Does a Woman Regard Her Oath ?...

James Hamilton Lewis, who Stirred a Hornet's Nest — Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood — Mrs. Catherine W. McCulloch — Mrs. Carrie B. Kilgore — Miss Mary L. Trescott

FROM one end of the country to the other women have been rising in wrath to defend their sex from aspersions alleged to have been cast by former Congressman James Hamilton Lewis, of Chicago, in a recent address before students of the Northwestern University Law School.

It is justice to Colonel Lewis to state that he has denied making the remarks attributed to him, and his denial has been borne out by several who heard him speak. As the alleged slander upon the sex traveled over the country in advance of the denial, however, the storm that has raged about Mr. Lewis' ears has been both cyclonic and picturesque.

He will probably ponder long and deeply before he discusses woman upon the public platform again; at least, he will choose words that cannot be twisted into an assertion that "all women are liars."

THIS is what Colonel Lewis is alleged to have said in his address before the Chicago law students:

> Remember, gentlemen, an oath means nothing to a woman. A woman always comes to testify as a witness for one of two reasons—either she comes through a sense of affection or duty to those whom she loves or she comes to satisfy what she regards as a perfectly legitimate feeling of resentment.
>
> If it is the first of these, she will come through fire and water to testify, and she will see things as her friend views them. Sincerely and earnestly she will testify that things are as she thinks they ought to be, and you may cross-examine until you have exhausted the vocabulary, and you will get nothing from her but her ideas of what they ought to be. A woman has no idea of the sanctity of an oath, and a woman will repeat when on oath anything she will say when not on oath.

No persons have come to the defense of their sex with greater alacrity than some of the leading women lawyers of the country. They, too, have had experience with women on the witness stand, and believe they are qualified to speak upon the subject.

First to take up the cudgels and lay them with vigor upon Colonel Lewis was Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, the widely known woman lawyer, of Washington, who was once a candidate for President of the United States. Listen to Mrs. Lockwood:

"When James Hamilton Lewis stoops to say that all women witnesses are perjurers or falsifiers, or even that they pervert the truth, he is one himself.

"I have been a practicing member of the local bar of the District of Columbia for thirty-four years, and during that time have tried and defended many suits where women were witnesses as well as men, and have found that even among the lower classes of women they were quite as reliable as men, but [illegible] what more given to detail.

"In the trial of a real estate case, where the wife was a witness as well as a party in interest, and her statement was against herself, she said: 'Mrs. Lockwood, I am a good Catholic, and I cannot tell a lie.'

"On one occasion, while defending a woman for shooting a constable, who was attempting to dispossess her, I was getting on fairly well with the defense, when the judge asked that the defendant be put on the stand. To my horror, she proceeded to state not only that she had shot the man, but went into details as to just how and why she had done so.

"For a moment my lawyer's wit deserted me—I saw my client in the penitentiary and her little children unprotected in the street. Then came the reaction—that she should be saved at all hazards. The man had not been killed, but only peppered in the legs with birdshot, but the act and the intent were the same.

"The testimony had developed that the husband and father, who was absent from home in a distant state, had loaded the gun and set it in the corner of the kitchen, telling his wife at the time that if any person attempted to molest her to shoot him.

"I took up that point in the old common law, that 'a man's house is his castle, which he has a right under all circumstances to defend,' and that the woman in this case, as was her duty, was only obeying her husband, who, if any, was the real criminal. The jury returned in less than ten minutes to say it had found the defendant 'not guilty.'

"On another occasion, defending a man for shooting a woman, the testimony developed that the shooting was accidental. I could have saved the man from the penitentiary if I could have made him tell the truth, and so told him. But he was so scared that he could not and would not say that he held the pistol and fired the shot, but denied under oath that he had had a pistol that night. But the police had found the pistol, and had traced its ownership to him.

"As a pension attorney, I once had a case coming from New York city, under the dependent fathers and mothers' act. The soldier had died, and the old couple had separated and were living in different places. The first application came from the mother, swearing that the father was dead; the second came from the father before the first was concluded, swearing that the mother was dead.

"I am not one of those who believe that the mentality or methods of reasoning of men and women are so very different, or that either of the sexes would make a livable and desirable world by themselves; nor do I believe with David, that 'all men are liars'—and, much less, all women."

Mrs. Catherine Waugh McCulloch, who, in addition to being a lawyer, has the honor of being the first woman justice of the peace in the county, has this to say:

"In my twenty-one years' experience as a lawyer and in my brief experience as a justice of the peace I have found women as truthful as men. In justice to Colonel Lewis, it should be stated that the officers of the law college before which his criticised address was given deny that he made any such sweeping charge.

"However, if he had, it would not be any worse than many other men believe. Men who do not change laws classing women with children, idiots and criminals must also believe women are too ignorant or too corrupt to testify truthfully. When women are no longer disfranchised with children, idiots and criminals, then men's gallantry will be more practical."

Miss Mary L. Trescott, an attorney, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., expresses her views as follows:

"I never believed that Mr. Lewis made the statements alleged. However, I believe that women as witnesses are not to be trusted to tell what we want them to tell and no more. Being generally of nervous temperament, and unaccustomed to appear in public as witnesses in a legal controversy, they are apt to lose their nervous equilibrium and [illegible] of the truth than we want to hear or than is helpful to the side of the case for which they are testifying.

