

FROM KANSAS CITY, KANSAS.

MAYOR WILLARD ON TRIAL ON THE CHARGE OF MALFEASANCE IN OFFICE.

His Attorney Tries in Vain to Secure a Continuance--The State's Attorney Was Generous, and Made So Many Admissions That Willard Had No Cause to Ask for Further Delay--Bishop Handy of the A. M. E. Church Will Make His Appointments Today--Other Items of Interest and News Notes From the Valley Cities.

After exhausting every means to secure a continuance, Mayor Willard of Argentine was forced to trial in the Court of Common Pleas yesterday on the charge of malfeasance in office. John A. Hale, attorney for the defendant, did all that anyone could do to get a continuance, but the extreme liberality of Attorney Carskadon, who is prosecuting the case, effectually prevented any delay.

Willard was elected Mayor of Argentine last spring, and according to the law of Kansas it is the duty of a Mayor to notify the county attorney of the presence of any joints in the town over which he presides. The penalty for failing to do so is a fine not to exceed \$500 and forfeiture of office.

A few weeks ago complaint was filed against Willard with County Attorney Cobb, on the charge of failing to notify the authorities of the existence of joints in Argentine. A warrant was issued and Willard was placed under arrest. The case was called for trial the first week of the present term of the Court of Common Pleas, but continuances were granted from time to time. When Judge Anderson called the case yesterday afternoon Attorney Hale endeavored to have the information quashed, on the grounds that it was not properly drawn up. After a brief discussion the court overruled the motion. The defense then filed an application for a continuance until the next term of court. The application, which was sworn to by Mr. Willard, stated that a large number of the defendant's witnesses were absent from the State, and that he could not safely proceed with the trial. In it Willard set out what he expected to prove, by the absent witnesses, and among other things he said that he could prove by Geddes Simmons, that County Attorney Cobb was in Captain Richardson's place on July 6. It is this joint that Willard is charged with not informing on. The defendant also wanted an opportunity to get some witnesses from Missouri to impeach the testimony of a man named Lampk, who, it was thought, would be the main witness for the State.

Attorney Carskadon agreed to admit the affidavit as a deposition, and also agreed to not place Lampk on the stand. This took the defense off its feet. Attorney Hale said that the affidavit contained practically nothing so far as evidence was concerned and thought that a continuance should be granted. He said to force the defendant into trial now without any witnesses was unjust. Mr. Carskadon said he did not know what else he could do to help Hale out.

They told in the affidavit what they wanted to prove, and they expected to prove it.

they ask for? He then pointed out the law to the court in regard to the matter. He had the law with him. Judge Anderson then told the defendant that the application could be used as a deposition and overruled the motion for a continuance. The clerk called the jury and the rest of the afternoon was taken up in getting a jury to try the case. The State will likely proceed to examine witnesses some time this forenoon.

AN APPEAL FOR AID.

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