

MY VALENTINE GIRL.

The maples sway in the blast, and bow,
And the poplars bend 'neath the weight of
the snow...

LEWELLYN'S OFFERING.

Llewellyn lived in the country, and he
had never been to church since he could
remember...

One day, when he was lying on a heap
of quilts in the window-seat arranging the
very last scene, aunt Martha came up
the stairs with company...

Lying down on the bank, he unbuttoned
his wristband and thrust his hand into the
water, moving his fingers gently...

"Think of it, Gramp Speckle!" he said.
"See was going to tell about the sea-chest,
just as I got the captain to the island...

"Go away now, Grampy. Here's Max
and Jennie and all of their children."
The newcomers crowded about the boy's
hand eagerly...

"I don't want to stay here, Aunt Mar-
tha," he whispered, pulling her sleeve; and
graw quiet, he propped his chin in his
palms and began to work on his cath-
edral...

He wove romances in the attic, and
lying under the orchard trees; in the barn,
on the fragrant hay and yellow heaps of
straw...

He made the temple large and gray and
solid as a mountain, with a vast roof,
broken by a line of windows, sloping away
under the branches of tall-trees...

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all
the earth keep silence before Him.
The words surged and thundered in a
mighty volume of remembered sound...

She swept through his mind in full-voiced
harmony, the final word lengthening
and diminishing into silent vibrations
that thrilled him with sweet, glad awe...

"Well, take one; and do hurry with the
vases."
Stooping to select a rose, the young man's
lips just touched the tiny curls on the girl's
forehead.

"He loves her," thought Llewellyn.
"That is the way the Captain looked when
the Lady Inez gave him the glove..."

Then Aunt Martha discovered him and
took him into the great audience-room,
which was packed full to the steps of the
galleries...

The dinner-horn sounded, faint and far,
and the temple fell into airy nothingness
around him. He looked a moment at the
still pool and the feathery hemlock branches...

"I shall not have to wait till I am twelve
years old. Do you hear, Grampus? They
are going to take me to the temple this
very week...

Then Llewellyn lapsed into a day-dream
in which solemn pictures formed and faded
and were succeeded by other scenes in
which he walked with hushed footsteps...

"What do you want?"
"Looking for something," said Llewellyn,
turning blindly away and groping down
the stairs...

"Not hurt, are you, sonny? Why, you
are barefooted! Was it the shoes you
wanted to find? Here they are..."

Llewellyn's heart beat so fast with the
excitement of the thick-crowding faces
that he shook himself free from his reverent
stood and walked about among the
brown columns of hemlocks...

"The shoes, Martha," he said at last.
"Will you lug him, and, hoisting the boy
in his arms, he strode out to the
car-tracks..."

"I don't want to stay here, Aunt Mar-
tha," he whispered, pulling her sleeve; and
graw quiet, he propped his chin in his
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ON TRIAL FOR LIBEL.

The Watchman is Vindicated by a Clearfield County Jury.

Twelve Good and Lawful Men Find that the Editor of the Watchman did not Libel the Next State Treasurer When

he Said that He Might Well Lay Claim to the Title of "King of the Crooks" and from "Betraying his Constituents in the Legislature of 1899 He Became an Unblushing Bribe-Taker in that of 1901."

The WATCHMAN of last week gave the
proceedings in the HARRIS-MEEK libel case
up to the hour of going to press on Thurs-
day, the greater portion of that day being
taken up with preparing and presenting to
the court statements of what the defense
proposed to prove, and in obtaining rulings
upon them. Its reports closed with Mr.
BIGLOW on the stand and objections to
his stating if he knew of money having
been used to procure legislation at Harris-
burg last winter. As to what was proposed
to be proven and what testimony was ruled
out the following will show:

ATTORNEYS FILED OBJECTIONS.
When Mr. Meek was supplying the jury
with the evidence which was contended
would acquit him of the charge against
him, the attorneys for the prosecution filed
emphatic objections. Mr. Krebs argued
that the testimony, not the court, required
him to put the offer of evidence in writing.
After an hour's preparation Mr. Krebs sub-
mitted the following:

"One—it is proposed to prove by the
witness on the stand and by other wit-
nesses to be called, that he and the several
witnesses to be called were at Harrisburg
during the sitting and session of the Legis-
lature for the session beginning the 1st of
January, A. D. 1901; during which session
the prosecutor, Frank G. Harris, as is
readily shown by this indictment, was a
member of the House of Representatives;
that during said session the act of As-
sembly, act No. 14, entitled, 'An act for
the government of cities of the second
class,' and commonly known as the ripper
bill, was passed; that large sums of money
were supplied and paid to members of the
Legislature to procure its passage by the
House of Representatives; to be followed
by other witnesses to prove that the prosec-
utor took an active and leading part in
the passage of the same.

