STILL AT THE WILL

The Brown Case Draws a Crowded Court Room.

OLD FRIENDS ON THE STAND

They Testify to the Relations of the Testator Towards His Family During a Period of Twenty Years.

The interest in the James H. Brown will case instead of relaxing seems to be on the increase. Long before the hour announced for the trial to begin, people began to fill the dingy court room until, by ten o'clock, there was but standing room left. Even this fact did not deter spectators from crowding into the room and filling every vacant space. Among the first to arrive was the proponent, Mrs. Margaretta Haines and her husband. She dresses in deep black, which lends a paleness to her rigid face. She gazes steadely through gold bowed spectacles and seldom turns her head to the right or left. She scrutinizes each witness closely.

Mrs. Alice Hayden, the contestant, some ten years younger than her sister, is accompanied in court by her husband and a bevy of lady friends. Some parts of the testimony effects her deeply. The sympathy of the audience is with the contestant, and they show their feelings by shaking their heads in a horified manner when testimony is given to show that the proponent willfully poisoned the mind of her father against her sister.

Mrs. Cook Continues to Testify.

Mrs. Hannah Cook, the first witness sworn, resumed the stand when the bailiff called the court to order. She said that several weeks after the death of Mrs. Brown she called at the residence to see Alice, who had come from Denver to attend the funeral. Mr. Brown refused to tell her where Alice was, and it was necessary to ask Mrs. Haines several times before she would tell. Mrs. Hayden was in a room in the upper part of the house sick.

Mr. Russell objected to the testimony on the ground that it was too remote. Mr. Smiley cited a long decision to show that it was admissable and asked the court to outline what testimony would be competent so that the time would not be taken up by the objections of the proponent. Mr. Smiley stated that he proposed to show that Mrs. Haines exercised an influence over her father, beginning some time before the will was made and lasting until his death, and that it was desired to put witnesses on the stand whose testimony would show this influence. Mr. Uhl followed Mr. Smiley quoting additional authorities. Mr. Russell made a vigorous argument in defense of his position, but Judge Adsit decided that the testimony could be introduced to show undue influence, providing it was in a continuous chain. The attorneys for the contestant declared that this was their intention. All the testimony is taken under objection on the part of the attorneys for the proponent.

Afternoon Session.

When court convened in the afternoon Mrs. Cook resumed the stand. Mr. Smiley interrogated her on a few unimportant questions, then Mr. Maher, for the proponent, cross-examined her. She said that in early years Mr. Brown was kind to his family. She knew positively that he was kind during the two years she lived in the family. He was frequently cross to other people, and Mrs. Cook had often heard him swear about the hired man. To the best of her knowledge and belief Mrs. Brown had only visited her daughter Margaretta in Grandville on one occasion, and then she went with her husband. Besides this time Mrs. Cook only knew of Mr. Brown visiting his daughter once at Grandville. Mr. Brown was ever affectionate and kind to his wife and daughters. She remembered distinctly Mr. Brown's having invited Alice to go down town with him. She did, and he bought her a brown silk dress. Such acts as these on the part of Mr. Brown were not infrequent. He often bought her dresses. Early in 1890, Mrs. Cook said, Mr. Brown's mind began to fail. This was noticeable by the fact that he would sit for hours in his chair without saying a word. About this time Alice told Mrs. Cook that she believed her father's mind was failing, and she wished he would make his will. Mrs. Cook rembered that Alice said she believed in wills, but did not say what kind of a will she wanted her father to make. It was at this time that Mr. Brown said he did not want to make a will; that the laws of the state of Michigan were good enough for him; that he only had two children and it would not be a difficult task to divide his property. On one occasion Mrs. Brown remarked the condition of her husband's mind, and three months later Mrs. Cook noticed it herself.

