

Sallie Sprigg Carroll: DACOR Bacon House First Grande Dame

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Chapter 5

Gilded Age Washington – Life in and Out of the House on F Street – Final Years

With renovations of the house complete in 1875, Sallie took stock of her situation. Carrie was now divorced from Nathaniel Kinney and still living at home, but her other daughters were settled with husbands in Portland and in Europe; her son Sprigg had his own estate in Maryland on the District line, and her younger son Charlie was content to live in hotels away from home. The two Mercer grandsons were away at school. Sallie had sold another portion of her land in Prince George's County to her son-in-law, and in 1874 received a payment of \$3,000 which may have been used to pay off any debts for the renovations.¹ In 1875, she also agreed to send \$50 a month to Charlie Carroll to help support his modest but vagabond life.²

With fewer people in the house, Sally was persuaded to rent out the house and take a smaller apartment in the neighborhood, thereby maximizing her income and enabling her to spend time outside the city at resorts or with family. The new Russian imperial minister, Nikolai Shishkin, was looking to rent a house near the new State Department on 17th Street,³ and his staff struck a deal with Mrs. Carroll to rent her house for \$6,000 a year.⁴ Shishkin and his wife and



Nikolai Shishkin, Russian Imperial Minister to the U.S.,
who lived at 1801 F Street for three years.

three children moved into the house in December 1875, bringing an entourage of ten, including a *chasseur* (special ceremonial guard) and uniformed servants.⁵

Carrie, having resumed her maiden name, met a junior diplomat at the British legation named William H. Doveton Haggard. He was the brother of the later well-known author, H. Rider Haggard, who, like William, began his career in the Foreign Office. A spark of attraction drew them together and they decided to marry at the end of the year. Her mother's house being rented, their neighbor across the street, Henry Randall, invited them to use his own spacious home for the wedding.⁶ It was a remarkable event, according to newspaper reports, notably for the attendance of the Russian minister and his wife and the magnificently dressed *chausseur* who stood at the door with a raised sword, "like an avenging angel," the writer for the *Springfield Republican* paper wrote.⁷ President Grant attended, as did his son Fred Grant and his wife, a bevy of the diplomatic corps including Sir Edward Thornton, the British minister.⁸ The couple soon after sailed for Europe and a life in England where Haggard angled for a new posting. In 1877 Sallie rented an apartment on 21st and G Street, where she entertained in her usual style. In December of that year, she threw a wedding reception for one of her favorite granddaughters, Katie Carroll, daughter of Gen. Carroll, who married John Wheeler Beale in a big society wedding at St John's Church. President Hays and his family attended, along with the vice president, cabinet ministers and military officers, the British and Russian ministers, and it was reported the president cut the cake for the bridal couple. Sallie saw to it that the reception rooms in the house were filled with flowers, and a large marriage bell, composed of white rosebuds, white carnation pinks, and violets that had hung over the altar at the church during the service, was brought back to the house and hung in the parlor.⁹

Sallie returned to the her home in the fall of 1878, but, by this time, she had reduced her staff to three servants: two Irish sisters, Delia Noonan and Julia Noonan, the former working as her personal maid and the latter as the cook, and James Jackson, her Black waiter/butler and handyman who had been working for Sallie for at least a decade.¹⁰ Delia and James remained with Sallie throughout the rest of her life, and in her will, she left \$300 to each in appreciation of their faithful service.¹¹

During her heyday of entertaining in the 1870s and 1880s, Marian Gouverneur believed Sallie employed two staffs to maintain the house and the entertainment she provided.¹² From the

lavishness of the food and refreshments offered, it seems like that many of her larger events – which could be attended by as many as 90 people – were catered, perhaps by Wormley’s whose food and service was so well appreciated by the Washington *cognoscenti*, or one of the other fashionable restaurants.¹³

During the hot and humid summer months, Sallie enjoyed heading to the mountains or the coastal resorts. During the late seventies, when Carrie had returned to Washington, mother and daughter went together. The two spent the month of August 1878 in Deer Park, the new favorite retreat for Washington society,¹⁴ and then from there to Portland to visit with Alida and her three Brown grandchildren.

Newspapers, meanwhile, continued to dwell on Carrie’s unusual marital status: a married woman living with her mother and not with her British diplomat husband. This explanation was given to the papers: “She will not visit her husband, Mr. Haggard, until next Spring,” the society columnist of the *Daily Critic* commented. “He is attached to the English Legation in India, and as the climate is almost fatal to Americans, Mrs. Haggard will spend the term of his service there with her mother.”¹⁵ Haggard, as was learned later, was living Persia, having accepted the post as a means of escaping from his marriage. Further details of their strained relationship were provided in newspapers when she filed for divorce – a second time – in 1880.

