

# "ELLIS GLENN" IN JAIL

## Mysterious Man-Woman Accused of Forgery.

### HER DUPES DEFEND HER

#### Although Her Acquittal Means Their Ruin.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—A correspondent of the Tribune at Litchfield, Ill., thus relates the remarkable story of "Ellis Glenn" and the Dukess family: Either "Ellis Glenn," who is still an inmate of Hillsboro jail, is a latter day martyr or she is an adventuress so exceptional as to lack a class. Whether the martyr, donning male attire to expiate a twin brother's offense, or a means toward livelihood and incidental love-making, she is equally remarkable.

If the adventuress the woman's power for dissimulation continues to be on a par with her audacity. Other women have committed crimes while passing themselves off for men, and there are instances on record where a woman has taken advantage of men's garments to usurp man's right of courtship, but until Ellis Glenn gave the proof today there has never been an example of the ability of such a deceiver to maintain a sway after exposure.

Nellie Dukess, sister of the girl Ellis Glenn was to have married, herself the first object of his (now her) attentions, and later on such familiar terms with Glenn that she was called "sister," left the cell this morning declaring on her conscience that she could not identify the prisoner as the former suitor. Yet on entering the cell she greeted its occupant as a dear friend, and before she left was holding "Miss" Glenn in her arms, caressing and talking tenderly to her.

"If these words to be the last words I ever should utter," said Miss Dukess, with a somewhat exaggerated emphasis of tragedy, "I could not take oath that woman in there is the Ellis Glenn I knew."

Ella Dukess, the former fiancée, did not come to the jail, but she sent words of friendliness, if not of love.

To understand something of the magnetism of the Glenn woman, if she is the person who wooed and won Ella Dukess, it need only be explained that James Dukess, the father of the two girls, will lose his farm and the house over the head of his family if the Ellis Glenn in the Hillsboro jail is not the Ellis Glenn for whom he gave bond on the charge of forgery brought against "Mr." Glenn last spring. If Glenn, the forger, whether man or woman, has been delivered to the county authorities Mr. Dukess is released from his bond. If the twin sister has been captured instead the bond is forfeited, the criminal having fled.

When this statement defining responsibility was made to Nellie Dukess yesterday morning she demanded instantly of Sheriff Cassidy the right to enter Glenn's cell.

"It's true, then," she said to the official, "that we will lose the farm if that is not Ellis Glenn up there?"

"It is," was the answer.

"Then give me five minutes alone in the cell, and I will give you proof that you have got the right party," said the girl.

The request was granted willingly, with the unexpected and mystifying result previously noted. When the five minutes were up James Dukess, the father, was sent into the cell, and a few minutes later Sheriff Cassidy and Prosecuting Attorney Creighton entered. Mr. Dukess was sitting in a corner, taking no part in the conference. Ellis Glenn, who continues to dress as a man, was lying curled up on a cot, on the edge of which Miss Dukess was sitting.

The Glenn woman was supporting her head on one hand, and the two were conversing in low tones, laughing between sentences. The prisoner turned, looked the newcomers over, and smiled. The effort seemed meant to be winning but it was scarcely successful.

The features of the woman showed clearly the signs of suffering. Against whatever else she may be proof, she is vulnerable to worry. She tried, however, to assume a nonchalant air. Looking into the face of the prosecuting attorney, she burst into a hysterical laugh and blurted out rather than spoke the query: "Wouldn't it be a fine thing to be able to read another person's mind?" She did not wait for an answer, but continued: "Now, if I could read your mind I would know just what to do."

"You seem to have decided already," was the retort of the lawyer. "Since you concluded yesterday to withdraw your plea of guilty and ask for a trial you seem to have made up your mind pretty decidedly."

The lawyer asked her if she intended to keep to her purpose and she said she did. Mr. Dukess opened his mouth to speak but his daughter motioned him to keep silence. Since he learned this morning that he was credited with hiring an attorney to defend Glenn, and that his farm hangs in the balance, he has become the heretic of the family, and was willing today to even swear that the Glenn in durance was the Glenn who, as he expressed it, "courted his daughters."

But Mr. Dukess can hardly be counted the head of the Dukess family. That position falls to Miss Nellie. Accordingly Mr. Dukess obeyed the sign. More confidences followed between the two on the cot. Sometimes, for they spoke in whispers, the visitor seemed to be pleading more often to be consulting.