On re-direct examination Mr. Smiley asked the witness about the relations which existed between Alice and her sister Margaretta. She said that when Alice was married to Charles Hayden she heard Mr. Brown say that he had offered to send his best horse to Grandville to bring Mrs. Haines to the wedding, but that she positively refused to come. Mr. Brown had always been kind to Mrs. Cook, and often helped her financially. He knew her after he was blind. Her brother had had some dealings with him, and she had heard Mr. Brown say that her brother had cheated him. This did not change her toward Mr. Brown, as she thought he was not in his right mind, and consequently did not know what he was talking about.

Thomas Skinner Sworn.

Thomas Skinner of Thornapple township, Barry county, was the second witness sworn in the case. He married the late Mrs. Brown's sister. He knew Mr. and Mrs. Brown before they were married, when they resided in Jefferson county, New York. Mr. Brown moved from New York to Larraine county, Ohio, and shortly after Mr. Skinner moved to the same place. Both families lived in Ohio some time, visiting each other frequently. Then Mr. Brown moved to Adrian, Michigan. While he was residing there Mr. Skinner visited Mr. Brown and remained two weeks. During these years Mr. Brown was very affectionate toward his wife. From Adrian Mr. Brown moved to Paris township, here this city, and purchased a farm. Mr. Skinner later purchased Mr. Brown's farm in Paris township, and Mr. Brown moved to Grand Rapids. Mr. Skinner lived on the farm about four years, during which time he came to the city once each week and always called on the Brown family. He remembered when Alice was married and when her daughter died. Mr. Brown was much grieved at the death of Hiram. Mr. Skinner knew that Mr. Brown loved his daughter Alice, because at times when she was not present he had heard him say he was proud of her. He had taken great pains to see that she was well dressed, that she went into society and had a good time. Mr. Skinner was present when Alice was married. His daughter was married at the same time. Mrs. Haines was not present at the wedding. If he remembered rightly she refused to attend. A reception was held after the wedding. The witness remembered when Mrs. Brown died and heard Mr. Brown make a remark which would indicate his feeling in regard to his wife. Three days after the funeral Mr. Skinner met Mr. Brown on the sidewalk in front of his house and asked him how he felt. He replied, "I feel as happy as an Irishman in a potato field."

Mr. Russell made a formal motion that the evidence of Mr. Skinner be stricken out. The court denied the motion. The attorneys for the proponent refused to cross-examine the witness and he was dismissed.

Mrs. Brown's Sister Testifies.

Mrs. Skinner, sister of Mrs. Brown, was the next sworn. She told of her acquaintance with Mr. Brown before he married her sister and corroborated the testimony of her husband in regard to the relations which existed between husband, wife and daughter. Alice was a great favorite with her father and he was proud of her. She knew this because when Alice was dressed up he called her "posy." That was his pet name for Alice. The witness recollected when Maudie, daughter of Alice, died. It was the only time she ever knew Mr. Brown to shed tears. He said he could as easily have parted with either of his own daughters. Mrs. Skinner was present during Mrs. Brown's sickness and death. When the first came Mrs. Haines was there, but went away shortly after. Just before Mrs. Brown died Mrs. Skinner went to Mr. Brown, told him that his wife could not live and asked him to telegraph for Alice, who was residing in Denver. He refused to do so. She then tried to induce him to go into his wife's room, assuring him that she could not live forty-eight hours. He said he was blind and could not see her. Mrs. Skinner told him he could take hold of his wife's hand, but he said that would do him no good. Some years previous to this the witness said she was at the Brown residence when Mr. Brown had received a letter from Margaretta censuring him because he had done more for Alice than he had for her. Mr. Brown said that he would give anything in the world if Margaretta's disposition was like Alice's. It was about fifteen years before Brown's death that he began to change in his treatment toward his wife and daughter. He had told the witness that Margaretta had told him that Alice had said that she wished her mother would outlive him. About seven years ago Mr. Brown was in the habit of going to Grandville and spending the night once each week. When he returned he was always morose and sulky. Margaretta visited her mother, while Mrs. Skinner was at Mr. Brown's, and treated her very coldly, sitting in the house nearly an hour with her wraps on. She did not kiss her mother or act as if she was glad to see her. Once she visited Mrs. Haines in company with Mr. Brown. Mrs. Haines kissed her father and seemed glad to see him. When in the house she sat on his lap, put her arm around his neck and said, "Auntie, I have a splendid father." About half an hour later Mrs. Brown arrived at Mrs. Haines' house. The latter did not kiss her as she did her father, and offered her a stool to sit upon. The day after Mrs. Brown's death Mr. Brown said: "My wife said I was afflicted with softening of the brain and would die, but now she is dead and I am here." This same day, while the remains of Mrs. Brown were still in the house, Mr. Brown wanted to take an inuentory of the household articles. Mrs. Cross, wife of Mrs. Skinner's brother, who was there, objected, saying that he could wait until the body was buried. He did not want to wait. Mrs. Cross threatened to leave the house, and this appeased Mr. Brown's desire to take the inventory. He said his reason for being in such haste was that he was afraid some of his hired help or visitors would steal something.

