

SWAMP'S SPIRIT GAME OFTEN TO MRS. BULL

Once Her Granddaughter's Spirit
Appeared in a Pink Radiance,
Mrs. Bull Told Witness.

MRS. BULL'S TRIPS ABROAD

Nursed Dr. Bose in London, but After-
ward When Daughter Was Ill
Mrs. Bull Went to India.

Special to The New York Times.

ALFRED, Me., May 26.—Miss Siri Edith Swanander of 629 Madison Street, Brooklyn, was called to the stand by Attorney Sherman L. Whipple to-day in the suit to break Mrs. Ole Bull's will, brought by Mrs. Olea Bull Vaughn, her daughter. Miss Swanander, who is a Norwegian, met Mrs. Bull at a series of Hindoo meetings in New York. She went to Green Acre in Elliot, Me., on Aug. 23, 1910, at the invitation of Mrs. Bull, who was ill at her Summer home there, and remained until Sept. 9.

Miss Swanander noticed that Mrs. Bull was very sick in mind and body. Mrs. Bull said it was not physical trouble, but that she was suffering from "malign influence."

"Did she tell you the source of this malign influence?" asked Attorney Whipple.

"No," said Miss Swanander. "Twice she promised she would tell me, but she never did so."

The witness told of having sittings at the Green Acre house nearly every day. Swami Vitakandi came to the house while she was there. Mrs. Bull's speech was affected while at Green Acre. She would start to tell something, but would not finish the sentence. She always spoke very lovingly about her mother and daughter. Miss Swanander said there was a meditation room at Green Acre similar to the one at Cambridge. Nearly every kind of food seemed to hurt Mrs. Bull, and she wanted a Norwegian cook. She engaged the witness's mother. Then she wanted a Norwegian physician.

"Swami came to me from the spirit land," said Mrs. Bull, according to the witness. "He stood by my couch under an apple or cherry tree in full bloom. He spoke to me and said, 'I have sent Siri to take care of you.' Edwina, my granddaughter, also come to me from that land. She came in a pink radiance and comforted me," said Mrs. Bull.

Miss Swanander also testified: "Mrs. Bull told me that the night Edwina Bull died in 1902 she was with Swami Vitakandi in India, and that Swami came to her and told her that Ole Bull had made him his son when Edwina died."

Mrs. Bull told the witness that Swami Vitakandi looked like her deceased husband, Ole Bull. When another Hindu, one Gandule, criticised Mrs. Bull's theories, she told him he had no right to criticize her belief as she was his grandmother. Miss Swanander described a Halloween surprise, which was arranged for Mrs. Bull by herself and Mrs. Vaughn. Harvest fruits and several pumpkin lanterns were placed about Mrs. Bull's bedroom, which was darkened. Mrs. Bull was then led in and was delighted at the surprise. Walking about, she addressed the pumpkins as if they were personified.

In the meditation room at Green Acre, the witness testified, were photographs of all whom Mr. Bull held most precious. There was photographs of Vivekananda, Sri Rama Krishna and Edwina. There was an offering of flowers and fruit on the altar. Incense in the form of sticks was burned.

A large number of letters, which passed between Mrs. Bull and her brother, Joseph G. Thorp of Boston, beginning in 1901, were read at the forenoon session to-day. Their purpose was to show the domestic relations between Mrs. Bull and her only child, Mrs. Olea Bull Vaughn, the contestant of the will.

References to Prof. William James of Harvard and to Swami lectures in Boston were made in a letter from Mrs. Bull to Mr. Thorp, dated Sept. 24, 1901. It read in part as follows:

Dr. James's forbearance and chivalrous support of Miss Farmer's ideas to the very last makes me regret more truly her efforts to hurt him with her present statement of consideration which Olea reports to me. For myself, I feel that silence is the best course. So strong and true a man needs no defense from the line of attack made, and I feel that to discuss the matter now would be unworthy under the circumstances. One feels too deeply the sorrow and loss to spirits of the universe's unkind temper that made the last weeks of his work so difficult.

Mr. Thorp testified that he never had any communication with Mrs. Bull about gifts. At one time he had handled her financial affairs, but never communicated with her in the strange Hindoo faith. He had advised Mrs. Bull not to commit herself to any contribution to Green Acre work.

Using the letters written in 1901 in questioning Mr. Thorp, counsel tried to show that no change had begun to work in Mrs. Bull's mind from what had before been known regarding her feelings toward her daughter and Mrs. Abbie Shapleigh of Lebanon.

Mrs. Bull had taken especial interest in Dr. Jagadis Chunder Bose of Calcutta on account of his illness in London in 1900. She took care of him there, and the interest continued for some time. She was in England and France during that year. Mrs. Marion Briggs, Dr. Bose, Mr. Briggs, Miss Noble, and others were with her. She was in Norway from January until June, 1900, Dr. and Mrs. Bose and she returning to England later.

Mr. Thorp testified that Dr. and Mrs. Bose and Miss Noble returned to India the same year, (1900,) and in January, 1901, Olea, the contestant had an operation performed. Mrs. Bull remained abroad during Olea's sickness, he said. Mr. Whipple's questioning brought out that as far as he knew Mrs. Bull showed no disposition to go to her daughter when she was ill, but instead went to India.

OLD WOODEN HOUSE DOOMED

Its Condition So Precarious That Authorities Have Condemned It.

The two-story frame house at 56 Centre Street, which is said to be the oldest one constructed of wood in the lower part of the city, is about to be torn down. It is on the northeast corner of Pearl and Centre Streets. It has changed hands so often that little is known of its early history. It is occupied, on the first floor, by a machinery dealer and, on the second, by a German couple named Rath, who put up good lunches in neat pasteboard boxes and sell them to many of the lawyers who practice in the Criminal Court Building.

The house is so old that hardly any of the original interior woodwork remains. Recently holes began to appear in the floors and side walls and the Tenement House Bureau served notice on the proprietor and tenants that it must be demolished. Most of the tenants spent yesterday in moving out. The work of tearing down will begin the day after Memorial Day.

Map Showing Proposed Subway Compromise.