At last the prisoner stood up and shook her head. Her appearance, so the sheriff says, has been much changed by the close prison clasp of her hair, the work of Chester barbers.

Admitting the discount of the process, Miss Glenn is not a bad looking woman and in her disguise would be called a good looking man of a somewhat feminine type. She is five feet and seven inches high, more than medium height for a woman. Her slender and has sloping shoulders. The least masculine feature of the woman's figure is her feet, which are small, but her hands are large. She is a brunette and when she was much in the open air evidently had a good complexion and a soft skin. After the troubles of her present plight and a month of imprisonment, however, her face has become sallow.

The Glenn woman remained silent under scrutiny for a moment and then said, partly to the Dukess, partly to the others:

"I have nothing more to say, either to officers or to the public. I have told my story. I stick to it, and now I am going to fight in my own right. I thought at

first I would be willing to go to prison for my brother, and I am yet if it is necessary. Only I don't think it is going to be necessary. He is not here and I who am here am innocent."

The party went out and Miss Dukess admitted she had changed front and that the fate of the farm did not matter. This is the side of the case which has given some persons excuse for believing in the innocence of the Glenn individual and others ground for asserting that she never will be convicted, guilty or innocent.

Unfortunately for the prisoner there is another side, dealing less with evidence, possibly more with facts, and certainly more with detail. Though the person most interested has done well to curb her tongue she made the mistake this afternoon of putting pencil to paper. She was searched as a matter of precaution and the following note was brought to light intended, apparently, for the Dukess: "Make no statement, only that you offered a reward for a man and that you can't identify me as that man, and you will not have that to pay. If you say too much you will get into it. Just say that there is a remarkable resemblance."

Seemingly of little connection, if not incoherent, the epistle ended with the sentence: "The Glenn twins were born in north Ohio in a little log house, in the woods, with all kinds of wild animals. They were poor people."

Among the persons who secured permission to see the jail curiosity today was a traveling man from Cincinnati. The woman learned where he was from and talked with him several minutes, asking him at length if he knew a man named J. C. Grannon. The traveler answered, that Grannon was a detective, whereupon he was told to hunt the officer up on returning and to give him her best wishes. "Tell him where you saw me," she added, "and about the scrape I am in."

The clew given to Sheriff Cassidy, who has communicated with the Cincinnati chief of police. Numerous other clews have come to hand, pointing to the presence of the Glenn woman in many cities, but not throwing any light upon the truth about her career. She herself takes pains to puzzle every questioner, now intimating that she has a black past, now ridiculing her own stories.

The prisoner grew tired of visitors this afternoon and called to the guard, "If you bring any more hayseeds up here there is going to be a death." The warning was heeded.

The career of Ellis Glenn, the former Glenn, whatever the sex, in and about Hillsboro, Butler, and Litchfield, is one of simple happenings, even to his matrimonial engagement. On July 17, 1888, a slight built young man alighted from a Big Four train at the Litchfield depot, and asked to be directed to a boarding house. He was told to go to the house kept by Mrs. Hay, and there he went. He told the landlady he was from St. Louis and said he was a private detective, not naming the agency he was working for. If the ingratiating stranger told the truth, and the Glenn of that time is the woman now behind the barred doors, it is not impossible that Detective Grannon of Cincinnati may have been an acquaintance. That the woman would mention a person who knew anything important, however, is deemed unlikely. "Mr." Glenn made friends with his landlady and soon was welcomed as a member of the family. His stay to Litchfield, nevertheless, was of only a month's duration. He left, saying he was going to hunt for a more paying occupation. In a few weeks he was back again, this time coming as the agent of a sewing machine company. He bought a team of horses and a light carriage and began to make daily trips through Montgomery county. Glenn continued to make Litchfield his headquarters. In November, a year ago, "Mr." Glenn met Miss Ella Dukess, her sister, and her father, comprising the Dukess family. He drove up one day to the farm-house, which is a short distance out of Butler, a town six miles from Litchfield, toward Hillsboro, and inquired if a new sewing machine was wanted. Ella Dukess, a pleasant featured young woman 24 years old, not a school girl, as she has been described, informed him that there was a machine in the house, but that it needed mending. The agent was as willing to repair as to sell. He fixed the machine and staid to supper. He came again the following Sunday and again remained for supper. Before the end of that week "Mr." Glenn brought Miss Dukess and Nellie, the elder sister, to Litchfield for a day's stay at Mrs. Hay's. After that there were frequent visits and the love-making soon took on the aspect of earnestness. The landlady was "Mr." Glenn's confidant.