Mr. Dunham conducted the cross-examination for the proponent. He catechised the witness for a quarter of an hour without eliciting anything new. At 5 o'clock court adjourned until this morning.

LEFT OUT IN THE COLD.

Dunham, Buckley & Co. Wish to Foreclose a Mortgage.

James H. Dunham, William T. Buckley, Charles H. Webb and William E. Webb began suit in the circuit court yesterday against Louis Vossen, Albert Vossen, David Greenfield, Maurice M. Houseman, A. Alsberg, Isaac Loewenberg and Sheriff John McQueen. The complainants compose the firm of Dunham, Buckley & Co., wholesale dry goods merchants, doing business in the city of New York. The bill says that July 3, 1891, the defendants, Vossen Brothers, represented that they had a stock of goods worth $23,500; accounts due them amounting to $3000; that their total indebtedness was $9000, and their net worth, over and above all indebtedness, $17,500. The complainants say they believed this statement to be true, but that in the summer of 1891 Vossen Brothers planned with the intention of defrauding them and other merchants, with whom they did business. That in the summer and fall of 1891, they bought very largely and caused all bills to be dated ahead so that they would not become due until January, 1892. It is alleged that this was done so that in the meantime the defendants could dispose of a portion of the goods on hand and appropriate the proceeds before the bills became due. That on December 26, 1891, Vossen Brothers were indebted for merchandise bought of Sweetser, Pembrook & Co., New York, for $726; H. B. Claflin Co., $1318.54; Isaac Kauffman & Bro., $667.25; A. Friedlander & Co., $2563.15; Tefft, Weller & Co., $6027.01, and to the complainants, $2721, making a total indebtedness of $14,062.95. The bill declares that in addition to the above Vossen Brothers owed to other merchants besides those stated about $14,000, all of which indebtness was contracted after July 3, 1891. It is alleged that Vossen Brothers, with the intention of defrauding their creditors, gave a chattel mortgage to the Fourth National bank for $7000, covering all the stock and fixtures. That several other mortgages for various amounts were likewise given. That the mortg e held by the Fourth National bank was bought by the complainants. That just before the sale on the first mortgage mentioned was to take place, Isaac Lowenberg began suit asking that the mortgage be assigned to him upon the payment of the principal, interest and expenses and that an injunction issue restraining the complainants from selling the goods covered by the mortgage. It is stated that the rent for the store on Monroe street is $125 per month and that the condition of the title is such that it is impossible to insure the goods. The complainants say they are powerless, by virtue of the writ issued in the Lowenberg case, to foreclose their mortgage except by filing this, their cross bill. It is asked that the mortgages held by the defendants named be declared void, and that the complaints be given the right to foreclose.

Three Hobos in Court.

Albert Otterbein, John Granger and Michael Evener, the Ninth ward trio arrested for committing a breach of the peace, were arraigned before Judge Haggerty yesterday morning. Otterbein and Granger pleaded guilty and were fined $5.92 costs each or in default of payment to be committed to the county jail for thirty days. Granger paid the bill and was discharged, but Otterbein went to jail. The case against Evener was adjourned until this morning.

Michael Will Go Hence.

