

HARRINGTON REYNOLDS DIES IN AUSTRALIA

Word came to San Francisco the other day that Harrington Reynolds, widely known actor, had died suddenly at Christchurch, Australia, from a stroke of apoplexy while making up to go on the stage.

Reynolds was well known in San Francisco, where he had often played in "The Rosary," "The Man From Home," and other popular successes and with the Frawley stock company. He had also been a captain in the English army and had fought in the Boer war.

His wife was Blanche Douglas, favorite actress, but he had deserted her and his son and had gone wandering on his jovial way, careless and adventurous as Harry Richmond's father, the most glorious rogue in fiction.

The son, a lad now of 16 years, is being educated by his uncle, Carl Westerfeld, and, when informed of his father's death, he wrote that uncle the following letter; which is certainly remarkable for the purity of its English and its clear-cut philosophy in one so young:

"The sad news which your letter brought to me had so strange an effect on me that it is hard to explain. It did not tend to make me cry, nor was there a great sorrow in my mood, nor did I feel like the poor, poor victim of fate which had not played fair with me. I was just bewildered, and began to wonder and wonder about my poor dead father as I had never done before.

"He must have been a peculiar man, if peculiar is a strong enough word, to have a wife and son living and to single himself out from them in another country without a heed in the world for them seemingly. Still he wasn't an unaccomplished being. He had talent, there is no doubt of that, and of a high degree, and a power to make friends which far surpassed the average man. He was popular and liked wherever he went, and yet he was so carefree that he thought himself free from all family ties and responsibilities.

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"Because of this some people at a glance would judge his life a failure, but a man who is always thought of by those who knew him as a good fellow at least causes some happiness in the world, petty as it may be. I often wonder if I am to follow his tracks in life. I have strongly some of his characteristics. That, of course, does not mean that they are going to lead me through the same path in life as they did him, but that will all come out in time."

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