Whatever the turmoil in Carrie’s private life – which titillated the social elite – Sallie continued to entertain unfazed. At the end of January 1879, she sent out invitations for a “soirée dansante.”¹⁶ This party, lovingly noted in the *Evening Star*¹⁷ and lavishly described in the Portland (Maine) *Daily Press*,¹⁸ was given in one of the:

“most famous houses in the social annals of Washington, the homestead of Mrs. W. T. Carroll... They had a family of four very handsome daughters. One of them married Gen. Griffin, and a few years after his death, married Count Esterhazy of the Austrian legation in this city. She has been at various European courts with her husband since her marriage, which occurred in 1870. A younger sister married Mr. John Marshall Brown of Portland.... another married, three years ago, Mr. Haggard of the British legation. Her husband is now attached to the British legation in Persia and as women cannot go there, his wife has been with her mother here for a year. She is a strikingly handsome woman.

“... Whenever one of her daughters has married, Mrs. Carroll has given a fete of surpassing elegance, so that the associations of her home were such as to make it a fitting scene for a ball. That of last Tuesday was given in honor of her guest, Miss Carpenter, the only daughter of the newly elected Senator from Wisconsin, Matt Carpenter, who fairly worships his young girl, who is as lovely in character as in face. She is naturally blonde of a type art tries in vain to imitate. Her hair is gold, without a tinge of red; her complexion is as pure as the lilies of the valley, for which she was named, and her eyes are large bright and dark brown. Senator Blaine was present, and Miss Alice Blaine, among the other guests.”¹⁹

The *Star* continued, “Mrs. Carroll’s beautiful home was all thrown open to her guests, who by 10 o’clock filled the large parlors, and the young people danced merrily in the ballroom until a late hour.... Mrs. Carroll, a placid, sweet-faced matron, wore black and a widow’s cap. Mrs. Haggard was radiant in a Parisian toilet of garnet satin with graceful draperies of blue and gold-striped gauze. The waist showed the handsome neck and arms on which diamonds glittered....” The guest list – in addition to the personages mentioned above, included Mrs. Stanley Matthews, wife of the Supreme Court judge, Mrs. Upshur and her daughter Mrs. Selfridge (the wife and daughter-in-law of rear admirals), Justice Harlan, Senator Dawes, both senators from Rhode Island,²⁰ Henry Howard, the British ambassador and his wife, the daughter of the founder of Riggs Bank; Dr. Tullio Verdi, who attended Seward after the assassination of President Lincoln and a founder of homeopathy in the U.S. and his wife, the wife of Senator Butler from South Carolina, Mrs. Seaton Schroeder, wife and daughter of admirals, and the daughters of Marian Gouverneur, the author of reminiscences of Washington society.

One of the guests then or another evening might have been thirty-one-year-old Lt. Timothy Dix Bolles, a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy who had gone on a variety of expeditions to China and the Pacific islands in the 1870s and had interesting stories to tell. Carrie and he connected, and by 1880, he was using or renting a studio in the basement of the Carrolls’ house.²¹ They married in July, the day the divorce from William Haggard was granted.²² Thereafter, Carrie’s life took on a more stable existence after an initial hiccup.²³ To their chagrin, when her second husband returned to England and decided to marry again, he discovered that the divorce Carrie had been granted in Washington was not recognized by the

British court because both parties were not present. Another reason may have been that “desertion” in England was insufficient grounds for a divorce. Therefore, he applied for a



Timothy Dix Bolles, Carrie Carroll's third husband.

divorce on the grounds of adultery since Carrie had remarried in the United States. It was granted in 1882. The details of this flap provided juicy material for the gossip columnists.²⁴

The following year, January 1880, Sallie held another *soirée dansante*, this time honoring her guest Mrs. E. F. Andrews. She may have been the first wife of the Eliphalet Frazer Andrews, a painter of some note and a friend of President Hayes.²⁵

