

A LIVELY DAY IN COURT

JUDGE BRYAN GIVES HIS VIEW

Several interesting cases were disposed of yesterday—Jim Burton, a Negro, was set free. The chief witness against him was Will Ziegler, a white pervert. Who Ziegler, with Negroes—Caroline Roseboro convicted of selling liquor to Will Ayers, white—Hastings gives an account of himself—He is polite to the judge, who is an old friend.

Judge Henry R. Bryan, who is holding the February criminal term of Mecklenburg Superior Court yesterday when he said: "I think that the white people are putting the negroes up to this whiskey selling and they are more to blame, to my mind, than the negroes."

Most of the cases tried so far run about the same, a negro defendant and the chief witness a white man. The public has noted this, and the court's remark is significant. Col. Kirkpatrick insinuated, yesterday, that certain white men were becoming professional witnesses just for the fee.

The court is interesting to a few. If not all, Messrs. Clarkson and Morrison, the prosecuting attorneys, are fighting hard every inch of ground, and the lawyers for the defendants are doing their utmost.

There were not as many cases disposed of yesterday as during the preceding days of the court. During Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday more than 75 cases were taken off the docket, but most of them were misdemeanors and not serious. Yesterday only a few cases were disposed of, those being against three offenders: Tom Quinn, Jim Burton and Carolina Roseboro.

Tom Quinn is known as the star blind tiger of the city. He has been in all records by appearing in the Superior Court three times, with a total of 25 cases against him. At the last term he was fined \$5, but that was only a part of his illegal earnings and he went back to his old tricks. His attorney, Mr. J. D. McCall, submitted for Tom in six cases, Judge Bryan sentenced the defendant to serve a term of nine months on the roads, which is considered light.

One of the most interesting cases tried yesterday was that of the State against Jim Burton, a young negro. The chief witness against him was Will Ziegler, the white degenerate and pervert who makes it a habit to gamble with negroes. The jury believed the defendant's testimony and gave him his freedom. Ziegler, in effect, turned State's evidence to protect his own hide. Among other things he swore on the stand that the police officers had promised him exemption if he would tell on the other side of the street to let the defendant go.

Will McCall, a negro, also testified. He, too, was looking out for self. This case attracted considerable attention. Major Plummer Stewart defended Jim Burton and he did it well. No person ever saw a better actor anywhere than Jim. He is as black as the darkest recesses of the earth, his teeth eyes like billiard balls and his head is top-sidled. The old granny in shaping Jim's noggin stuck it under a fence corner and mashed one side about the ear. Jim is a man of quiet manners, for he never as much as moved his head to the right or left while he was on trial. He bore the appearance of a weak-minded, innocent negro youth who was being imposed upon. His youthful look and small crooked body made him an object of pity.

"The white man who plays cards with a negro and then preaches on him," said Major Stewart, "is a worse man than the negro. Imagine a white man, sitting on the creek bank on a fine Sunday, playing cards with a lot of negroes! I can hardly believe it. What is worse he preaches on them! Gentlemen of the jury, can you believe the testimony of such a man? Has he not already admitted that he 'preached' once before to save himself? You cannot pay any attention to what this man has said. He is a lower than the negro that he associates with."

The jury agreed with Jim's attorney for it rendered a verdict of not guilty. "Come around here, Caroline," said Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, as he motioned to a middle-aged, thin-faced negro. "Caroline rose from amidst the spectators and marched up and took a seat by her attorney.

"Gentlemen of the jury," said the solicitor, "this woman is indicted for selling liquor to Will Ayers."

"What is the name of the defendant?" asked Judge Bryan. "Caroline Roseboro," said Col. Kirkpatrick, and the name of the woman became Roseboro, instead of Roseboro. "Blessings attend her," said Judge Little as the first witness took the stand.

The jury was adjourned out by Col. Kirkpatrick, his partner, Mr. Frank B. McNeill, Major Stewart and his associate, Mr. McRae. The middle-aged, thin-faced negro, being a member of the L. & O. I., was excused. Many changes were made.

John Ayers and McCall had not seen Will Ayers by the liquor, but McCall had heard him say that he got it from Caroline Rosebery.

The defendant denied the entire story. She said that Will Ayers had come to her and asked for a whiskey game, and wanted to get his associates drunk and get all they had. Officer Christenbury swore that he had visited the home of Caroline and found quite a nice lot of whiskey all done up in neat packages. He had found a trunk full of the stuff. Caroline said that the trunk belonged to Frank Foster.