"He came to me," said Mrs. Hay today, "the first night after he met Miss Dukess and told me what a nice girl he thought she was. He used to bring her here often, and I got to consider both of them as part of my household. A nice young man than Ellis Glenn I never met. There was nothing he would not do for me, and he always was so gentlemanly. I never suspected he was a woman—I just can't speak of him as her, though he cared far more for the society of women than he did of men. He used to tell me he was his mother's nephew, and when I asked him about his preference he didn't seem to mind. Mr. Glenn did not seem to have a bad habit. He never drank, smoked, chewed, or swore, and he always staid at home nights unless he was out at the Dukess farm."

Mrs. Hay's story does not provide for a twin sister. "He told me," she said, "that he had a sister, but that she was 29 years old. He believed it; he was 38 years old, but I never heard it; he did not look over 26 or 27. He said he was born in Ashland, Ohio, but that he left there before he was 14 years old. He said the sister's name was Mrs. Unger and that she lived at Jackson, Ohio."

The story about the sister is being investigated by the sheriff.

The sewing machine agent spent a pleasant winter, working when the weather was fine, going a-courting when it was not. Two or three times he went to St. Louis, but he never remained longer than two days. It was noted by his landlady that he often came back depressed in spirits, and that after such a journey he was apt to refer to a dear friend, T. H. Terry, a companion from boyhood. He used to correspond regularly with this individual, and oddly enough, he wrote in shorthand. Mrs. Hay is sure knowers were received.

Constant as were his attentions to Miss Dukess, "Mr." Glenn found time to take Litchfield young women to parties and to become popular with them. Indeed, his social record is such that Mrs. Hay must be mistaken about the number of evenings he spent at home. Glenn joined the Sigma Sigma club, a social organization to which many Litchfield young people belonged, and seems to have become one of its moving spirits. Two or three of the best known young women in the town were singled out in turn for his attentions, and they accepted his courtesies willingly.

It was to Miss Dukess, however, that "Mr." Glenn's heart was given, and early in April the news of the engagement was told to their friends. Miss Dukess does not hesitate to say that she adored the soft-spoken fellow. "He was gentlemanly in his bearing and was such a pleasant talker," she said today. "He was a splendid companion, sympathetic and cheerful. I don't mind saying that I grew to love him dearly, and that when he asked me to marry him I was madly, extremely happy. I never had a suspicion that the Mr. Glenn of my acquaintance was a woman. I will not say that I believe so yet, though I cannot longer love the man who deserted me almost on the eve of my wedding day. He was feminine in one way, for he could sew beautifully, but he explained his faculty with the

needle by saying his occupation was respectable. I do not think his voice was feminine in the least, though it was not deep or harsh. He sang hymns with us on Sunday evenings and seemed to have a good tenor voice."

Miss Dukess is right about the voice, if the original Glenn is in custody. The prisoner's voice is more boyish than manly, but it is not feminine.

Disgrace followed not far behind success in love-making. On April 30, Ellis Glenn was arrested, charged with attempting to pass a forged note of \$1,000. The complainants were John and Duncan McLean, two wealthy farmers of the county. The note never was honored, so the offense did not bring as much as temporary financial reward. One of the signatures was a close copy and would have passed, but the other name was not even that of the farmer. It developed on trial that the sewing machine agent wrote to Duncan McLean the asking the price of a horse. The farmer's wife answered in his name and hers was the writing copied on the forged note. But for the accident the forger might have got safely away with the money and the present question of sex never would have been raised.