Mrs. Carroll was assisted in welcoming the large number of guests at her house by her handsome daughter, Mrs. Haggard and three other attractive ladies, Col. Andrews' wife, Mrs. Madison, and Miss Mercer, Gov Swann's niece who used to live with him here. Mrs. Matthews of New York attended this party with her two daughters and probably wore more diamonds than any lady has worn at once, as yet, this season, except Mrs. Outrey, who also was splendidly dressed last night, and the Baroness Blanc. Both the ladies wore magnificent jewels. Mrs. Andrews wore blue silk richly trimmed with the finest point lace, Mrs. Carroll wore black velvet and point lace, Mrs. E F. Andrews, who

is a guest there, and Mr. Webb Hayes chaperoned the young ladies from the White House. All the ladies in this party were richly and becomingly dressed.²⁶

Sallie may now have been living on her own most of the year, although she often had guests staying with her. This may have encouraged her daughter Alida Brown to come down from Portland to stay with her during the early part of the year. In both 1881 and 1882 Alida was in Washington, and Sallie threw receptions in her honor. As usual, congressmen and senators were invited, including the wife of the new Speaker of the House, J. Warren Keifer.²⁷ During a following winter visit, John and Alida Brown recorded some of Sallie's early reminiscences,²⁸ precious memories of the house and of old Washington society.

When her two grandsons, Carroll Mercer and John Francis Mercer left the house in the 1880s to make lives elsewhere,²⁹ the upkeep and the funds required to maintain the house may have prompted Sallie to think of taking in paying lodgers and to lease the entire house for at least part of the year. This was despite becoming the beneficiary beginning in 1881 of an annuity provided by the estate of John Bundy Brown, Alida's wealthy father-in-law, who earmarked a gift of \$20,000 for her and provided a yearly sum of \$2,500 which was to be paid to her for the rest of her life in quarterly installments.³⁰ His generosity must have provided her with some much-needed financial relief, although throughout her remaining years she suffered anxiety about her finances. So, in 1882 she leased the house for "the season" to Mrs. J. F. Cake, who then let the newspapers know she had leased it³¹ and in November began to advertise the availability of rooms. On November 18, 1882, this ad appeared:

BOARDING

"The spacious and elegant Carroll Mansion corner of 18th and F Streets,
is now open for the reception of guests. Rooms with or without board.
Mrs. L. P. Cake."

Letitia Pauline Cake, identified in other reports as Mrs. J. F[rank] Cake, was with her husband a hotel manager who had a side business of leasing houses for the season and renting out rooms. They were based in Cape May, New Jersey, where they managed some of the famous hotels for years. In 1882 she also leased the old McLean Mansion on McPherson Square, also

known as the Morgan Mansion and later as the Fish Mansion.³² Regarding the contract for that and other houses, she typically let newspapers know the important guests renting rooms from her for the season. For the Fish Mansion, which she had rented from Senator Morgan for two years, newspapers were told she had as guests “Capt G. V. Fox, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Hon. Amasa Norcross, Hon. George Harrington and wife, ex minister to Switzerland, Mrs. Dennis McCarthy of Syracuse, and others.”³³ How Sallie worked with Mrs. Cake remains an interesting question, but she may have relied on her for vetting guests. It can be presumed that food was provided as well as room and room service. The renting of rooms and space in at least part of the house for a variety of purposes continued throughout the 1880s.

In 1882-83, for example, the newspapers reported that the Hon. Thomas B. Van Buren, consul general to Japan, with wife and daughter, had taken apartments for the winter at the Carroll mansion. He was consul general stationed in Kanagawa, 1874-85 and was a distant cousin of ex-President Van Buren.³⁴ Kanagawa was for a time Japan’s largest port.

Later in the year, an ad was run in the *Evening Star* for eight days in the latter half of May drawing attention to the advantages of the property.³⁵

1801 F Street, NW cor 18th

For Rent: Furnished Rooms, singly or en suite, at reasonable rates. The house is one of the coolest and most pleasantly situated in the city, being exposed to all sides and having large and well shaded grounds.

Who their occasional boarders were are unknown unless the newspapers revealed their presence, and if Mrs. Cake made an announcement about the boarders, it was not published in papers that have been archived.

During 1884-85, Sallie Carroll, back home, hosted visits from two of her grandchildren. In January 1884, John Francis Mercer paid a visit from Montana where he was making a living as a civil engineer, and in the spring Helen Hancock Carroll, General Sprigg Carroll’s daughter, came for a stay, possibly to escape the turmoil at home where her father and mother were in the throes of a divorce. Sadly, she contracted meningitis and died in the house on May 20th.³⁶ Sallie’s daughter, Sally Esterhazy, lost her husband in August the previous year, and after settling affairs in Hungary she returned to Washington to live with her mother, arriving in the

capital in December 1884. The presence of the countess would be a great consolation for Sallie in the final decade of her life.³⁷



