LAUER'S DEFENSE

The Fifth Day of the Great Trial-The State Rests.

COLORING THE BELL EVIDENCE.

Negro Witnesses Called to Get Away With that "Cranberry Sauce"-A Savage Encounter-The Detailed Evidence.

Friday's Work.

"The state will rest, your honor," said States Attorney Simeral when court opened at ten o'clock yesterday morning. The evidence for the prosecution had been concluded and the taking of testimony was turned over to the defense. Lauer occupied his usual seat by Messrs Savage and Thurston. His sister, Miss Minerva Lauer, sat immediately behind him. The crowd in the lobby was not as large, though the female presence was more noticeable than on any other day yet.

Lee A. Williams, a saddle-colored muatto, was the first witness for the de-

tense. He testified to

THE ALLEGED PERJURY committed by the washerwoman, Emma Bell. The witness testified that a day or two after the preliminary examination in police court Emma Bell was at his house and said that she had just committed a great wrong, that she had sworn to something she knew nothing about. She had sworn against John Lauer whom she had never seen before. That she was to receive \$100 for swearing as she did. "My wife asked her, 'How could you

do such a thing?'''
"She replied, 'I did it, I know, but I am
sorry for it.'"
"Did Mrs. Bell furthermore say to you

that she had never been in the Lauer house, and that if she had to find it that night she would have to sleep out of doors?" asked Jadge Thurston.
"She did," replied the witness,
"You may take the witness," said the

General Cowin subjected Williams to a

rigid cross-examination. Williams testi-fied to the marriage of himself and wife in Topeka, Kan., in 1884, and their subsequent separation, which occurred a few months ago. "What caused this separation," asked

General Cowin.
"We couldn't agree," replied the wit-

ness. "You had trouble?"

"What trouble was that?"

"What trouble was that?"
"Oh a good dear of trouble."
"That's not answering my question,"
replied the general. "Was it your fault
or her's?"
"Her's I guess," answered the witness.
"Then you were all right? You were
not to biame?"

"I guess I was."
At another time Williams testified

that the first time he ever heard Mrs. Bell tell about the case was one evening a day or two before the preliminary examination, when the lady came in and remarked that she had just sworn to a lie. The witness said that he was read-ing a paper when Mrs. Bell came in—a paper which he thought contained an ount of Lauer's testimony on the preliminary examination. 'Your'e sure you were reading Lauer's

testimony, are you?" asked Mr. Cowin.
"Yes, I am almost sure."
"And Mrs. Bell said that night that

she had sworn to a lie in police court, did Yes, or something of that sort,"

plied the witness, shifting uneasily. Under further cross-examination the witness testified that he had first told of Emma Bell's confession to a man named asked him about it. McLaughlin came to the place where he (Williams) was working and the two discussed the matter. Afterwards he went with Mc-Laughlin to Judge Thurston's office in the Omaha National bank building on

South Thirteenth street.
"How many times did you see this man McLaughlin before you went with him to Judge Thurston's office?"

'Several times.' "Did he treat you to anything?"
"I don't drink."

"Did he ever give you anything at "He gave me a cigar nearly every time

he met me."
"Did he give you anything else?"
"What do you mean?" asked the wit-

ness uneasily.
"I mean what I say. Did YOU EVER GET ANY MONEY from McLaughlin?" 'No, sir, I never did."

"Any clothes?"
"No, sir, I buy my own clothes."
"Then McLaughlin gave you nothing but cigars—no money nor clothes?"
"He did not," answered the witness. After a few more questions General Cowin ceased his cross-examination.

HE WAS MUDDLED, TOO.

Jesse Butler, another negro, though
very much darker than the preceding
witness, testified to Emma Bell's alleged perjury. He stated that Mrs. B. had on one occasion told him and his wife that she had sworn to a lie in testifying against Lauer, that she had never seen Lauer and that she was to be paid good for swearing as she did. When asked why she done this Mrs. Bell replied that she was a poor widow woman and had a

hard time of getting along.

The defense was then through with the witness and turned him over for cross-examination by the prosecution.
"Those are the exact words that Emma Bell said, are they?" asked General Cowin

of the witness.
"They are."
"Word for word?"

'Yes, sir, word for word."

You are not mistaken?" 'I know I am not.'

You have got them firmly fixed in your memory, have you?"
"I have," replied the witness positively.
"Now repeat the first question put to you by Mr. Thurston, containing the statement which you claim was made by Mrs. Bell," said General Cowin.

