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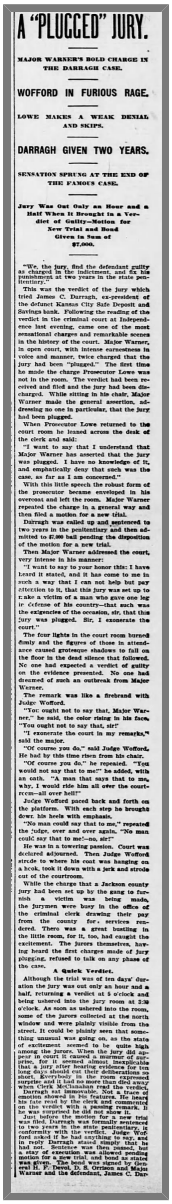

A "PLUGGED" JURY.

MAJOR WARNER'S BOLD CHARGE IN THE DARRAGH CASE.

WOFFORD IN FURIOUS RAGE.

LOWE MAKES A WEAK DENIAL AND SKIPS.

DARRAGH GIVEN TWO YEARS.

SENSATION SPRUNG AT THE END OF THE FAMOUS CASE.

Jury Was Out Only an Hour and a Half When It Brought in a Verdict of Guilty—Motion for New Trial and Bond Given in Sum of $7,500.

"We, the jury, find the defendant guilty as charged in the indictment, and fix his punishment at two years in the state penitentiary."

This was the verdict of the jury which tried James C. Darragh, ex-president of the defunct Kansas City Safe Deposit and Savings bank. Following the reading of the verdict in the criminal court at Independence last evening, came one of the most sensational charges and remarkable scenes in the history of the court. Major Warner, in open court, with intense earnestness in voice and manner, twice charged that the jury had been "plugged." The first time he made the charge Prosecutor Lowe was not in the room. The verdict had been received and filed and the jury had been discharged. While sitting in his chair, Major Warner made the general assertion, addressing no one in particular, that the jury had been plugged.

When Prosecutor Lowe returned to the court room he leaned across the desk of the clerk and said:

"I want to say that I understand that Major Warner has asserted that the jury was plugged. I have no knowledge of it, and emphatically deny that such was the case, so far as I am concerned."

With this little speech the robust form of the prosecutor became enveloped in his overcoat and left the room. Major Warner repeated the charge in a general way and then filed a motion for a new trial.

Darragh was called up and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary and then admitted to $7,500 bail pending the disposition of the motion for a new trial.

Then Major Warner addressed the court, very intense in his manner:

"I want to say to your honor this: I have heard it stated, and it has come to me in such a way that I can not help but pay attention to it, that this jury was set up to make a victim of a man who gave one leg in defense of his country—that such was the exigencies of the occasion, sir, that this jury was plugged. Sir, I exonerate the court."

The four lights in the court room burned dimly and the figures of those in attendance caused grotesque shadows to fall on the floor in the dead silence that followed. No one had expected a verdict of guilty on the evidence presented. No one had dreamed of such an outbreak from Major Warner.

The remark was like a firebrand with Judge Wofford.

"You ought not to say that, Major Warner," he said, the color rising in his face, "You ought not to say that, sir!"

"I exonerate the court in my remarks," said the major.

"Of course you do," said Judge Wofford. He had by this time risen from his chair.

"Of course you do," he repeated. "You would not say that to me!" he added, with an oath. "A man that says that to me, why, I would ride him all over the court-room—all over hell!"

Judge Wofford paced back and forth on the platform. With each step he brought down his heels with emphasis.

"No man could say that to me," repeated the judge, over and over again. "No man could say that to me!—no, sir!"

He was in a towering passion. Court was declared adjourned. Then Judge Wofford strode to where his coat was hanging on a hook, took it down with a jerk and strode out of the courtroom.

While the charge that a Jackson county jury had been set up by the gang to furnish a victim was being made, the jurymen were busy in the office of the criminal clerk drawing their pay from the county for services rendered. There was a great bustling in the little room, for it, too, had caught the excitement. The jurors themselves, having heard the first charges made of jury plugging, refused to talk on any phase of the case.

A Quick Verdict.

Although the trial was of ten days' duration the jury was out only an hour and a half, returning a verdict at 5 o'clock and being ushered into the jury room at 3:30 o'clock. As soon as ushered into the room, some of the jurors collected at the north window and were plainly visible from the street. It could be plainly seen that something unusual was going on, as the state of excitement seemed to be quite high among the jurors. When the jury did appear in court it caused a murmur of surprise, for it seemed almost impossible that they could have considered for the long days should cut their deliberations so short. Everybody in the room expressed surprise, and the interest was at its height when Clerk McClanahan read the verdict. Darragh sat immovable. Not a trace of emotion could be seen on his face as the verdict was read by the clerk and commented on the verdict with a passing remark. If he was surprised he did not show it.

After the verdict was rendered a motion for a new trial was filed. Darragh was formally sentenced to two years in the state penitentiary, in conformity with the verdict. Judge Wofford then announced that Darragh was free, as in reality Darragh stood simply that he had not. Sentence was then passed, but the bail bond was continued in force until the motion for a new trial and bond as stated was given. The bond was signed by General H. F. Dawes, D. R. Ormsbee and Major Warner and the defendant, James C. Dar-

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