Sally, Countess Esterhazy
Courtesy, Maine Historical Society, John Marshall Brown Papers

For dear friends and relations, Sallie was fond of hosting weddings or throwing wedding receptions. For Charlotte Bleecker Lansdale, daughter of her cousin, Dr. Philip Lansdale, the son of her mother's brother, a wedding reception was held in the Carroll home in late October.³⁸ The following year, October 7, 1885, she hosted another society wedding that was closely followed in the press. The bride was Beatrice Paul, the daughter of the Civil War figure, Gen. Paul, who married Dr. R. A. Marmion, later head of the U. S. Navy Medical Board. The "Society Chat" columnist in the *Sunday Herald and Daily National Intelligencer* reported:³⁹

"It was generally remarked by all present that the wedding of Dr. Marmion of the Navy and Miss Beatrice Paul celebrated on the 7th on the old Carroll mansion on F Street, so long famous for its hospitality, was an unusually pretty one, and that the bride and groom, each of whom is above the average height, were a remarkably handsome and stately couple..."

“Mrs. Paul was assisted in receiving guests by Mrs. W. T. Carroll, Countess Esterhazy, and Mrs. Ricketts, each of whom wore an elegant black evening dress, Mrs. Paul and Mrs. Carroll wearing black velvet, stylishly made and trimmed. The Countess Esterhazy’s jewels, diamonds, very large topazes set in aqua marine stones, were especially noticeable for their beauty and rarity.”

During the winter seasons of 1885-86 and again in 1886-87, roughly from the end of December or early January until the end of April, the house was again leased to a wealthy and well-connected New York society couple, Mr. and Mrs. William Cruger Pell.⁴⁰ He was a member of the Society of the Patriarchs, the exclusive club in New York that gave four balls during the season and whose members formed the basis of “the Four Hundred.” Prior to the Pells’ arrival in December, Sallie and her daughter rented quarters at 2016 G Street for five months. As someone informed the papers, “Mrs. Carroll, who is now advanced in years, welcomes the change as a partial release from the housekeeping duties of the more extensive establishment.”⁴¹

The residence – a house or large apartment? – was commodious enough for Sallie to throw a party for her two visiting granddaughters from Portland, Sally Carroll Brown, nineteen, and Alida Greeley Brown, fifteen going on sixteen. She invited family friends and daughters of local social figures as well as suitable young members of the Marine Corps. One of the young lady guests was Daisy Ricketts, the daughter of Gen. and Mrs. Ricketts, among the most popular hostesses in the city. Mrs. Ricketts is said to have hosted the sensational Oscar Wilde during his visit to Washington in 1882.⁴²

When the Pells installed themselves in the Carroll mansion in December 1885, they brought with them Mrs. Pell’s two daughters from a previous marriage, Margaretta and Cornelia Cress. During their stay, they gave numerous teas and cotillions that drew Washington’s fashionable society. Judging from the names of their guests as reported in the papers, they seemed to have relied on Countess Esterhazy to suggest interesting people to befriend, and she herself was often included among their guests on these social occasions. The *invités* included many diplomats and families of former Civil War generals whom the countess and Sallie had cultivated over the years. The Pells also made an effort to embellish their parties by decorating with house with special floral arrangements and for the cotillions, unusual favors – “perfumed

satchets, satin bell banded bags, quaint match stands and salvers in lacquer, small wicker baskets filled with flowers, gay envelopes, boutonnieres and tulle streamers for the coaching figures” (perhaps dance leaders).⁴³ For their farewell “at home,” in May 1886, following their first season in Washington, the reporter in the *Daily National Republican* led his report with:

“The fine old place was like a bride adorned with her wedding finery. Everywhere, at open casements and over the garden wall, hung great clusters of wisteria, perfuming all the neighborhood. The ladies wore dainty reception toilets of delicately tinted silk, and were, as always the most charming of hostesses.”