"I object to that," shouted Mr. Thurs-

"I object to that," shouted Mr. Thurson, jumping to his feet.

The objection was not sustained and Mr. Butler was ordered to repeat as nearly as he could the question conteining Mrs. Bell's alleged statement.

He failed radically. His brilliant memory went back on him and he muttered a few incoherent words. Despite his claim that he knew Mrs. Bell's every and exact word, he could not repeat threee of them

word, he could not repeat threee of them consecutively. He was completely broken 'So that's all you can do, is it?" asked

General Cowin. General Cowin.

The witness answered nothing, but Mr
Thurston retorted, "That's as good a
you could have done."

"Oh, I have no doubt of it," replied
General Cowin sareastically. "Butler
has done much better than I could. He's

a good one."
Further cross-examination revealed the

fact that Butler was a very much mud-dled witness. He contradicted himself in Mrs. Jesse Butier was next called to the stand. She testified to having heard

On the evening of the third expirement the curtains and blinds in the bedroom were down, the blinds in the dining room being open and the curtain down. The result was about the same as that of the preceding experiment. Mr. W. V. Morse was wrapped in a sheet and paraded about in the dining room. His features could not be distinguished by a person in the bedroom. the confession from Mrs. Bell, and repeated by the preceding witness, Mr. Butler.

Mrs. B. was

ALSO BADLY MIXED UP on cross-examination. When subjected to a severe fire of questions from General Cowin, she said that as she remembered that Mrs. Bell had said she had told some-

thing she had no business to and wished she had never had anything to do with the case: A statement of Mrs. Bell's utterances which was so vastly differently from the first account given by the witness, that General Cowin's features relaxed into a smile f grim delight.
Mrs. Butler further stated on cross-

testified that in November of 1886, when

by Judge Thurston on the cellar window

through which, it is claimed the burglar

"Tell me what you saw," said Judge

the bailiff shouted for order.
On cross-examination, Mr. Lee said that

he considered "Mrs. Lauer habitually sad or depressed. She was a matter-of-fact woman, and not inclined to be what you

might call jocular," said the witness.
The court here took a recess for dinner.

MRE. BELL WAS THERE.

During all the time that the negro wit-

nesses and Miss Blessington were testify-

and again caressing, in a very familiar style, various portions of Judge Neville's

IN THE AFTERNTON,
Mr. Lee was placed on the stand again

resterday afternoon, but his further testi-

James Richards, an ex-employe of the

[In this connection it might be stated

that this line of testimony is being intro-

duced to show that the burglar which

Lauer claims to have shot at in August, 1885, might have escaped through the

cellar window, as Lauer claimed that he

In another branch of the testimony

Richard said that on the Monday evening after the funeral, he was at Lauer's house. He saw Lauer there talking cordially with Mr. Peter Her and Messrs. Gallagher and Meshane. When they left he shook hands with them and also effectionately hade Mrs. Her good by

affectionately bade Mrs. Her good-bys.

The same witness testified that on the

also invited several prominent citizens to make similar experiments—among them W. V. Morse, Captain Richards and

Herman Kountze. In all these experi-ments the isinglass of the stove was per-

feetly bright and clean, just as it was on the night of the tragedy. On cross-examination, the witness tes-

tified that he had known Lauer for five years, and was a good friend of his. He had called on Lauer

several times, but principally on matters of business. During her stay in the

Lauer house, the witness saw Miss Lauer clear the isinglass in the stove several

times. She generally did it in the morn-

ing, when she did her other house work.
You woke up at 2 o'clock in the morn-

ing, when you found the coals dulled down, did you?" asked General Cowin.

cross-examiner, sarcastically, there any light in the room?"

flushing up.

from powder.

"Yes," said the witness, "I did."
"Yhe same 2 o'clock," remarked the

"Then how did you know it was two

o'clock."
"I guessed at it," replied the witness

"What made you guess it was 2

'The witness was further examined about the condition of the isinglass in baseburner stoves. He thought that a stove with isinglass would remain bright

HE MADE EXPERIMENTS.

D. M. Sells, an attorney, testifies to ex-

periments which he had made with a re-

volver, as to the powder marks left on sheets of paper by shots fired at different

distances. These ranged all the way from four to nine feet, and all of the

papers showed more or less preforation

seat near the reporters' stand.
"Here," exclaimed that individual,

figeting nervously on his seat, "don't point that thing this way."