In support of his offer Mr. Krebs con-
tended that the question of privilege was
for the jury and not for the court to decide.
The question of negligence is also with the
jury. Mr. Krebs contended that the whole
question that should govern the case was
whether the defendant was justified by the
information he had that the charges made
were true. Mr. Krebs contended that prob-
able cause for belief was sufficient. He
then explained the bribe taker, "He G.
Harris," he said, "is like larceny; it is
committed behind closed doors and in the
darkness."

Mr. Krebs sustained his position by a
dozen or more decisions. The attorneys for
the prosecution argued for their objections
and submitted many decisions in favor of
their contentions. In concluding his argu-
ment to sustain the objections Mr. Wood-
ward said unless the court is prepared to
judicially adopt the last Democratic plat-
form their offer has no standing. He argu-
ed that as Mr. Harris had voted with 102
other Republicans the offer was not pre-
sented seriously.

SECOND OFFER AND RULING.
Thomas H. Murray, for the defense, ar-
gued for the offer and cited cases where
in his support and immediately after his
offer he was disposed of a second offer
which was made as follows:

Second—That at the same session of the
Legislature, of 1901, there was also intro-
duced and passed act No. 251, entitled,
'An act to provide for the incorporation and
government of passenger railways, either
elevated or underground, or partly elevated
and partly underground with surface rights
commonly known as the franchise bill,'
and large sums of money were furnished
by different persons and paid to members
of the House of Representatives, of which
the prosecutor was a member, as shown by
the indictments, to influence, control and
procure the votes of members of the said
House in favor of its passage, and that the
prosecutor was also a leading and active
member on the floor of the House in urging
this voting of the passage of said 'franchise
bill,' to be followed by proof of other wit-
nesses that the prosecutor took an active
and leading part in urging and procuring
the passage of each and all of the bills be-
fore the Legislature that were reputed to
have been passed by the use of money; to
be further followed by proof of these facts,
and other facts of like charac-
ter, were communicated to defendant
by members of the House of Representa-
tives of which the prosecutor was also
a member and by reputable citizens living
at the seat of government, as well as by a
number of other reputable men whose busi-
ness it was to be in daily attendance upon
the sessions of the Legislature prior to the
publication of the article complained of
and set out in this indictment; to be fol-
lowed by further proof that the prosecutor
was a member of the House of Representa-
tives, during the legislative session of 1899;
that he demanded compensation from the
Cottage hospital, located at Phillipsburg,
Pa., a charitable institution, and supported
mainly by the State, for 'four days' hard
work done on the floor of the house,' in
procuring the appropriation for the main-
tenance of said institution, and for one
special trip to Harrisburg to see Gov.
Stone, and presented a bill and made de-
mand for \$100 from the trustees of said
Cottage hospital. To be followed by fur-
ther proof that during his candidacy for
nomination or election to the House of
Representatives, he received a letter from
John P. Dwyer, of Philadelphia, and John P.
Elkin, enclosing him a check for a large
sum of money to be used to defray his ex-
penses as a candidate on condition that he
would vote for certain measures to come
before the session of the Legislature, as
pointed out and mentioned in said letter,
and that these matters also were communi-
cated to the defendant prior to the publication
of the article complained of, for the purpose
of showing that the defendant had probable
cause to believe that the matters and things
set forth in the publication complained of
were true, and that the publication, there-

fore, was not made maliciously or negli-
gently."
On the testimony as to probable
cause down to the alleged Haywood letter,
and it is generally accepted that the testi-
mony on the letter and on the hospital ap-
propriation will be given to the jury.

