

LAUER'S DEFENSE BEGUN.

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 De-tailed 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 mutt, was the first witness for the defense. 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 Judge Thurston. 'She did,' replied the witness. 'You may take the witness,' said the defense.

General Cowin subjected Williams to a rigid cross-examination. Williams testified 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 witness.

"You had trouble?" "Yes." "What trouble was that?" "Oh a good deal 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 blame?" "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 reading a paper when Mrs. Bell came in—a paper which he thought contained an account of Lauer's testimony on the preliminary examination.

"Your sure you were reading Lauer's testimony, are you?" asked Mr. Cowin. "Yes, I am almost sure." "And Mrs. Bell stated that night that she had sworn to a lie in police court, did she?" "Yes, or something of that sort," replied 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 McLaughlin who had come to him and asked him about it. McLaughlin came to the place where he was working and was working and the two discussed the matter. Afterwards he went with McLaughlin 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 all?" "He gave me a cigar nearly every time he met me."

"Did he give you anything else?" "What do you mean?" asked the witness 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 for 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?" "Yes, sir, I have."

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. Thurston, jumping to his feet. The objection was not sustained and Mr. Butler was ordered to repeat as nearly as he could the question containing 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 three of them consecutively. He was completely broken down.

thing she had no business to do and wished she never had said anything to do with the case. A statement of Mrs. Bell's utterances which was so vastly different from the first account given by the witness, that General Cowin's features relaxed into a smile of delight.

Mrs. Butler further stated on cross-examination that Mrs. Bell had said that she did not want to testify further in the case and had offered her (Mrs. Butler) \$2 to go and get some morphine for her sick, so she couldn't be taken into court. "I refused to go for morphine and then she said she would get drunk by drinking whisky," said the witness.

Mrs. Della Hossington, a rather good looking blonde, then took the stand. She testified that in November of 1886, when living at the house of her uncle, Mr. Quinn, she heard Mrs. Bell say to Mrs. 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.'

The cross-examination of this witness revealed nothing new. She adhered firmly to her original statements. Mr. John G. Lee, the old gentleman who had testified for the prosecution, was 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 by Judge Thurston on the cellar window through which it is claimed the burglar Lauer escaped.

"Tell me what you saw," said Judge Thurston. "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 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 peevish," said the witness. The court here took a recess for dinner.

MRS. BELL WAS THERE. During all the time that the negro witness testified 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 ceasing in a very familiar and various portions of Judge Neville's anatomy.

IN THE AFTERNOON. Mr. Lee was placed on the stand again yesterday afternoon, but his further testimony revealed nothing new. The street fakirs and a crowd of on-lookers were 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.

In this connection it might be stated that this line of testimony is being introduced 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 did.

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 McShane. When they left he shook hands with them and also affectionately bade Mrs. Her good-bys.

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 duffed down and did not give out light enough to distinguish a human form by. In the morning 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 to make similar experiments—among them W. V. Morse, Captain Richards and Herman Kuntzke. In all these experiments the insinglass of the stove was perfectly bright and clean, just as it was on the night of the tragedy.

On cross-examination, the witness testified 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 insinglass in the stove several times. She generally did it in the morning, when she did her other house work.

"The same 2 o'clock," remarked the cross-examiner sarcastically. "Was there any light in the room?" "No." "Then how did you know it was two o'clock?" "I guessed at it," replied the witness flushing up.

"What made you guess it was 2 o'clock?" "I don't know. I can generally tell how long I have been sleeping." "Under the circumstances," examined about the condition of the insinglass in baseburner stoves. He thought that a stove with insinglass would remain bright for four weeks without growing dim.

HE MADE EXPERIMENTS. D. M. Seils, an attorney, testifies to experiments with the revolver, as well 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 shots struck more or less perforation from powder.

When Seils finished his testimony, Mr. Thurston commenced snapping the revolver, which was empty, in the direction of the witness, who occupied a seat near the reporters' stand. "Here," exclaimed that individual, fighting nervously on his seat, "don't point that thing this way." "The man who is sitting quickly dropped the "thing."

The fire was prepared by Mr. M. Donovan and Mr. J. J. O'Connor, who took charge of it about 11 o'clock. General Cowin cross-examined the witness pretty savagely on the subject of the third night's experiment. "The fire on that night was just as bright as could possibly be," asked General Cowin. "Yes, without resorting to artificial means to make a draft."

"And you couldn't have seen a pocket-life lying on the bed, if you were standing on the threshold?" "No." "Could you have seen the large print in a newspaper?" "No." "Could you have distinguished the buttons on a man's coat?" "No."

Mr. Gibbon stated that he could by the light of the stove distinguish the features of Mr. V. Morse, standing five feet away in the dining room. "Could you recognize features any further away than that?" "Not much further."

"Could you distinguish his moustache?" "No." "Don't you think that if Mr. Morse had on a wig of long light hair streaming down his shoulders you could have distinguished that?" "I might."