Mr. Thurston quickly dropped the

"thing."
W. A. L. Gibbon testified to being one

of the party of gentlemen who made a test of the stove in the Lauer house. On

one occasion there was a bright light with the drafts open. A person lying on the bed in the sleeping room could distin-guish by the light of the stove the articles

of furniture in the next room. A person who crossed the threshold between the

two rooms and entered the sleeping apartment could not be distinguished, ex-

cept in the dim outlines. A man could not be distinguished from a woman. The second experiment made by the

The second experiment made by the witness and his associates took place a lunar month after the first. Mr. J. J. O'Connor, Mr. Ben Gallagher, Mr. M. Donovan, Mr. W. V. Morse and Mr. Herman Kountze were present. The curtains and blinds were down. One of the party would lie down and sheets would

be wrapped around the other gentlemen

by turns, who would approach the bed from the dining room. After the figure

reached the bedroom, it ceased to be dis-tinguishable and one could not have even

told whether it was that of a male or fe-

male. In the further room, where the stove was, this form would be distinguish-

able only in its bare outlines. The light from the isinglass was not really bright.

On cross-examination, Mr. Gibbon stated that by the light of the stoye he could not have read the print in a paper

or distinguished the cast on a man's

When Sells finished his testimony, Mr. Thurston commenced snapping the re-volver, which was empty, in the direc-tion of Lawyer Baldwin, who occupied a

for four weeks without growing dim.

"I don't know. I can generally tell

nony revealed nothing new.

Lauer shot at escaped.

Thurston.

anatomy.

"Yes, without resorting to artificial means to make a draft." examination that Mrs. Bell had said that she did not want to testify further in the "And you couldn't have seen a pocket-knife lying on the bed, if you were stand-ing on the thresh-hold?"
"No." case and had offered her (Mrs. Butler) \$2 to go and get some morphine to make her sick, so she couldn't be taken into court. "I refused togo for morphine and then she said she would get drunk by drinking whisky," said the witness.

Miss Delia Blessington, a rather good looking blonde, then took the stand. She

possibly be?" asked General Cowin

ness pretty savagely on the subject of the

third night's experiment. "The fire on that night was just as bright as could

"Could you have seen the large print iu a newspaper?''

"Could you have distinguished the buttons on a man's coat?'

lying at the house of her uncle, Mr. Quinlan, she heard Mrs. Bell say to Mrs. Mr. Gibbon stated that he could by the light of the stove distinguish the features of Mr. W. V. Morse, standing five feet Williams: "I got a dollar for swearing falsely yesterday. I have got many a dollar for false swearing. I never saw John Lauer before in my life." away in the dining room.
"Could you recognize features any further away than that?" "Not much further." The cross-examination of this witness

revealed nothing new. She adhered firmly to her original statements. Mr. John G. Lee, the old gentleman "Could you distinguish his mons who had testified for the prosecution was "Don't you think that if Mr. Morse had

called to the stand and swore to the pleasant relations which existed between Mr and Mrs. Lauer. He also testified to an experiment which was made last night on a wig of long light hair streaming down over his shoulders you could have listinguished that?''
"I might.''

"And you could not distinguish Mr. Morse's moustache, which I believe was

"No."
"There's a good deal of difference, isn't dark room and a dark room and a dark "I saw you slide through that window mighty fast. I think you'd make a good burglar," replied the witness quickly. People in the court room laughed, and here, between a dark room and a moustache and a light room and light hair, isn't there?'' object to that," interposed the

counsel for the defense.

The objection was sustained and Gen eral Cowin withdrew his question.

Mr. J. J. O'Connor was called as the next witness and testified to the experi ments denoted by Mr. Gibbon in his tes amony. His testimony need not be given at all extensively, as it was substantially a repetition of that of Mr. Gibbons. nesses and Miss Blessington were testifying to Mrs. Bell's alleged confession of perjury, Mrs. Bell was sitting near the bailiff's desk, eagerly drinking in every word that was said. Her little three-year-old child played about the court room, now running between the legs of the distinguished counsel, now pulling the coat tails of the stenographer and again caressing in a very familiar