Writing of the Pells, he concluded, “They have made a most pleasant impression here, and their many friends will be delighted to welcome them for another season and for permanent residence at the capital.”⁴⁴

The spring months of 1886 may have been difficult for Sallie and her daughters. Her son Sprigg was unable to make peace with his wife Helen. They had reconciled following a highly publicized divorce in 1884 on grounds of his drunkenness, cruelty, and adultery with a “notorious woman of the city.”⁴⁵ He had apparently sworn to reform his behavior, and the couple remarried in 1885. Soon it was clear he had not changed, and so a second divorce was applied for. The press headlined one report, “A Major General’s Disgrace,” with a lead sentence about the social scandal it was causing in Washington due to the prominence of both families.⁴⁶

However, no sooner had Sallie and the Countess Esterhazy returned to their home in May 1886 after the Crugers departed than she announced a tea or “garden party” in honor of Robert Winthrop, his wife and step-daughter, Miss Thayer of Boston.⁴⁷ Despite the notoriety of Sprigg’s second divorce and its ugliness, this event was as usual covered by the local press who once again singled the hostess for her generous hospitality and drew attention to the character of the house and how it looked:⁴⁸

“One of the most delightful society events of the season was the tea given yesterday afternoon by Mrs. W. T. Carroll, assisted by her daughters, the Countess Esterhazy and Mrs. Lieut. Bolles, in honor of Col. and Mrs. Robert Winthrop and Miss Thayer of Boston. The spacious rooms were thrown open to the guests, and the large balconies were

enclosed with crimson draperies, thus extending the refreshment room. A winding staircase led into the beautiful rose garden with its gravel walks and inviting rustic seats. In numbers and gayety the event had the appearance of a popular mid-winter reception. Magnificent refreshments, comprising all the dainties of the season, were served. A few of those present were Mrs. Justice Field,⁴⁹ Mrs. Whitney,⁵⁰ Gen. and Mrs. Marcus Wright,⁵¹ Mrs. Ross Ray,⁵² Mrs. Loring,⁵³ Mrs. and Miss Evarts,⁵⁴ Commissioner and Mrs. Webb,⁵⁵ Assistant Secretary and Miss Muldrow,⁵⁶ Admiral Usher,⁵⁷ Commodore and Mrs. Harmony,⁵⁸ Mrs. Cheatham,⁵⁹ Commander and Mrs. Crowninshield,⁶⁰ Commander and Mrs. Cornwall, Col. and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Burrows,⁶¹ and Mr. Horatio King.⁶²

An even more detailed description of this tea was provided by the *Sunday Herald*:⁶³

“It is always a subject of comment when Mrs. W. T. Carroll gives an entertainment that people attend who will not take the trouble to accept any other invitation. While one saw at her afternoon tea from 4 to 6 last Monday those who are often favored guests at Washington entertainments at the present time, there were an almost equal number of those who were more frequently at social gatherings twenty or more years ago at the national Capitol than they have ever cared to be since. On Monday all the rooms on the parlor floor were open and were filled, and the back porch enclosed with a thin red good [textile], through which the afternoon sun shed a softened glow, was used [as] a tea and punch room. In the dining-room was an elaborate refreshment table with all manner of seasonable delicacies. The garden also was enjoyed by the guests. Mrs. Carroll and her three daughters, Mrs. Brown,⁶⁴ Countess Esterhazy, and Mrs. Dix Bolles, were assisted in receiving by Mrs. And Miss Stewart,⁶⁵ cousins from Baltimore, and by Miss Thayer, the party being given in honor of Hon. Robert C. Winthrop and his wife and her daughter, Miss Thayer. Mr. Winthrop was mingling with the guests until after 6 o’clock, and he probably met more of those he knew when he was Speaker of the National House of Representatives than he has seen together in many years. Others of his old friends were represented by children and grandchildren. Among the ladies and gentlemen present were: [there follows a list of some 90 or so people who were seen at the reception].

That summer, Sallie and the countess went to Deer Park as usual.⁶⁶ When they returned in September, they made preparations to vacate the house and return to the flat they rented on G Street. The Pells returned for the 1886-87 season and were settled in the Carroll mansion before Christmas when they presented at least two cotillions for the “Miss Cresses.” The account of the dance on the 22nd of December, attended by thirty couples, revealed, favors were passed out “in small wicker baskets filled with Christmas greens, perfumed sachets and whistles, shepherd’s crooks, and the like. A delicious supper was served at 1 o’clock.”⁶⁷

The rest of the season was little reported in the papers, apart from a visit to New York to attend one of the Patriarch’s Balls. Sallie returned to her home after they departed, “in better health than during the winter. She will remain in town as long as the weather permits,” the *Evening Star* reported.⁶⁸ Presumably she and her daughter again went to Deer Park for that summer.

The great reception for the Winthrops may have been the last great party that Sallie threw. She and the countess continued to have an open house on New Years and to host the occasion tea. In describing one of these events in 1888 in a feature story “The Ways of Washington: Some Curious Customs and Gossip of the Country’s Capital,” the reporter for *The New York Herald* informed its readers:⁶⁹

“Mrs. W. T. Carroll, widow of the former clerk of the United States Supreme Court, who has long held the highest position among the old aristocratic families of Washington and her daughter the Countess Esterhazy, gave a tea from four to seven this afternoon in the handsome old mansion in which Mr. and Mrs. Carroll used to entertain before the war.”