REVIEW OF THE CASE.
The following statements in the case
were put on record:
In the Court of Quarter Sessions Clear-
field county, Pa., Feb. 6th, 1902.—P.
Gray Meek, witness on the stand. It is
proposed to prove by the defendant called
in his own behalf that while at Harrisburg
at the times mentioned in the testimony,
which has already been offered and received,
that he had conversations with mem-
bers of the House, namely, Wm. T. Creasy,
A. J. Palm, Mr. Myers, of Cumberland;
Wm. Allison, of Centre county; Dr. Thom-
as, of Westmoreland; Geo. William H.
Koonz, of Somerset, and of the Senate, J.
Henry Cochran and William Heine, and
with the members of the press (I. E.) men
representing the Philadelphia Press, Phila-
delphia Times, the Record, of Philadelphia;
the Public Ledger, the Pittsburg Times, of
Pittsburg; the Pittsburg Post, viz., John
P. Dwyer, of the Philadelphia Press; Peter
I. Hoban, Public Ledger; Geo. D. Herbert,
of the Star-Independent, of Harrisburg;
Robert W. Herbert, of the Pittsburg Times;
Lawrence Goshorn, of the Pittsburg Post;
Peter Bolger, of the Philadelphia Record,
all of whom were present at the daily sit-
tings, and sessions, of the Legislature of
1901 and also by James M. Coffey, and
that he was informed by them that large
amounts of money were being used and
paid to procure the organization of the
House by the election of Mr. Marshall as
speaker and for the election of Mr. Quay to
the United States Senate and for the pas-
sage of what was commonly known as the
'franchise bill,' and also for the passage
of the 'ripper bill' and other bills, all of
said persons being reputable men and citi-
zens.

And further it is proposed to prove by
the defendant that he was informed by
William T. Creasy, A. J. Palm, or Dr.
Thomas, William Allison and Mr. Myers,
of Cumberland county, that Frank G. Har-
ris, who was the prosecutor, was taking an active
and influential part and aiding in the pas-
sage of all these public measures and bills
known to be pushed from improper
motives or known to be corrupt; that George
G. Herbert, Robert Herbert, Peter Hoban,
John Dwyer, Peter Bolger and Peter I.
Hughes also spoke of him and informed the
defendant that the prosecutor, Frank G.
Harris, was active, influential and concern-
ed in procuring and pressing the passage
of the bills aforesaid and the election of Mar-
shall as Speaker, and Quay as United States
Senator, and that he, the prosecutor, Frank
G. Harris, could always be found inside of
and assisting in the passage of measures
and bills known to be pushed from improper
motives or known to be corrupt. And further, it is proposed to prove
by the defendant that he had a conversation
with Charles E. Voorhees, a member of the
House of Representatives, in which he re-
ferred to him, the prosecutor, F. G. Harris,
as having forced the leaders of our party,
i. e., the Republican party, to take care of
him politically in return for his betrayal
of Col. E. A. Irwin, and now has the gall
to demand a divvy on everything that is
going on here, the said Charles E. Voorhees
being a reputable and creditable man and
citizen. This information from all of the
parties named was given to the defendant
prior to the publication complained of, the
offer being made and the testimony is of-
fered for the purpose of showing that the
publication was not maliciously or negli-
gently made, but was published with
'probable cause' to believe the things com-
plained of in the article to be true.

(Signed) THOMAS H. MURRAY.
DANIEL L. KREBS.
Attorneys for Defendant.

The offer as it is incompetent, irre-
levant and unnatural generally, and is ob-
jected to for that reason. It is further ob-
jected to, as it does not give or prop-
ose to prove any investiga-
tion made by the defendant, and
at most is mere rumor. It is further ob-
jected to, as it does not pretend to prove
that the prosecutor ever received a bribe of
any kind, and fails to connect Mr. Harris
with any corrupt action or motive. It is
not proposed to show that Mr. Harris voted
for any measure from any but proper mo-
tives, and the charge could as well be made
against any other member who voted for
the same measures.

(Signed) WOODWARD, COLE & SWOPE,
Attorneys for Complainant, by the Court.

On the question of probable cause and
lack of negligence whatever the witness,
the defendant in the case may know of his
own knowledge and what may have been
communicated to him from reliable and
trust-worthy sources is evidence. But mere
floating rumors, or authors of the reports
in circulation are not evidence. These
would not justify a defamatory publication
and make it privileged. The offer of evi-
dence as to corruption existing in the Legis-
lature, and in the passage of acts of Assem-
bly, are not sufficient to establish proba-
ble cause. Nor is the alleged conversation
with Hon. Charles Voorhees sufficiently
direct circumstantial and positive evi-
dence of justification.