Mr. Dukess and his brother-in-law, Marshall Winters, had faith in Glenn and went on his bonds for \$1,900 each. The Glenn holding is only one of forty acres, accounting for the fact that the forfeiture of the bond means ruin. "Mr." Glenn was less in public evidence during the summer, but he still had many friends. The friends were informed late in September that he and Miss Dukess would be married on October 8. On the Thursday previous he started for St. Louis to purchase his wedding outfit, so he said. He left a trunk behind at Mrs. Hay's, but he took two valises. On Saturday Nellie Dukess received a letter from St. Louis saying that Ellis Glenn fell off a steamboat and was drowned in the Mississippi river on Friday. The letter was signed T. H. Terry and contained the further information that the writer was obliged to go at once to Charleston, W. Va., where his mother was sick. A letter directed there, he said, would reach him. The Dukess were quick to conclude that Glenn had fled and that their farm was likely to be lost. They offered a reward and Nellie Dukess wrote a decoy letter to Charleston. No answer came and then the postmaster there was asked to what city he had been told to forward Terry's mail. He said that Terry had ordered his mail sent to Paducah, Ky., and on this clew Terry was arrested at Paducah on October 22. Terry, or Glenn, made no resistance, admitted his identity, and three days later was lodged in the Hillsboro jail. Though the Dukess family had worked hard for the capture of "Mr." Glenn, they forgave him as soon as he was safely locked up. They made his cell comfortable and sent him messages of forgiveness, but did not visit him. The prisoner made no explanation. At this time Mr. Dukess says he began to suspect the sex of his daughter's former fiancé, and at last went to Sheriff Cassidy, who only laughed at his suspicions. Mr. Dukess recalled the circumstance today and added to it the declaration that the Glenn of his first acquaintance wore an upper set of false teeth. So does the occupant of cell 1, in tier 2 of the county jail. On Wednesday of last week Mr. Dukess and his daughters made the first exception to their rule of keeping away from the jail and paid the inmate a visit. The scene is said to have been pathetic.

On Saturday the sheriff took his prisoner to Chester penitentiary, where the discovery of sex was made. The following day the unmasked Glenn was returned to Hillsboro, where she immediately gave out the story that she was not the Ellis Glenn who forged the note, but his twin sister. Glenn explains that the farewell to the Dukesses was part of the deception. At first she said her name was Alice, then that it was Ellis, and that her brother's name was Elbert. Since then she has had a dozen contradictory stories, but has not changed her statement of identity. The woman begged on Sunday to be sentenced to Joliet, where women are received, saying she wanted to pay her brother's penalty. The woman waited until the first sentence was set aside and then, on the advice of Attorney Amos Oiler of Litchfield, who volunteered to defend her, she refused to plead guilty and demanded a new trial. She is within her rights, but she will not be given the trial before January, possibly not before April. The prisoner's attorney will move to quash the indictment against her, but as the formal charge merely recited that one Ellis Glenn committed a forgery and did not refer to sex the prosecuting attorney does not believe it will be quashed. If it is he will have the woman re-arrested on affidavit, he says, and held to the grand jury, which does not meet until next April.

In any event, Ellis Glenn, the woman, is not likely to breathe the open air for some time.

## ONLY BY THE TWO-THIRDS VOTE

### After Swearing In, Can Roberts be Unseated, Says an Expert.

New York, Nov. 29.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: "The method of procedure to be adopted by the house of representatives in getting rid of Mr. Roberts, the polygamist representative-elect from Utah, is to be considered at a conference of Republican leaders to be held Friday in the room of the committee of interstate and foreign commerce. This conference has been called by Representative Hepburn of Iowa, who has devoted considerable attention to the case. Among those who will participate will be Representative Payne of New York, Dabell of Pennsylvania and Grosvenor and Taylor of Ohio. Mr. Taylor was the chairman of the committee on elections in the last congress to which were referred all the petitions and protests against the seating of Mr. Roberts received before the adjournment in March. At the request of Mr. Henderson he has been making a careful study of the case and of precedents. He is not willing to discuss it in any way, however, at this stage of the proceedings. Former Speaker Carlisle and Mr. Henry H. Smith, the parliamentary expert, two of the counsel retained to represent the opposition to seating Mr. Roberts, will present the result of their investigations as to precedents at Friday's conference. Mr. Smith has made a careful and exhaustive study of all the precedents since the foundation of the government. It has resulted in his reaching the conclusion that Mr. Roberts must be sworn in on his certificate of election and that he can only be unseated by a resolution of expulsion under the constitutional power of the house to expel a member by a two-thirds vote."

## FIFTY TO SIXTY DEATHS A DAY

### From Bubonic Plague in Manchuria—Nothing Done to Check It.

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 1.—A special to the Chronicle from Tacoma, Wash., says: "Yokohama advices state that a terrible condition of affairs prevails at New Chwang, Manchuria, with respect to the bubonic plague. Hundreds of deaths are occurring weekly, the mortality reaching forty to sixty every day. The disease is beginning to spread over Manchuria, owing to the fact that the Chinese authorities have utterly refused to take sanitary or quarantine precautions."

Peoria, Ill., Nov. 26.—Senator Cullom and Congressman Graf are to present and urge the immediate passage of a central Illinois federal court district. The district will comprise twenty-six counties. Peoria will be the seat of the new court.