"And you could not distinguish Mr. Morse's moustache, which I believe was dark?" "No." "There's a good deal of difference, isn't there, between a dark room and a dark moustache and a light room and light hair?" "Yes."

"We object to that," interposed the counsel for the defense. The objection was sustained and General Cowin withdrew his question.

A SAVAGE ENCOUNTER. Mr. J. J. O'Connor was called as the next witness and testified to the experiments made by Mr. Gibbon in his testimony. His testimony need not be given at all extensively, as it was substantially a repetition of that of Mr. Gibbons.

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 Savage, 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 am a reporter to take down these words." And he dropped into his seat with a sudden jerk.

Judge Neville assured the irate lawyer that he meant to offend no one, and Judge Savage seemed partially pacified. M. Donovan took the stand. His testimony was a dreary repetition of that of Messrs. O'Connor and Gibbon.

FOR SALE. A first class short order cafe, doing excellent business. Showing of handsome profit since business established. Best of reason for selling. Address F. 64, Bee office.

Three drunks were arraigned before Judge Stenberg yesterday morning, and one of them, "Fat" Curly, and Donald, two notorious nooks, who belong to the band written up in the Bee sometime ago, were sent to the county jail for sixty days, as suspicious characters.

Wanted built at once in Council Bluffs, 100 new houses for rent by June 1st. Rice & McGee, 110 Main Street.

R. H. Birget, 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 1st. Rice & McGee, 110 Main Street, Council Bluffs.

The South Omaha Land company have appointed C. E. May as agent for the sale of their lots. He will show the property and furnish all desired information upon application. [Signed] W. A. PAXTON, President.

ODDS AND ENDS. Stray Leaves From a Reporter's Note Book. "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 yesterday. "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. cannot find one that seems to 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 a great many ladies like yourself, who are looking for such help, but I cannot find them, as they are scarcely ever unemployed. They drift from their mistresses' 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 disconsolate.

"Do you have many applicants from girls who are desirous of securing work in stores or offices?" the agent was asked. "Oh, no," was the answer. "Girls who want clerical 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 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 number have gone out and come back laden with the feathered booty. We have three clubs—the Omaha, South Omaha and Le Veve. They say that the law is enforced against pot-hunters, but their regular shoots, and aim to keep the sport elevated on a gentlemanly and pleasant 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. Our hunters' 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, telephoned to Marshal Cummings yesterday morning, that a gray horse 10 or 11 years old, weighing eleven or twelve hundred pounds with a lump on the inside of left hind foot, had been stolen from that place. The animal is believed to have been brought to Omaha.

MADE ON HONOR PERFECT IN EVERY RESPECT. The only Machine that will sew backwards and forwards equally well, and the Lightest Running Sewing Machine in existence.

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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; this extra 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.

One of the secrets of our success during our many years in the clothing business has been in the closing out of all reasonable goods towards the end of each season, regardless of cost.

Nebraska Clothing Company

Cor. Douglas and 14th sts., Omaha.

Advertisement for a sewing machine, featuring an illustration of the machine and text describing its features and availability.

The Union Sewing Machine

We desire energetic and responsible dealers in Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Dakota and Western Iowa.

Advertisement for Union Manufacturing Co., featuring an illustration of a sewing machine and contact information.

Advertisement for OMAHA MEDICAL INSTITUTE, located at 13th St. and Capitol Avenue.

Advertisement for Nebraska National Bank, OMAHA, NEBRASKA, with capital and surplus information.

Advertisement for THE IRON BANK, Cor. 12th and Farnam Sts., a general banking business.

Advertisement for Maverick National Bank, BOSTON, MASS., with capital and surplus information.

Advertisement for Red Star Line, carrying the Belgium Royal and United States Mail, sailing every Saturday.

Advertisement for FALL AND WINTER, featuring a list of goods and prices.

Advertisement for TANSILL'S PUNCH, a cigar with a unique flavor.

Advertisement for CALIFORNIA ROUND TRIP, offering excursions to various California cities.

Advertisement for RUPTURE, offering medical treatment for various ailments.

Advertisement for CONSUMPTION, offering a cure for lung diseases.

Advertisement for YATSI'S CORSET, featuring a corset with a YATSI'S TRADE MARK.

Advertisement for JAMES MEANS' \$3 SHOE, offering a durable and comfortable shoe.

Advertisement for THE NEW DEPARTURE DRUM, featuring a drum with a new design.

Advertisement for FREE TRIAL, offering a trial of a product.

Advertisement for THE CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY, featuring a SHORT LINE.

Advertisement for Omaha, Council Bluffs and Chicago, offering travel services.

Advertisement for WEAK MEN!, offering a cure for various ailments.

Advertisement for THE NEW DEPARTURE DRUM, featuring a drum with a new design.

Advertisement for FREE TRIAL, offering a trial of a product.

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