(Signed) CYRUS GORDON.
Mr. Meek was the first witness called by
the defense. He stated in telling the jury
that he was 60 years old, that he had been
editor for a lifetime, and that he had
been duly arrested for the alleged libel on
Mr. Harris. That was about all he got to
say, however. After reciting that he fre-
quently visited Harrisburg, Mr. Krebs ar-
gued: "What did you learn at Harrisburg
during the organization of the Legislature or
subsequently?"

An objection was promptly made and for
10 minutes Mr. Krebs contended that the
question was pertinent and relative. He
recited again just what he proposed to prove
and after he concluded his talk the court

asked that he reduce to writing the con-
tention he made. That work consumed
more than two hours and after the conten-
tion was submitted in writing the court
sustained the objection.

Before Mr. Meek was ruled practically
off the stand by Judge Gordon, he gave
some damaging testimony. Mr. Krebs ar-
gued: "Did you at any time have informa-
tion that Mr. Harris, while a member of the
Legislature, made a demand upon the
trustees of the Phillipsburg hospital for
money?"

"I did."
"When was that?" Mr. Krebs asked.
"About a year ago," Mr. Meek answer-
ed, and then explained that his information
had come from Robert M. Foster, a former
member of the Legislature from Centre
county. Mr. Meek said he had investi-
gated the information given him by Foster,
and had found it to be correct.

"State whether Mr. Harris said he had
received a check from Benjamin Haywood
that he could use provided he would vote
for Senator Penrose, the Becker bill and
other measures that Haywood would design-
ate?" Mr. Krebs asked.
"I had such information from a gentle-
man in whom I have implicit confidence, D.
L. Krebs," Mr. Meek answered.

Clarence Wolf, of Philadelphia, banker
and broker, and one of the Philadelphia
elevated railway promoters, was called by
the defense. Ex-Judge Krebs made another
long offer to the Court, proposing to
prove the expenditure of large sums of
money to secure the passage of the railways
bills. The witness said he was a banker
and broker, lives in Philadelphia, and is
an incorporator of the Philadelphia elevated
railways. Asked whether he was interest-
ed in the measures, he said:
"I was interested so far as being one of
the incorporators of the company."

"Were your articles of incorporation
signed before the bill was passed?"
This was objected to. Ex-Judge Krebs
said the question was preliminary to his
offer, which was not read to the jury. Judge
Gordon said the offer embraced the same
questions offered yesterday and the objec-
tions were sustained. "You may retire,
Mr. Wolf," said Ex-Judge Krebs, and an-
other steel-plate, bomb-proof lid was kept
down on secrets of the last Legislature.

George D. Herbert, of the Star-Independent,
of Harrisburg, was called. He said he
was a Democrat, familiar with the work of
the Legislature through conference with his
party leaders and conversations with others.
"Did you hear then from them and from
others?" again Judge Krebs, again trying to
lift the lid.

LID AGAIN SHUT DOWN.
"Hold on. Hold on, there. We object,"
shouted Attorney Cole.
"That is in your offer," said the Court
to Judge Krebs, and the lid was still down.
Ex-Judge Krebs again read a decision on
the right to discuss the conduct and charac-
ter of public officers.

The offer was to prove by the witness
that Harris was always spoken of as one of
the "gang," or men who had been in-
fluenced by the use of money. He had
proceeded to call witnesses to prove the
hospital and Haywood letter transactions,
and the proceedings became very warm.

THE PHILLIPSBURG HOSPITAL.
William P. Duncan of Phillipsburg was
sworn. Duncan said he has lived at Phil-
lipsburg 24 years and has been a member
of the board of trustees of the Cottage State
hospital there since its establishment. The
hospital, he said, receives injured persons
from Clearfield, Cambria, Huntingdon,
Blair and other counties. It has been Sec-
retary and Treasurer of the board of trustees
and is succeeded by William Irwin.

Asked if he had received a letter and bill
from Harris, he replied "Yes," and pro-
duced the original documents, which were
as follows:
Frank G. Harris, Representative from
Clearfield county, to G. H. Lichtenhaler,
et. al., trustees, etc.