Thus, confirming once again the high esteem Sallie held in the eyes of social Washington.

Though her daughters and their family would come to stay during the winters, sometime for periods of time, Sallie rarely went out in these last years and was content to see people at home. However, in 1891, she traveled to Portland by train to spend the summer with Alida and her grandchildren.⁷⁰ In the spring of 1893, Sprigg died in Bellevue (Belle View), his estate on the Maryland border that would later form part of the new town of Takoma Park. His heirs were his two living children, Sprigg Carroll and Katherine Carroll Beale. In the notice of his passing, the

Star added, “His mother, who has reached the advanced age of 82, is ill at her residence, 1801 F Street.”⁷¹ Most of the obituaries emphasized his gallant service during the war.

A report on the social scene in Washington in 1894 published in the *Boston Herald* – but perhaps originating in one of the Washington newspapers – provided a fitting and rather convoluted epitaph to the many years that Sallie Carroll had played a key role in Washington society. “Mrs. Sarah Carroll lives at her home on F Street “for many years past that the hand of change seems to have gone around, but never touched it. Mrs. Carroll’s participation in the pleasures of social life are of the retrospective order. Mrs. Bolles has not gone out into society since the death of her husband several years ago. Countess Esterhazy however is ‘fond of society,’ and goes out to many “non-official society” events.”⁷² “Non-official” was the Washington code word for “residential society” that was not part of the government.

Thus, in faded glory, Sallie’s life came to an end on February 11, 1895.⁷³ Alida had been summoned from Portland as her death approached, and all her living children – the countess, Carrie, Alida, and Charles – were with her at the end. None of the children were in a position to stay on in the house, and after a year it was sold to Mary Ellen Fuller, wife of the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. After debts were paid, her estate amounted to \$28,000. In the will she had made out in 1894, Sallie had set up a series of trusts to provide annuities for her three of her four children (Alida had married a wealthy man and did not need to be provide for): Countess Sally, Carrie, and Charles. Accordingly, these annuities had to be recalculated. When her children died, their annuities would be passed on to grandchildren – namely the children of Violetta Mercer, Alida Brown, and Sprigg Carroll.⁷⁴

William A. Leonard, the bishop of Ohio, who had been rector at St John’s Church for a number of years, wrote an heart-felt tribute to her life in the March issue of *The Churchman*. “She was singularly unselfish and always sincere in her friendship. Her hospitality was unbounded and her residence in Washington will ever be remembered as the center of most elegant entertainment. Perfectly unostentatious, and at all times independent of the trammels that so frequently made society stiff and formal, she won the hearts of all who knew her and gave her own love with the greatest sincerity where she felt it was deserved.”⁷⁵ She was buried in the Carroll Mausoleum in a vault next to her husband, William, who had died thirty-two years earlier.

