Los Angeles Daily Times

TUESDAY,

Los Angeles Times
4-15-1902

# THE COURTS AND OFFICES.

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AT THE COURTHOUSE.

## UNDERWORLD NABBED "BOBBY" IN A TRAP.

### WIDNEY PEOPLE HINT AT SENSATIONAL SCHEME.

**Defendant Is Being Sacrificed to Save Third Party—Judge Smith Thinks Jury Should Decide the Case—Father's Impassioned Plea for His Boy.**

Hints of the broadest sort, promising a long line of sensations, were flung to the world yesterday, in the criminal court, during an extended argument in the Widney case on a motion to set aside the information. Grand larceny is the charge hanging over the defendant's head, and it grew out of scarlet escapades in March at the red-light house of Mrs. Lena Donahue on Bloody Alley street. It was a night affair, in which "Willie" Hansen of Boston feigned a stupor from "knockout drops" and "Bobby," the defendant, went through his pockets in full view of two polite officers secreted under the bed.

"Bobby," it seems, has been trapped to save another.

"The whole truth has never been told in this matter," argued Attorney H. M. Widney, father of the defendant. "There is something back of all this furore over the arrest of defendant—something back of it. The defendant is not guilty of any crime under the law, nor any moral crime, for he was absolutely without intent, I believe, in the whole matter. But she was the one—that Donahue woman was the guilty one, and anything that defendant Widney did on that night was done on a deceptive statement from her, after they had filled him with drink, drink, drink, until he was not himself."

Such was the significant statement by the father that is so full of hints.

Those who know are sure that the defense is in possession of information with which to startle the town at the Attorney's office was eager to have the information dismissed if, technically speaking, no crime had been committed. Then he proceeded to show that a crime had been committed, maintaining that Widney never had received any encouragement from either the Donahue woman or from Hansen.

After Judge Smith had listened for two hours to the arguments pro and con, he announced that, in his opinion, he was without jurisdiction to set aside the information when the motion was based on the sufficiency of the evidence, and that whether the testimony proves that a crime has been committed is a question solely for a jury.

"I am sure," said the judge, "that all this evidence is for the jury to pass upon and not the court. Nevertheless, if you can submit authorities, Mr. Rogers, to convince me that I have the power to weigh the evidence on a motion to set aside, then I shall take up the matter."

Attorney Rogers is sure that he can submit such authorities and meantime the motion is under advisement.

Intimations of the court would seem to show, however, that "Bobby" will have to stand trial.

## LITTLE BOY'S HOWL.

### AFRAID OF HIS FATHER.

Howling for abject fear of his father, a little boy created such a disturbance in the Courthouse yesterday that the corridors were full of spectators in no time.

He thought his father was going to kill him.

The man was Henry G. Larsen, a cook, living at No. 401 Echandia street, who was arrested last week on complaint of his mother, Mrs. Mary Larsen, charging him with insanity. She testified that her son, who is 31 years old, was subject to terrible fits of anger, during which time he was beside himself and not safe to be at large. He is also said to have a habit of hurling firewood at his family when things don't go right.

Dr. Walter Lindley and Dr. William Dodge, however, after a thorough examination, found him sane, although eccentric, and recommended his discharge. Judge Shaw let him go.

That her son was turned loose greatly exercised his mother, who swore positively that he was a dangerous character.

Paint Superiority.

In the manufacture of all firs class goods, it's the little things tha make the superior article.

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THE SHERWIN-WIL

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

160 SOUTH MAIN

stockholders of the Los Angeles Brewing Company filed a civil suit yesterday against P. Max Kuehnrich, the president, for a general accounting with special reference to the dividend and expense accounts. The removal of Kuehnrich as president, general manager and director is also prayed for.

ENGINEER'S SUIT. W. G. Rutherford, erstwhile engineer in the Bullard block, is suing J. H. Bullard, owner of the building, for damages in the sum of $7500. On December 6, while at work in the basement, which is alleged to be very dark, he got his forefinger and thumb of the right hand between some swiftly-running cogs and was badly injured.

NEW DIVORCE SUITS. Divorce complaints have been filed by Lizzie Dutch against James Dutch, Bertha M. Currey against Phillip S. Currey, Lucila M. Dowling against George W. Dowling, and Fred Jorder against