A few days ago a warrant was issued from Justice Brown's court for the arrest of Michael Gunning of Ada for committing an assault and battery upon his step father, James Finn. Yesterday the case against him was discontinued upon his signing an agreement to leave his stepfather's house forever. The young man also turned a horse over to his mother for 90 days as security for the payment of costs in the case.

Two Small Cases.

Barton Babcock and Herbert Babcock by their attorneys, Griffin & Doran, of Woodbury, Mich., began suit in the circuit court yesterday for $500, for goods furnished. The same attorneys filed a case for Cora Geise, who sues David L. Steiven for $339. The case is begun on two promissory notes.

Cloak Thieves Convicted.

Thomas Smith and Frank Keller were convicted in police court yesterd ay of the larceny of a plush cloak from Spring & Company's store. Smith was fined $25 and costs and Kellar $15 and costs. The fines were not paid and the prisoners were committed to the county jail for ninety days each.

Claim an Infringement.

The Brush Electric company of Cleveland, Ohio, filed a volum inous bill of complaint in the United States court yesterday against the Citizens Electric Light and Power company of Manistee, alleging infringement of patent on an arc electric light.

To Foreclose a Mortgage.

Isaac Butterfield began suit in the circuit court yesterday against Elliott G. Brown et al., to foreclose a mortgage for $1618.32 on lot No. 17, in Smith's addition to the city of Grand Rapids.

Court Notes.

Yesterday Judge Haggerty deferred pronouncing sentence upon Lewis Dutten, convicted in police court of petty larceny, until March 3 at 9 a. m.

The case of Albert Blumenthal and others against Edward P. Kidder & Co., began in the circuit court February 6, has been transferred from that tribunal to the superior court for trial.

Augustus Crampton, a young man about 22 years old, living at No. 9 Valley street, was reported to the superintendents of the poor yesterday by his brother as being insane.

The case of The City against Irving Woodworth, for violation of the milk ordinance, was adjourned in police court yesterday until this morning at 9 o'clock.

Henry Verschoor was pronounced insane in probate court yesterday, and Superintendent of the Poor Lankaster took him to the Kalamazoo asylum.

The perjury case against Alexander Hamilton was adjourned in police court yesterday to February 25 at 3 p. m.

LAW AND LAWYERS.

Circuit Court—Part I.

JUDGE ADSIT.

Alice I. Hayden vs. Margaretta Haynes, appeal from probate, on trial.

Superior Court.

JUDGE BURLINGAME.

Albert Blumenthal et al. vs. Edward P. Kidder et al.; transcripts from circuit court on February 6 filed and approved; cause to stand in same status in superior court as in circuit court at that time; defendants required to plead within twenty days from date, in same manner as if case had been begun in superior court.

Probate Court.

JUDGE PERKINS.

Estate of Robert P. Wood, deceased; petition for probate of will filed; hearing March 14.

Estate of Bridget Heyar, deceased; petition for probate of will filed; hearing March 14.

Estate of Frances M. Lester, deceased; executor's final account filed; hearing March 14.

Estate of Chas. C. Stephenson, deceased; Hugh E. Wilson and Wm. D. Talford appointed commissioners on claims.

Estate of Harvey Rice, deceased; George Clapperton and Chas. E. Ward appointed commissioners on claims.

Estate of Chas. Broman, deceased; petition for determination of heirs filed; hearing March 18.

Estate of Chas. Phelps, minor; letters of guardianship issued to Theodore I. Phelps.

Estate of Lottie E. and Pearl L. Arrance, minors; letters of guardianship issued to Ella Arrance.

Stood the Test.

Allcock's Porous Plasters are unapproachable in curative properties, rapidity and safety in action, and are the only reliable plasters ever produced. They have successfully stood the test of over thirty years' use by the public; their virtues have never been equalled by the unscrupulous imitators who have sought to trade upon the reputation of Allcock's by making plasters with holes in them, and claiming them to be "just as good as Allcock's," and they stand today indorsed by not only by the highest medical authorities, but by millions of grateful patients who have proved their efficacy as a household remedy.

