

THAT BLUEGUM STORY.

DR. J. S. ELLIOTT'S VERSION OF
THE MATTER.

He Says That He Is the Man Re-
ferred to and Gives
His Side of the
Story.

On the 29th of June last, under the heading, "Beats the Record," THE TIMES published an article, without giving any names, about a man giving his wife a piece of land, which he planted with blue gums, the income from which was to be for her support, but that when the trees got large enough to "harvest," he stepped in, had them cut, and took the money received to reimburse him for taxes he had advanced while the trees were growing.

Although no names were given in the article, as stated above, Dr. Jacob S. Elliott, a wealthy and well-known citizen of Santa Monica, insists that he is the man referred to, and further, that the article does him a great injustice.

Dr. Elliott states that in October, 1885, he married Lizzie N. Van Druver, under a contract, in which he conveyed to her for and during her natural life, lots 1 and 2 of the John D. Young tract, containing 61.9 acres, in consideration of which his wife released all claims to any right, title or interest whatever as dower or heir in any property owned by him, he on his part doing the same thing so far as her property was concerned, the income from the property above described to be for her own use. Two years later he planted the land in blue gums, he and his wife entering into a regular contract, he to advance the money necessary for the purpose, which was to be repaid to him from the first timber cut. This was mutually satisfactory, and when the trees got large enough for wood he had the timber cut, crediting his wife with \$1100, the proceeds, and leaving only \$200 indebtedness yet to be paid off, when his wife will have an income for life from the land. Dr. Elliot further says that it is a mistake about the money being taken for taxes, as he has always paid them, as provided in the original contract, and has made the proper provision for his heirs to do the same. The marriage contract is on record both in Los Angeles county and Hennepin county, Minn., where anyone can see it who so desires. This is the whole story.

Dr. Elliott further says that his handsomely furnished house is now and always has been at his wife's disposal; that he has always kept a carriage and horses, which she is at perfect liberty to use at any and all times; that he has always provided her with a suitable wardrobe, and has in all other respects performed the duties of a husband. The Doctor says he is also competent to manage his business and resents any interference in his domestic affairs.