During Mr. O'Connor's examination by Judge Savage, a little episode occurred which served to relieve the tedium of the afternoon's proceedings. Judge Savage had put to the witness a question which was rather a "feeler." General Cowin Objected. Judge Neville sustained the objection with the remark, "I don't like questions which have a tendency to 'brace up' a witness." "Your honor," ejaculated Judge Sav-

age, popping to his feet with a very red face, "I except to your ruling. And I must respectfully but firmly protest against your honor's referring to me as 'bracing up a witness.' I desire the re-James Richards, an ex-employe of the nailworks, was next called. He testified to having gone down in the cellar last night with Mr. Thurston, and made examination of the cellar. The cellar window worked very easily and Mr. Thurston, the witness stated, made his exit very easily through it. porter to take down these words." And he dropped into his seat with a sudden jerk.
Judge Neville assured the irate lawyer

that he meant no offense and Judge Savage seemed partially pacified. M. Donovan took the stand. His testi mony was a dreary repitition of that of Messrs. O'Connor and Gibbon.

A first class short order cafe, doing excel lent business. Showing of handsome profit since business established. Best of reason for selling. Address F, 64, BEE

Three drunks were arraigned before Judge Stenberg yesterday morning, and one fined. "Parsy" Kelley and Curly Me-Donald, two notorious erooks, who belong to the band written up in the BEE sometime ago, were sent to the county jail for sixty days, as suspicious char-

The same witness testified that on the night that Messrs. Ewing, Cowin and Estelle made their experiment with the stove, the fire was very bright. At 2 o'clock the next morning the fire was dulled down and did not give out light enough to distinguish a human form by. In three or 4 hours after the stove was filled with coal for the night, the light would be little or nothing. The witness also invited several prominent citizens Wanted built at once in Council Bluffs, 100 new houses for rent by June 1st. RICE & McGEE, 110 Main Street.

H. H. Birket, the collector for J. E Edwards, who was arrested for the alleged theft of \$10 from his employer, was discharged by Judge Stenberg yesterday morning. He proved that the money rightfully belonged to him as his salary. Wanted built at once in Council

Bluffs, 100 new houses for rent, by June 1. Rice & McGee, 110 Main street, Coun-The South Omaha Land company have

appointed C. E. Mayne sole agent for the sale of their lots. He will show the property and furnish all desired information [Signed] W. A. PANTON, President.

The Omaha Belt railway obtained an injuction against the C. M. St. P. & O. road, in the district court yesterday to pre-vent that road from building on its right of way. The hearing of the injunction is set for March 19th.

Street Fakirs.

Almost daily there may be seen upon our streets at some public corner, or in some grocery store whose accommodating owner has made room for him, some one of these amusing street fakirs with an open-mouthed crowd about him, attracted by his gub-told stories or by his sleight of hand performances, which are given preliminary to an attempt to sell some quack medicine or other patent nostrum, Some of these fellows will chew cotton and breathe flame until their mouths appear veritable Vesuvius in full eruption, and then sell a tooth wash that will make and then sell a tooth wash that will make the blackest teeth a pearly white, and before your eyes will prove its efficacy upon the incisors of any offering gamm. Others will make a stump speech upon any of the live topics of the day, introductory to the sale of another wash that will render all metals like burnished gold. Many others of these street fakirs are turning an in-dustrious penny with the phosphate bakdustrious penny with the phosphate baking powders, and where permitted to take their stand in a grocery store will amuse the servant girls and the fun-loving boys by the hour with their little gas toves and their scientific gabble, showing the marvelous things their goods will do. But the work of the baking powder fakirs, though it has the same appear ance of success as that of their brothers upon the streets, is of the same detusive character, for the bisquits apparently so light and delicious will be found to have been made so at the expense of both cleanliness and wholesomeness. The claim of the fakirs that the tooth wash is perfectly harmless, that the patent gilding will retain its brilliant gloss for months, and that the phosbate baking powders restore the heathfull baking powders restore the heathfull phospates lost in the grinding of the flour and make wholesome bread, are equally romance. The boy whose teeth has been made so pearly white finds their enamel has been destroyed in the operation; the girl whose nickel watch is rendered bright as burnished gold finds it irretrievably beyond all polish on the morrow; and the housekeeper will find an equal misrepresentation with reference to the biscuit, for the phosdate baking powder from which it was made ap-parently so fair and flight, contained not a particle of the "health-giving phos-phate derived from the grain of wheat," but was made from phosphatic rock or bones gathered from the garbage dump and ground and treated with sulphuric acid. The fakirs, in baking and giving away biscuit and cake may seem to be doing a liberal ann expensive thing, but it is just the opposite, as the exceeding cheapness of the material they use, such as phosphate or alum, gives them when they make a sale a profit of three hun-dred to five hundred per cent, fully equalling the profits they realize when they again take a turn upon the street corner with their tooth wash or patent