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- ¹ Nathaniel Wilson to John Marshall Brown, July 4, 1874, Maine Historical Society, John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 15, Folder 2.
- ² Charles Carroll to Alida Brown, March 4, 1895, John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 25A, Folder 4.
- ³ *Daily Critic*, May 20, 1874, p. 4; in 1876, she moved to a house on I Street; later she moved to another house on 21st and G Streets.
- ⁴ Article signed by "Raymonde," *Cincinnati Commercial*, January 20, 1877.
- ⁵ For the Russian period at 1801 F Street, see my postings https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Russian_Imperial_Minister_Residence_pt_1.pdf and https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Russian_Imperial_Minister_Residence_pt_2.pdf.
- ⁶ *Daily National Republican*, December 14, 1877, p. 1.
- ⁷ *Springfield Republican*, December 31, 1875, p. 4.
- ⁸ *Portland Daily Press*, December 16, 1875, p. 1; *Daily_Graphic_1875-12-15_2*.
- ⁹ *Daily National Republican*, December 14, 1877, p. 2.
- ¹⁰ He appears in the 1870 census. He was born in Maryland in 1855; the Jackson name doesn't appear among the list of enslaved workers on the old Northampton plantation taken in 1864.
- ¹¹ *Evening Star*, May 11, 1895, p. 2.
- ¹² Gouverneur, *As I Remember*, 215.
- ¹³ They had catered Carrie Carroll's second marriage in 1875.
- ¹⁴ The Deer Park Hotel was built in 1872 and grew increasingly popular after the B&O Railroad extended a branch to it: *Wikipedia*. Grover Cleveland spent his honeymoon there with his bride Frances Folsom in 1886. The Carroll ladies enjoyed staying there for extended periods in the summers during the 1880s and 1890s.
- ¹⁵ *Daily Critic*, "Social Gossip," August 24, 1878, p. 4. On the resorts that the Carrolls went to, see my posting https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Summer_Resorts_in_the_19th_Century.pdf.
- ¹⁶ *Evening Star*, January 22, 1879, p. 1.
- ¹⁷ *Evening Star*, January 29, 1879, p. 2. It was in this report of the party that the Carroll House was compared to the White House as equally famous venues in the city.
- ¹⁸ February 3, 1879.
- ¹⁹ Senator Carpenter, once a pro-Union Democrat, became a Republican during the Civil War; his daughter never married; Senator Blaine, the powerful Maine personality, built the great mansion on Dupont Circle, still standing, in which his daughter was wed in 1883 in a magnificent party.
- ²⁰ Ambrose E. Burnside and Henry B. Anthony.
- ²¹ My the posting, https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Easter_at_the_Carroll_House_1880.pdf.
- ²² Divorce was granted on April 8, 1880: *Evening Critic*, April 5, 1882; they were married in Baltimore on July 8, 1880: "Matrimonial: Ladies with Many Husbands," *Chicago Tribune*, December 19, 1880).
- ²³ Thomas Patrick Hughes, Frank Munsell, comp., *American Ancestry: Giving Name and Descent, in the Male Line, of Americans Whose Ancestors Settled in the United States Previous to the Declaration of Independence*, Vol. 3 (Albany, NY: Munsell, 1888), p. 6 (under Bolles). They apparently married in Baltimore where, it seems, the Episcopal priest may have been more tolerant than the ones in Washington.
- ²⁴ The original grounds for divorce reported in the *Daily National Republican*, December 25, 1880; for Haggard's counter-divorce, "A Social Sensation," *Daily Critic*, April 5, 1882; Some details of their peculiar marriage are found in Richard Jay Hutto, *A Poisoned Life: Florence Chandler Maybrick, the First American Woman Sentenced to Death in England* (McFarland, 2018), 44-45.
- ²⁵ *Evening Star*, January 22, 1880, p. 1.
- ²⁶ Webb Hayes was the son of Rutherford B. Hayes; the young ladies he squired to the party may have been White House visitors as his sister was too young then to be attending parties; Mrs. Outrey was wife of the French ambassador, Maxime Outrey; Baroness Blanc was the former Maria Navidad Terry of New York, originally from Cuba, the daughter of a rich merchant and former slave trader; her husband Alberto Blanc, in the Italian legation in Washington, later became Italian foreign minister. Mr. Matthews of New York is unidentifiable.
- ²⁷ *Evening Star*, December 30, 1881, p. 1; *Portland Daily Press*, January 10, 1882, p. 4.
- ²⁸ See the posting, https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sally_Carrolls_Reminiscences_in_1883-2.pdf.