The first speech was made by Mr. Cameron Morrison, representing the Law and Order League. His argument was logical and seemed to make a good impression. While he spoke Col. Tom Black took a refreshing nap in a jury box across the way. No one seemed to think that the fine old police officer intended any disrespect to the prosecuting attorney, for as soon as the next speaker, Mr. McRae, began to address the jury he picked up his hat and left the room. He it said here that the colonel was not on duty. He had rambled around with his billy the night before and when the drowsiness of the close stuffy court room settled on him he fell asleep.

Mr. McRae, who has a splendid voice and makes a good speech, followed Mr. Morrison and in turn was followed by Mr. Col. Kirkpatrick, who reviewed the case thoroughly.

"You know why these lawyers fight so on this case?" asked Solicitor Clarkson, as he got up.

"Why, it is because there so much money in it. The poor negro sells the liquor, gets in trouble and the lawyer gets all the money."

"The money goes to both sides," said Col. Kirkpatrick.

As the representative of the State called forth a big black negro in the hall got up off of his hunkers, shoved his green goggles back and took a good look at him and then sat down again.

After remaining out for some time the jury brought in a verdict of guilty. This case was hard fought on either side.

Mr. Will Hastings, one of the most persistent liquor sellers that the county has ever harbored, was trotted out by his attorney, Major Stewart, and caused to give an account of himself. He swore with a pitiful look on his face that he had not sold a drop of liquor since he gave bond to behave himself. Mr. Clarkson was inclined to doubt this and insinuated that he was from Missouri. Whereupon, Mr. Major Stewart brought up witnesses, Mr. Mack VanPelt and Mr. Hampton, of Huntersville, who declared that they had heard no bad report since the oath was made.

In questioning Mr. Hastings, the solicitor asked: "Are you not selling liquor up there now?" "No, sir, Mr. Clarkson."

"What about Beeline?" "No, sir."

"What is it that you are selling?" "Nothing but gluker ale," exclaimed Mr. Clarkson, as if he had unearthed a barrel of fresh corn liquor.

"That is not intoxicating, Mr. Clarkson, and I stopped selling Beeline because you told me to," declared Mr. Hastings all in a tremor.

"But, you tell some one when you go back from the chain gang that we couldn't stop you until the cold chills covered you in your grace?" "No, sir, Mr. Clarkson, no, sir," cried the grey-headed defendant.

ANNUAL COST OF PRESENTS.

Several Young Men Estimate the Cost of Wedding Presents.

A number of young men were standing in Jordan's drug store yesterday morning, watching the people as they passed by. A young lady, whose wedding is soon to be, drove across the square. After a few preliminary remarks, one young man asked another what he would select for a present for the bride-to-be. This presented the subject of the annual cost of wedding gifts. "I spend \$100 or thereabouts," remarked one. "Mine hardly runs up that much," said another. "I guess that my presents cost me something in the neighborhood of \$175," spoke up a third. "I counted up several nights ago," added another, "and found that I had spent not less than \$300 for wedding presents last year." And so it ran.

A BIG DEAL IN MILL STOCK.

Col. W. E. Holt Still Owns \$100,000 of Highland Park Preferred Stock.

The deal, involving the future transfer of \$2,000 worth of common stock in the Highland Park Manufacturing Company, not \$88,000 as was reported in The Observer yesterday, by Col. W. E. Holt, to a syndicate composed of Messrs. C. W. Johnston, E. B. Tanner, R. H. Jordan and E. D. Latta, is one of the biggest single deals in mill stock that has ever been made in Charlotte.

This disposes of all of Col. Holt's common stock in the Highland Park Manufacturing Company. He has yet, however, \$100,000 of preferred stock, and remains one of the largest individual stockholders in this well-known and prosperous corporation.

WINDY TROUBLE AFAR OFF.

Scouts of L. & O. I. Got a Scent of Game Yesterday, but Could Not Quite Locate It.

The scouts of the L. & O. I. windied something yesterday. Like foxhounds on a damp, heavy morning, when scenting conditions are first class, they carried their noses high and dashed about in an excited manner. It was evident to the onlooker that an odor of game was floating in the air. But, as they did, they found no trail.

The thing that caused the trouble was an empty copper still, a real up-to-date whiskey still, that passed through yesterday morning on its way from Advance to Wadesboro. The keen-nosed L. & O. I. artists got a whiff of it as it was transferred from one train to another.

A New Millinery Store.