Beware of imitations, and do not be deceived by misrepresentations. Ask for Allcock's, and let no solicitation or explanation induce you to accept a substitute.

False Economy

Is practiced by many people who buy inferior articles of food because cheaper than standard goods. Surely infants are entitled to the best food obtainable. It is a fact that the Gail Borden "Eagle" Brand Condensed Milk is the best infant food. Your grocer and druggist keep it.

CATARRH

SYRUP of FIGS

ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

You Can Stop a Cough at any time with DOCTOR ACKERS ENGLISH REMEDY.

IT WILL CURE A COLD IN TWELVE HOURS;

A 25 cent Bottle may save you $100 in Doctor's bills—may save your life. Ask your Druggist for it. IT TASTES GOOD.

PURE PINK PILLS.

Dr. Acker's English Pills

CURE BILIOUSNESS.

Small, pleasant, a favorite with the ladies. W. H. HOOKER & CO., 53 West Broadway, N. Y.

Sold by White & White, 29 Monroe St.

HEADACHE!

Of all forms, Nervralgia, Spasms, Fits, Sleeplessness, Dullness, Blues, Nervous Diseases, Opium Habit, Drunkenness, etc., are cured by DR. MILES' RESTORATIVE NERVINE, discovered by the eminent Indiana Specialist in nervous diseases. It does not contain opiates or dangerous drugs. "Have been using DR. MILES' RESTORATIVE NERVINE for Epilepsy. From September to January BEFORE using the Nervine I had at least 75 convulsions, and now after three months use have no more attacks.—JOHN B. COLLIER, Reese, Mich." "I have been using DR. MILES' RESTORATIVE NERVINE for about four months. It has brought me relief and cure. I have taken it for epilepsy, and after using it for one week have had no attack.—HERE C. Brenise, Meadville, Pa." Fine book of great cures and trial bottles FREE at Druggists everywhere, or address

DR. MILES MEDICAL CO., Elkhart, Ind.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

SHILOH'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

The success of this Great Cough Cure is without a parallel in the history of medicine. All druggists are authorized to sell it on a positive guarantee, a fact that no other cure can successfully stand. That it may become known, the Proprietors, at an enormous expense, are placing a Sample Bottle Free into every home in the United States and Canada. If you have a Cough, Sore Throat, or Bronchitis, use it, for it will cure you. If your child has the Croup, or Whooping Cough, use it promptly, and relief is sure. If you dread that insidious disease Consumption, use it. Ask your Druggist for SHILOH'S CURE. Price 10 cts., 50 cts. and $1.00. If your Lungs are sore or Back lame, use Shiloh's Porous Plaster. Price 25 cts.

FOR MEN ONLY!

A POSITIVE [illegible]

CURE [illegible]

DOWN WENT

WOOD

TO THE BOTTOM

Namely $2.00 Cord.

A. B. KNOWLSON,

25 PEARL STREET.

COAL
WOOD
FLOUR
GRAIN
HAY

G. H. BEHNKE

FIRST-CLASS GOODS. LOW PRICES. PROMPT DELIVERY. PHONE 112—1 RING.

Again at My Old Stand!

45 SOUTH DIVISION STREET

WITH FULL STOCK

Grain, Lime, Fire Brick, Hay, Cement, Lath, Feed, Sewer Pipe, Wood, etc

ALWAYS BOTTOM PRICES.

THOS. E. WYKES,

Office 45 S. Division St. Warehouse, Cor. Wealthy ave. and E. Ionia st.

FOR COAL, COKE, CHARCOAL, COME TO CENTRAL COAL COMPANY.

Phone 511. 99 Ottawa st.

The Best is the Cheapest

First Class Grades of

Hard Coal, Coke AND Wood

at the lowest market prices can be obtained at

KILSTROM & PETERSON'S,

No. 50 West Bridge-st. Yard, Cor. of Second-st. and G. R. & I. R. R. Phone 968.

Delivery made on electric time.

REDMOND GRAND OPERA HOUSE Brady & Garwood, Lessees and Manag'rs.