Still, the street fakirs, whether selling tooth wash or phosphote baking powder are amusing individuals and are propab-ly as harmless as many other less amusing impositions,

ODDS AND ENDS.

back. The fire was prepared by Mr. M. Donovan and Mr. J. J. O'Connor, who took charge of it about noon that day. General Cowin cross-examined the wit Stray Leaves From a Reporter's Note

"I find great difficulty in obtaining a good servant. The kind that I get are inexperienced and disinclined to learn, said a plump, well-dressed lady to an employment agent vesterday, "The majority of green hands who go into domestic service entertain the idea that there is nothing to learn, that work is all mechanical. This is a great mistake, a good girl as help in household duties must have judgment and energy; she must have self-reliance and not wait to be told each particular portion of the work to be done outside of her regular routine. I cannot find one that seems to understand this."

understand this."
"There are a great many such girls, ma'am, in Omaha," the agent said, "but they have permanent places and their employers would not let them go, however high their wages might be. I have employers would not let them go, how-ever high their wages might be. I have a great many ladies like yourself, who are looking for such help, but I cannot find them, as they are scarcely ever un-employed. They drift from their mis-tresses' homes to that of a husband's. There is a great demand for first class domestics in this city." The agent took the lady's name and she left disconsol-ate.

"Do you have many applicants from girls who are desirous of securing work in stores or offices?" the agent was

"Oh, no," was the answer, "Girls who want elerical positions generally go around to the stores and make their wants known in person, or obtain an introduction through a friend of some influence with the proprietor. Our great want is domestic help. There are large numbers of men being sent out on the the various railroads through the season but it is too early for that yet."

"You may say," a field sportsman remarked last night in the Millard, "that this is going to be a glorious season for hunting. The boys are fitting themselves out with guns and ammunition and dogs, and scattering themselves out in all directions from Omaha. The season is not quite commenced yet, but a large num-ber have gone out and come back laden with the feathered booty. We have with the feathered booty. We have three clubs—the Omaha, South Omaha and Le Fevre. They see that the law is enforced against pot-hunters, have their regular shoots, and aim to keep the sport elevated on a gentlemanly and pleasan eminence.

"Yes," a stout produce dealer and evident consumer told a BEE reporter yesterday, "the wild duck and geese that hover northward in triangles and other geometrical lines, are many of them dropping into our market, the huntsman's spoils. They are the only wild game we received this spring yet. In a little while snipe will be added to the number. There is promise of a great slaughter this spring, for the number of birds moving about is said to be enormous."

Hood's Sarsaparilla is peculiar to itself and superior to all other preparations in strength, economy and medicinal merit

The marshal of Red Oak, Iowa, telphoned to Marshal Cummings yesterday morning, that a gray horse 10 or 11 years old, weighing eleven or twelve hundred counds with a lump on the inside of left hind foot had been stolen from that place. The animal is believed to have peen brought to Omaha.



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A TUMBLE.

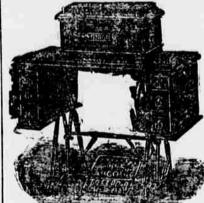
It has been our custom at the end of each winter season to place on sale, at reduced prices, our remaining stock of mens' and youths' winter trousers. There are good reasons for doing so. We consider it advisable and to our interests to convert into cash, even at a loss, such merchandise, the sale of which will soon be suspended for six months. Most men wear out two pairs of trousers with one coat and vest; the second pair seems an extra expense, and a real bargain is very acceptable. We like to gratify such people and win their good will. We still have on hand about 400 pairs of winter trousers, some odds and ends, some broken lots, but most patterns are in complete assortment of sizes, and marked down to prices which merely cover the cost of the cloth.

We also have concluded to close out our whole remaining stock of silk neckwear, which has been selling for 25c, 50c, 75c and \$1. There are about 140 dozen and we have marked them down to 10c, 15c, 25c and 50, respectively.

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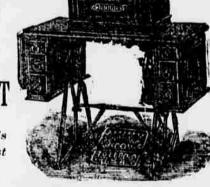
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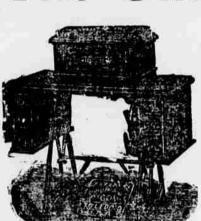
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