

FROM KANSAS CITY, KANSAS.

A LIVELY TILT BETWEEN ATTORNEYS IN THE WILLIARD CASE.

County Attorney Cobb Calls Lawyer Hale a "Liar" and Threatening Demonstrations Follow in Open Court—How Two Men Filled Up on Bad Liquor at Ole Oleson's—Judgment Rendered Against A. E. Barker—Bennett Gets a Light Sentence to Accommodate Chicago Officials—Preparing the Bridge Estimate—Detective Cahill's Latest Story—Prof. Dunlaps Next Lecture—Miscellaneous News.

Quite a sensation was created in the Court of Common Pleas yesterday afternoon, during the trial of the case against Frank A. Williard, Mayor of Argentine, charged with malfeasance in office, and for a few moments it looked as though blood would be shed. The principals in the fracas were County Attorney Cobb and Attorney John A. Hale. Cobb called Hale a "liar," which caused the latter's temper to rise to such a pitch that he could hardly control himself, and he doubled up his fist and advanced toward Cobb. The only thing that prevented a fight was a few pointed remarks from the court.

At the time of the demonstration Cobb was on the witness stand. He was placed there by the State to show that Williard had failed to give him any information regarding the existence of joints in Argentine. Upon cross-examination Attorney Hale delved deep into the methods used in the county attorney's office, and when he reached a certain point the attorneys for the State interposed an objection to the questions which he was propounding to Cobb. This led Hale to make a speech in which he scored Cobb in the severest terms. He intimated that Cobb had not conducted his office in an upright manner, and also hinted that the joint-keepers were spending money to keep from being prosecuted. These remarks aroused Cobb's feelings, and leaping suddenly to his feet, he took a striking attitude, pointed his finger at Mr. Hale, and said:

"Hale, you are a liar."

By this time there was another man in the court room who was mad. It was Hale, and he started for Cobb. Hale held his right hand in regular Corbett style, with his fist firmly clinched. Just before he reached the witness stand Judge Anderson took a hand in the game. He commanded Hale to stand back, and reprimanded Cobb for uttering such language. Hale said he did not like to take "the lie," but he was prevailed upon to be quiet. Judge Anderson said, however, that the next witness who used such language on the stand, would be sent to jail. Peace once more reigned in court and Hale resumed the cross-examination of Cobb.

The indications are that the case will be concluded today. Last evening the State rested its case and the defense made its statement to the jury. If Attorney Hale proves all he says he proposes to, a sensation will be sprung. He talked as though he would show up a conspiracy to oust Williard so the joints could run in Argentine unmolested, and also said that he thought he would be able to show that the jointists and certain county officers had an understanding. When he finished court adjourned.

There were some very amusing features brought out in the case yesterday. Among the others examined was Policeman Habermahl, who was suspended by Williard for failure to obey an order to close up the joints in that city. The officer said upon cross-examination that he had contributed \$4 to a fund to be used in employing counsel to prosecute the case against Williard. He also stated that he saw Williard in Captain Richardson's place some time in May last, but could not swear what the defendant drank, if he drank anything.

Charles Dolly, city clerk, was called in with the city records to show that Williard is Mayor of the Silver city. The defendant's attorney endeavored to show that Argentine is not a regularly organized city of the second class, for the reason that the ordinance defining its boundaries is irregular. The court held that Argentine was a city of the second class under the law.

P. Petrie, who claimed to be a heavy taxpayer, was one of the witnesses for the State. He told about a meeting of "officials and citizens" held in Argentine about two months ago at which Attorney Carskadon remarked that they had a "good case against Williard." The meeting was called to discuss the city's welfare, and the witness said that incidentally Williard's policy regarding the gamblers was discussed, and that it was on this point that Carskadon made his remark. Petrie swore that he saw Williard in Richardson's place in May.

A German named Richter testified that he had seen Williard in Richardson's place, and that Richardson at that time kept "hop tea" on tap. The State's attorneys tried to show that the particular brand of "hop tea" kept by the captain was nothing more than straight beer. Richter said it was called "hop tea," but it looked like beer, smelled like beer, and tasted like beer. Attorney Hale then requested the witness to describe the smell of beer, but he could not do it.

Frank Razy, an employe of the Argentine Street department, also testified that he saw Williard in Richardson's place, but he could not state whether or not the Mayor paid for the drinks.

John Lanka, an employe of Richardson, was next placed on the stand. He was very ignorant and his evidence was very conflicting. After an hour of tedious work on the part of the attorneys the witness was dismissed after giving very little light.