C. SUMNER BURROUGHS, Acting Manager

One Week { Commencing Monday. } FEB. 14

MATINEES—TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY.

THE ACTOR A. W. FREMONT,

In the Sensational Comedy Drama, by J. D. Clifton, entitled

777

Synopsis of Scenic Effects.

The Plantation Scene—Louisiana Baton Rouge—By moonlight. The Abode of the 400—New York LaRosa Club Rooms—New York Exterior of Fenton Mansion.

Next Week—Pete Peterson.

Evening Prices.	Matinee Prices.
10 cts	10 cts.
20 cts.	20 cts.
30 cts.	30 cts.
50 cts.	30 cts.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

POWERS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

Brady & Garwood, Lessees and Managers. L. F. Mosley, Resident Mgr. and Treas.

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

TONIGHT!

Engagement of the distinguished Young Artist,

ELSIE LESLIE,

Supported by a superb company in David Belasco's production of Mark Twain's famous story, the

PRINCE AND THE PAUPER!

A comedy drama in [illegible], dramatized by Abbey, Hope Ridgeway, as played

[illegible] months Broadway Theater, New York City. [illegible] months Boston Museum, Boston, Mass. [illegible] months Park Theater, Philadelphia. [illegible] months Colosseum Theater, Chicago.

POWERS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE

BRADY & GARWOOD, Lessees and Managers.

SATURDAY, FEB. 20

Engagement for One Night Only of

MR. A. M. PALMER'S COMPANY OF PLAYERS

Presenting Augustus Thomas' American drama,

ALABAMA

A delightful, restful, yet inspiring, pure comedy, rich in poetic coloring and vital sentiment. Alabama is a play quite to itself, a new departure and one altogether welcome.

Monday, Feb. 22—E. S. WILLARD.

POWERS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE.

BRADY & GARWOOD, Lessees and Managers.

ONE NIGHT ONLY.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Engagement of the Eminent English Actor,

MR. E. S. WILLARD

—IN—

"The Middleman,"

By Henry Arthur Jones, Author of Saints and Sinners, Judah, etc.

ORIGINAL CAST! ORIGINAL SCENERY!

Prices, $1.50, $1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c. Seats on sale Thursday, Feb. 18.

SMITH'S OPERA HOUSE.

WILLIAM D. SMITH, Proprietor and Manager.

The Only Recognized Vaudeville Theatre in the city.

ONE WEEK commencing MONDAY, FEB. 15

Wells and Barron's

BRIGHT LIGHTS

Comedy and Specialty Co.

20—Star Artists—20.

A Select Variety Company.

Good Singing! Good Dancing!

A Show for the People and the Best on Record to give it.

THE BANNER SHOW OF THE SEASON!

MATINEES, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY.

Evening Prices.	Matinee Prices.
10 cts	10 cts
25 c & 50 cts	25 cts &

LOCKSMITH

—GO TO—

A. E. ALBERTIE, 56 Pearl-st

(Successor to C. E. Parker)

—FOR—

Keys, Scale Repairing, Saw Filing and all Kinds of Job Work.

FLOWERS!

—FOR—

Wedding Parties and Funerals

A SPECIALTY.

T. R. RENWICK & CO.,

129 MONROE STREET.

Telephone 183.

About April 1st we will be ready to clean your carpets. Plant now being built. Please remember us. Respectfully,

AMERICAN STEAM LAUNDRY.

MAKING IT WARM FOR COMPETITION

Best in Quality, Lowest in Price Did the Business!

That people appreciate our efforts to combine good goods and low prices is evidenced by the large patronage they have given us. We say, THANKS; we shall endeavor to continue to merit your favors. Look at these prices and then listen to the HOWL ALL ALONG THE LINE.

$1.00 Shoulder Braces in any store, we offer to you for 60c.

Look over our stock for like reductions.

FREE—Call and secure one of these elegant papier mache match boxes—FREE.

VALLEY CITY PHARMACY,

PAUL V. FINCH, Prop. 78 CANAL STREET.