Mrs. G. C. Ramsey, of New York, has rented the Hartly store at No. 211 North Tryon street and will open up a ladies' tailoring and millinery establishment there at once. Mrs. Ramsey, who is remembered by many in Charlotte as Miss Carrie Jones, will have charge of the millinery department. The establishment will be up-to-date and modern in every respect. The opening will be about the 1st of March.

Remains in Status Quo.

The status of affairs at the new Southern passenger station remains the same. The city has not yet recoiled from its stand and the railway authorities seem willing to let matters drift. In the meantime, the traveling public is paying the penalty on account of inadequate accommodations.

Interesting Changes of Schedule.

The traveling public will be interested to know that train No. 125, running from Blacksburg to Marion, now waits at Blacksburg for No. 29 from the North.

This arrangement benefits people from Charlotte and points north of here to go to Shelby, Rutherford and other places on that line on the early morning train. The change was made last Sunday. Train No. 125 leaves Blacksburg at 8:55 a.m.

SHIRT SALE

Friday and Saturday... 75 Cents Each

Our entire line of Colored Shirts, NEGLIGEE and STIFF BOSOM, carried over from Summer and Fall, will be sold on Friday and Saturday AT 75 Cents Each

In the line you will find all sizes—14 to 16 1-2. Original Price: \$1.50, \$1.25 and \$1.00 Sale Price: 75 Cents Cash

Yorke Bros. & Rogers See our East Window.

Chance For Cheap Clothes THE LONG-TATE CLOTHING CO. Oldest Clothing Store in Charlotte. Goods sent on Approval, Returnable at Our Expense.

DRESS CLOTHES IT IS fit and proper that one attend formal functions in the proper attire; society demands as much. Ed. W. Mellon Company LEADING CLOTHIERS MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT AND CAREFUL ATTENTION.

NOTICE! All our Club Members: For some time several boys have been going around the city securing clothes to be cleaned and pressed, claiming to be our representatives, but only for the purpose of stealing them. Queen City Dyeing and Cleaning Works Mrs. J. M. Hester, Proprietress.

LEATHER FURNITURE SALE Do not let this opportunity slip by you. To-day we present an array of real bargains in Leather Furniture. Leather Couches.....\$25.00 to \$65.00 Leather Davenport... 45.00 to 120.00 Leather Sofas..... 16.00 to 60.00 Leather Library Suits 45.00 to 75.00 Turkish Leather Rockers \$26 to 60.00 Leather Seat Rockers 4.50 to 25.00 Leather Chairs..... 2.75 to 25.00

Special Prices ON Sideboards Our present stock must be reduced to make room for our new stock of spring goods. If you are in need of a Sideboard This Reduction Means Money Saved Watch our west window for these unusual values Lubin Furniture Company

Big Sale Of Rugs and Mattings WE are offering special low prices on all kinds of FLOOR COVERINGS. Our Rug Department was never so complete as to-day. THE PALAMOUNTAIN COMPANY. FOR SALE. A full assortment—all sizes and prices. Every one guaranteed. The best made. If you have ever had trouble with a Fountain Pen, give ours a trial, and we are sure you will be satisfied.

THE TATE-BROWN COMPANY -MERCHANT TAILORS- To men of taste and discrimination, our Clothes will appeal as admirable. The texture and the patterns of the imported and expensive cloths, the skillful workmanship, the superb linings are of a quality in keeping with any occasion for which you may use them. Opposite Central Hotel

THE GROUND HOG DISCREDITED. Ground Hog Remained Out to Attend Mecklenburg Court and Lost His Grip. The following from the Newton Enterprise must be amended: "We are having another week of ground hog weather. Red Buck, of The Charlotte Observer has charge of the ground hog literature this year. He is making out a pretty strong case in favor of the weather prophet. Proofs of the groundhogness of the ground hog and the Mecklenburg litigation are hearing the clinking public and are running a neck and neck race."

SEE OUR LINE OF FOUNTAIN PENS. A bargain second hand 20 H. P. Swift Engine, with extra shafting and pulleys, in first class condition, now located in Stateville, N. C. Will exchange for lumber. M. M. SMITH, Agent, North Towsanda, N. Y.

A COAT SHIRT Have you ever worn a coat shirt? Slips right on and off just like a coat—very convenient. But if they are not laundered properly there will be a "bulge" in the bosom when you put the buttons in. Send them to us—we're members of the "anti-shirt bulgers" association. CHARLOTTE STEAM LAUNDRY.

Cash or Credit W. T. McCOY Cash or Credit SOUTH TRYON STREET.