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- ²⁹ Carroll enrolled in the Marines; John headed west to Montana after being unsuccessful as a real estate broker in Washington.
- ³⁰ John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 11, Folder 13: IOU signed by John Marshall Brown September 24, 1881; and John M. Brown to John Rand and Phillip H. Brown (trustees), dated September 24, 1881. Sallie sent sign receipts for the annuity payments of \$637.50, one dated October 1, 1883: John Marshall Brown Papers, Box 15, folder 1.
- ³¹ *Evening Star*, October 21, 1882, p. 8.
- ³² She and her husband, Col. J. F. Cake, were also managers of the Willard Hotel 1872-79; her obituary published in the *Evening Star*, August 21, 1906.
- ³³ *Evening Star*, October 21, 1882, p.8.
- ³⁴ *Daily National Republican*, January 4, 1883, p. 7. See the posting https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Thomas_B._Van_Buren_Winter_Visitor.pdf.
- ³⁵ *Evening Star*, May 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 1883.
- ³⁶ *Independent* (New York), June 5, 1884, p. 713. Helen was buried in the Carroll family mausoleum in Oak Hill.
- ³⁷ On the countess's life, see the postings, https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sarah_Virginia_Carroll_Countess_Esterhazy_pt_1.pdf and https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Sally_Countess_Esterhazy_Part_2.pdf.
- ³⁸ *Evening Star*, October 31, 1884.
- ³⁹ *Sunday Herald and Weekly National Intelligencer*, October 11, 1885, p. 2.
- ⁴⁰ See the posting, https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/The_Pells_at_Carroll_Mansion_1885-86_and_1886-87.pdf.
- ⁴¹ *Daily National Republican*, November 14, 1885, p. 5.
- ⁴² As reported in the *Cincinnati Daily Gazette*, January 21, 1882, p. 4.
- ⁴³ *Daily National Republican*, February 27, 1886, p. 5.
- ⁴⁴ *Daily National Republican*, May 1, 1886, p.
- ⁴⁵ *Omaha Daily Bee*, August 24, 1884, p. 5, reporting on the first divorce. She accused him of consulting with a notorious prostitute in on 13th Street named Madeline Sinclair, and also multiple times with another woman named Lottie
- ⁴⁶ Troy, New York *Daily Times*, 24 August 1886
- ⁴⁷ Former Speaker of the House, 1838-1840, and again 1847-49; his third wife was the widow of John E. Thayer. Secretary of State John Kerry is a descendant of Robert Winthrop.
- ⁴⁸ *Evening Star*, May 11, 1886, p. 2
- ⁴⁹ Sue Swearingen, wife of Justice Stephen Field of the Supreme Court.
- ⁵⁰ Flora Payne Whitney, wife of William C. Whitney, Secretary of the Navy under Grover Cleveland.
- ⁵¹ Former Confederate general who moved to Washington in the 1870s to practice law.
- ⁵² Wife of a prominent Georgetown grain merchant.
- ⁵³ Wife of George B. Loring, ex-Commissioner of Agriculture (until 1885).
- ⁵⁴ Helen Warner Evarts and daughter of the former cabinet officer and current senator from New York, William M. Evarts. They had twelve children, including five daughters.
- ⁵⁵ William B. Webb was one of three commissioners or governors of the District, 1885-1889.
- ⁵⁶ Former Confederate cavalry officer from Mississippi, later a congressman in the post-Civil War period, and later Assistant Secretary of the Interior.
- ⁵⁷ Admiral John Henry Usher who had served in the Mexican-American War and Civil War.
- ⁵⁸ David P. Harmony, later Rear Admiral. He served in the Civil War. He was then chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks.
- ⁵⁹ Adelia Hayes Franklin Acklen Cheatham, former wife of the notorious slave trader Isaac Franklin (of Franklin and Armfield, Alexandria). She married three times and was one of the wealthiest women in the South. She moved to Washington in 1886 and planned to build a mansion on Massachusetts Avenue where she hoped to live permanently but died of pneumonia on a shopping trip to New York in 1887. Adelia was the daughter of a cousin of Rutherford B. Hayes.
- ⁶⁰ Arendt S. Crowninshield, later Rear Admiral. A daughter of his grand uncle, Benjamin Crowninshield, had attended a party at the home of Tench Ringgold and his wife in 1824.
- ⁶¹ Ogden Hoffman Burrows of Newport, Rhode Island. They rented a house in Washington for the 1886 season.
- ⁶² Former Postmaster General under Buchanan.
- ⁶³ *Sunday Herald and Daily National Intelligencer*, May 16, 1886, p. 2

⁶⁴ Alida's presence cannot be confirmed.

⁶⁵ Alice Gerry Stewart, wife of David Stewart; her daughter was Anna St Clair Patterson (from her first marriage), later the Countess da Conturbia. Alice Gerry was descended from Elbridge Gerry of Portland, Maine, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and the relationship to her may be through her daughter Alida's connections.

⁶⁶ On the summer holidays taken by the Carrolls, see https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Summer_Resorts_in_the_19th_Century.pdf.

⁶⁷ *Evening Star*, December 23, 1886, p. 1.

⁶⁸ May 14, 1887, p. 2.

⁶⁹ *New York Herald*, January 25, 1888, p. 8.

⁷⁰ *Sunday Herald and National Intelligencer*, June 7, 1891, p. 5..

⁷¹ January 30, 1893, p.10.

⁷² *Boston Herald*, December 16, 1894, p. 26.

⁷³ See the posting https://www.dacorbacon.org/docs/Death_of_Sally_Carroll.pdf.

⁷⁴ A copy of the probate is in the John Brown Papers, Box 11 (Estates), Folder 13. John Marshall Brown was the executor of Mrs. Carroll's estate. Nether Countess Sally, Carrie Bolles, or Charles Carroll had children.

⁷⁵ *The Churchman*, 71 (March 23, 1895), 18.