"They will not only tell all they know, but all they think, and their sense of justice and their likes and dislikes will be very apparent; but, so far as the facts are concerned, they will tell the truth, in most cases. There are men who are not accustomed to this kind of business who will testify in the same way. There are women of broader experience who will testify calmly and truthfully to the facts within their knowledge and material to the investigation.

"Occasionally there is a woman who will testify to anything she imagines will hurt her enemies or help her friends or herself, and who has no regard for the sanctity of an oath, or the sanctity of anything else in this world or the next; but that specimen is rare, in comparison to the number of men witnesses, professional and amateur, with whom the only question is, 'What do you want to prove?'

"There was an Ananias and a Sapphira.'

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Mo. We. Fr.	Tu. Th. Sa.	Dly ex. Su	Dly ex. Su	Stations	Dly. ex. Su.	Dly ex. Su	Mo. We. Fr.	Tu. Th. Sa.
A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	a.m.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.
	4.45,	3.20.	7.30	lv Ch'town ar	11.50	9.30		9.46
	5.10,	3.37.	7.46	Royalty Jc	11.33	9.15		9.26
	5.56,	4.14,	8.15	N. Wiltshire	10.59	8.45		8.41
	6.12,	4.28,	8.25	H. River	10.47	8.35		8.25
7.25,	7.00,	5.08,	8.54	Emerald	10.13	8.07	3.25	7.30
8.35,		6.15,	9.40	ar S'side lv	9.05	7.20	2.15	
A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.

P.M.	A.M.		A.M.	P.M.
7.30	11.20	lv S'side ar	8.15	4.15
8.28	12.13	Port Hill	7.16	2.46
9.17	2.00	O'Leary	6.57	1.33
9.55	3.05	Alberton	6.19	12.33
10.30	4.00	ar Tignish lv	5.45	11.40
P.M.	P.M.		A.M.	A.M.

P.M.		A.M.
8.10	lv. Emerald Jc ar	7.20
9.00	ar C. Traverse lv	6.33
P.M.		A.M.

A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
6.55	3.40	lv Ch'town ar	9.25	9.30
8.25	4.40	Mt. Stewart	8.25	3.55
9.02	5.06	Morell	7.59	3.20
9.30	5.27	St. Peter's	7.39	2.42
11.00	6.30	ar Souris lv	6.40	1.20
A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.

A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
8.25	4.10	lv. Mt. Stewart ar	8.20	3.45
9.35	5.29	Cardigan	7.28	2.36
10.05	5.50	Montague	7.05	
10.50	6.25	ar Georgetown lv	6.30	2.15
A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.

P.M.		A.M.
3.00	Lv Ch'town Ar	10.15
4.40	Vernon River	8.36
6.35	ar Murray H. lv	6.40
P.M.		

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His Salt Water Pond.

Thomas W. Mulford, the Alameda county pioneer rancher, was immensely proud of his place and the diversity of the crops he could command from its soil. Mulford maintained that the produce of his acres was sufficient to supply every want of an epicure. Once, years ago, while entertaining a party of barley buyers of the famous Guinness' stout malthouse of Dublin, which concern bought the crops of barley raised by Mulford, he spread a Mulford feast. There were oysters on the table and clams in the chowder, trout from the skillet and shad on the plank; the olive trees that furnished the oil shaded the dining room window; the wheat and the beet sugar fields lay within the vista. Little brothers of the suckling pig grunted complacently in the sty while their kin were served roasted for the edification of Dublin palates. The slopes near the house bore the grapes from which the claret and sauterne were made. It was easy to believe in the nuts, raisins, oranges and lemons, and Mulford paraded his little coffee shrub for the Irishmen.

It was a complete course dinner, nothing lacking. The Dublin gentlemen were polite, but they raised their eyebrows over the juxtaposition of trout, shad and oysters. After the meal was over Mulford continued his demonstration. He showed his fresh water fish pond, and then he said:

"Gentlemen, I'll now show you my salt water pond."

He took the party down to the lower portion of his ranch and pointed out San Francisco bay.—San Francisco Call.

At the Matinee.

The orchestra finished with a crash, paused a moment and then, as the lights were darkened, started a sprightly curtain raiser.

There was an increased commotion throughout the house—people hurrying to their seats, taking off wraps, trying to get in a last word before the curtain rose and a flutter of excitement and expectancy which always precedes the raising of the curtain. Above the confusion two voices were audible behind me.

"Now, look at Mrs. DeMar. She always waits until the last minute to take off her hat."

"I have noticed that. Did you ever see any one who liked to show off as much as she does?"

"Yes, and they say her husband is just working himself to death."

"Of course that is always the way. Now, for my part, I don't think it shows good taste to dress that way just for a matinee. A plain tailor made gown with a pretty blouse is a great deal more sensible."

"It surely is. Oh, for pity's sake, there is Mrs. Leland! I wouldn't want to show myself after all the scandal they have had."

"Well, I should say not. But there goes the curtain, and we will have to keep still."

But they didn't.—Chicago Record-Herald.

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