

Robert Lincoln—Gossip in High Life.

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You remember Robert Lincoln, son of the late President? He was generally liked here as an amiable and intelligent young gentleman, not quite equal to his father in ability, but of superior culture. A story is just now current in which his name is so freely handled, and so universally that, feeling that all the parties are of public notoriety, there may be no impropriety in alluding to it. Nearly two years ago, so the story runs, Robert fell in love with a young lady, whose father was at one time out of office and out of money. To be in this condition at Washington is next to being convicted of forging a Government bond, or murder in the first degree, and the idea of marrying the lady in that condition was not to be thought of. So the amiable Robert set about mending the matter, and made a desperate effort to procure the proposed father-in-law a seat in the Lower House of Congress. He failed in this, and was at a dead halt, when luckily a member of the Cabinet died. Here was a vacancy, and the lover, speeding on the wings of passion, amorous, flew to the President, and stated the case to him with great frankness. "I like your way of doing this, Bob," said Mr. Lincoln, "and if possible I will work the thing for you." To cut a long tale short, he did "work it"—the broken down politician became a member of the Cabinet; the young affiance was soon converted into a leader of fashion; and all went sweetly as a marriage bell towards the wedding-day. But the adage never fails to hold its own, and in this, as in every other case, the course of true love did not run smooth. The hand of the assassin interposed. On the other hand, the Cabinet member created by his interposition had experienced a change of fortune; for, having shuffled his cards skillfully, he was just returned a Senator in Congress. The lady wavered, the nuptials were postponed; and finally, as visions of a gay career and better match began to flit across her beautiful blue eyes, she resolved that she was not so much in love as she had been, and she broke off the engagement altogether. I tell you the tale as it was told to me.