to me that if we can have a strong representative here from these Transmississippi states and territories, and then utter that which we do send forth with a united voice, it will have weight with the councils of the nation, and it will be regarded by our representatives and by the representatives of other parts of the Union.

"I, myself, feel as though we should do everything in our power to maintain this organization and to create increased interest in its proceedings and to have a greater spirit of union manifested in its deliberations. I am pleased to notice that in this session our proceedings have been characterized by a most excellent spirit and feeling, and that there has been no contention which could be taken exception to at all. There has been no more feeling in fact than should be in the discussion of questions of paramount importance.

"I would like to ask the next congress to meet at Salt Lake City, we have a great many attractions. I shall not enumerate its advantages. You all know of them either by personal experience or by reading. We have hot springs, and then we have there the great Dead Sea of America, which furnishes the best bathing that can be found anywhere, either east or west, and we have many other attractions. We are in close proximity to gold and silver mines, which can be visited by those who come here. We would do all in our power to give you a hearty welcome and to make your stay an exceedingly pleasant one. In saying this I do not wish to urge this invitation upon you to the disadvantage of the congress. I would like to bear an expression from all the members, as to what would be preferable to their opinions.

"One session of the congress has already been held at Ogden, and I am a little delicate about urging Salt Lake—I feel more delicate than I otherwise would. We do not have a desire to monopolize the congress, but I wish to present Salt Lake City as a place of meeting and to say that you will be welcome there. If we do not say very much about it, it is not because we do not mean to welcome you if you come.

Our president has visited that city, but I am sorry to say he did not receive as much attention as he would have received had he stayed longer."

Ex-Governor L. Bradford Prince, of New Mexico, said:

"Mr. President, I rise to say but a few words in seconding the suggestion that the next meeting of the congress be held in Salt Lake City.

"The last three meetings of this congress have been held on the borders of the great transmississippi country, one at San Francisco, in the extreme west; one, a year ago, at St. Louis, and this session in Omaha, which is also in the eastern part of this territory.

"They were, I think, words of wisdom which fell from the lips of our

Dr. George Gerlach, one of the oldest medical practitioners in San Francisco, committed suicide on Sunday by shooting. He was a victim of melancholia.