Gentlemen—At your request I herewith
present my bill for services in connection
with your State appropriation of
\$12,000. In doing this I feel safe in saying
that your hospital would not have received
over \$10,000 had I not taken up your cause.
Gov. Stone had arranged to cut you down
to \$10,000 and I refused by telegram
to give me a hearing, but concluded to
give you the \$12,000 on my personal
account, when I went to Harrisburg, at the
request of your Mr. Duncan. This was
my cause, and because I spent at least four
days of hard work on the floor of the House
in your behalf, by arrangement with Mr.
Zeigler, and afterwards made a special trip
to Harrisburg to see Governor Stone for
you. I feel that I have well earned the
money.
Very truly,
FRANK G. HARRIS.

Cottage Hospital, Phillipsburg, Pa., to
Frank G. Harris, Dr., Attorney-at-Law:
April, 1899.
Professional services.—To services in
obtaining State appropriation including
extra trip to Harrisburg, \$100.
Harris put on his glasses to examine
them. "No objections," said his attorneys.

The letter head was that of the House of
Representatives, and the date of the letter
was the bill Oct. 15th, 1899. Duncan said
that three-fourths of the injured who
came to the Phillipsburg hospital are from
Clearfield county, which Harris represents.

HAD ASKED ZEIGLER TO ACT.
He also said he had asked Zeigler to see
Harris and request him to stop at Harris-
burg to see the Governor while on his way
to Philadelphia.
"Did you ask Mr. Harris for a bill?"
"I knew nothing about such a request."
"Did the trustees pay the bill?"
" They refused to pay it."
Zeigler, Duncan said, is employed as the
attorney for the hospital, paid for looking
after this particular matter of appropriations,
at a salary of \$200 a year. When
Duncan resigned he passed the Harris let-
ter and bill to his successor, Irwin, who had
not been paid health and could not be pres-
ent on that account. On cross-examina-
tion Duncan said the \$100 asked by Harris
had never been paid, nor was it offered to
Harris.

The witness never told anybody that
Harris was paid or offered a bribe. He
never told Meek so. He never had a con-
ference with Robert Foster or Meek. Any
business was done by George W. Zeigler.
He didn't remember the expenses of the
Harrisburg trip. The Board of Trustees
usually ordered the payment of fees. He
said he paid the expenses of Harris,
but not the fees. He said he had
not talked with Harris. Attorney
Cole, for Harris, produced a letter
written by Duncan in Philadelphia on
this subject, saying he had met Harris
there. A letter from the Governor on the
appropriation was also produced. Cole was
severe in his cross-examination, but it did
not change the aspect of the case.
Duncan denied calling up Harris by
phone and asking him to go to Harrisburg.
(Continued on page 4.)

Sunshine for Consumptives.

New Health Resort in the Colorado Desert.

The new "City" of Snabath, in the cen-
tre of the Colorado desert in California and
Arizona, is to be made a national health
resort, says the Santa Fe New Mexican. A
large building is to be erected for the
health-seekers and a town site has been
laid out. The city consists at present of 60
tenants, all occupied by consumptives. A
majority of tenters are, or were, consump-
tives in the last stage, given up to die by
the physicians of Phoenix. As a last hope
these "lungers" decided to try the sun-
bath treatment, and went to the location
in the desert. In two years there had been
but two deaths in the colony, and the ma-
jority of the so-called hopeless cases have
improved to a wonderful extent. Many
of them returned to their eastern homes en-
tirely cured. If only the vast army of dy-
ing consumptives in the United States
knew that life in the air and sunshine
would save their lives, what great hap-
piness it would bring to many homes.

Engaged Girl Gets \$6,000 Damages.

An Iowa jury has just awarded \$6,000
damages to a young woman because the
man to whom she was engaged died before
the date fixed for their marriage. The
plaintiff's allegation was that the dead man
had once responded to the ceremony, and, al-
though there was no proof to show that he
did not intend to fulfill his promise at the
time which was set by their mutual con-
sent later, the gallant jurymen insisted
that his estate should compensate the
claimant for the loss she had suffered. The
proceeding was held in the county court at
Fairfax, and the jury returned their verdict
this example seems to go a step beyond all
precedents. If the verdict stands, prudent
Iowa swains who are not in the best of
health will probably demand short engage-
ments hereafter.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Terrible Mine Disaster.

Advices from Eagle Pass, Tex., state that
a dust explosion has caused a great loss
of life in Mine No. 9, of the Hondo Coal Min-
ing Company, in Mexico, some miles south
of Eagle Pass.
Eighty-five bodies have been taken out.
There were 165 men in the mine at the
time of the explosion and it is feared that
many more were lost.