

WILLARD IN A JOINT.

Evidence That He Knew of Violations
of the Liquor Law.

HE PLAYED A GAME OF PINOCLE.

Attorney Cobb Calls Attorney Hale
a Liar in Open Court.

A Big Judgment by Default Rendered
Against S. B. Barker—Ex-Police Officer
David Harmon Arrested for
Feloniously Wounding a Boy.

The attention of the court of common pleas was occupied all day yesterday with the trial of the case against Mayor Frank A. Willard, of the city of Argentine, who is charged with the violation of the state prohibitory law in not reporting to the county attorney the violation of the law of which he is charged to have knowledge.

The specific charge is that at certain times last spring Mayor Willard was seen in Captain Richardson's "joint" there, and that he not only saw the sale of liquor, but that he bought and paid at the bar for liquors for himself and others. Further, that it is charged that he frequently was seen in a certain room of Richardson's place playing cards, and that liquid refreshments were ordered from the bar and were brought in and drunk by Mayor Willard and others.

The trial of the case yesterday brought out many amusing matters, and some of the witnesses gave their testimony very unwillingly, and were very reluctant to tell of the meetings in the back room of Richardson's place.

The most amusing matter was the testimony of Luke Trail, who told of he and Mayor Willard and two others playing "peaknuckle," and that one of the gentlemen when calling for a drink called for "the Willard cure," as malt tonic and liquor was called, owing to the fact of Mayor Willard having declared war on the joints. He said that there was a common expression there that men used: "Have you taken the Willard cure?" He said that at the time the "peaknuckle" game was in progress he winked at the man who used the expression not to use it again, as he thought the speaker had overlooked the fact that the mayor was present and could hear the remark. He said there was a great deal of sport over the "Willard cure" remark.

remark.
The first witness called yesterday morning was City Clerk Dolly, who was used simply to prove the city government and the election of Mayor Willard.

Mr. Petree, one of the players in the "peaknuckle" game, was the next witness, and Mr. Richter was also called, but their testimony was simply to lay a foundation for what followed. Frank Razy followed and told of seeing Mayor Willard and others in the back room playing cards and drinking.

Officer Habermahl, of the police force, then told of seeing him in the "joint" when he went in there to see after some matters.

Luke Trail and Tom Campbell were also examined and told of having seen the mayor there.

John Lancke, who was at one time bartender for Captain Richardson in his "joint," told of having seen Mayor Willard in the place, and remembered it for the reason that he drank sherry and egg, that drink being different from what the other frequenters purchased. When asked when it was he declared that it was immediately following his election to office. He said that the mayor had been there very frequently.

The last witness called for the state was County Attorney Cobb, by whom it was desired to show that Mayor Willard had not furnished him the evidence against the "joints" of that city. It was developed that there had been some correspondence between the two parties and that Mayor Willard had sent some information to the office relative to the alleged violations of the law.

In the course of the examination, that proved to be very lengthy, there was a passage of words between Attorney Hale and Mr. Cobbin which the he was given direct by Mr. Cobb in reply to an insinuating remark concerning the illegal use of money. The war cloud cleared away very quickly and the case proceeded in the ordinary way.

With the testimony of the county attorney

the state rested its case and the defense began. The opening statement of the counsel was full of sensational charges that he said there would be evidence to prove and upon which he placed particular emphasis. The first witness placed on the stand was County Commissioner Stefans, with whom it was alleged that Mr. Willard was in company when he was in the "joint." He denied the statement and the same matter was also stated by ex-Mayor George Gully.

The defense will continue the case this morning and expects to get in all its evidence to-day. There are still about a dozen witnesses to be examined and a number of other subpoenas were issued and served last evening.

The case is attracting a great deal of attention and a large number of the citizens of Argentine are present all the time. The fight there has been on so long that almost everybody there has become identified with either one side or the other and there has been a great deal of very bitter feeling worked up over the affair.