

# The Centre Reporter Supplement.

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## ADULTERATED COFFEE.

GROCEER WHITE FOUND GUILTY  
OF VIOLATING OHIO'S PURE  
FOOD LAWS.

Interesting Facts Concerning the  
Roasting of Coffee Brought Out by  
Scientific Exports—Presence of Bacteria.

TOLEDO, O., Aug. 3.—The jury in Judge Meek's court in this city has found James White, a local grocer, guilty of selling adulterated coffee. The prosecution was based on a package of Arbuckles Ariosa coffee.

The State of Ohio, through the Pure Food Commission, prosecuted White. The case was on trial for nearly a month and attracted national attention.

The manufacturers of Ariosa coffee conducted the defense for Grocer White. The best attorneys in the country were retained to defend him, but, after a short consultation, a verdict of guilty was returned by the jury. The State of Ohio considers this a big victory. Pure Food Commissioner Blackburn has been waging a warfare on spurious food articles and the department has been successful.

The complaint of the State of Ohio was that Ariosa coffee was coated with a substance which concealed defects in the coffee and made it appear better than it is. The State charged this coating or glazing was a favorable medium for the propagation of bacteria.

Prof. G. A. Kirchmaier, of this city, a well known chemist, was the principal witness for the State. He had made scientific examinations of samples of Ariosa purchased from Grocer White in the open market. He found that each Ariosa berry contained an average of 300 bacteria. Mr. Kirchmaier further testified that other coffees he examined contained few bacteria or none at all. He declared that the glazed coffee was not a wholesome food product.

Chemist Schmidt, of Cincinnati, corroborated the testimony of Prof. Kirchmaier. The State did not present further testimony.

The defense through the Arbuckles, who prepared this glazed coffee, secured some of the most eminent chemists and scientists in the United States to give testimony in their behalf. Prof. H. W. Wiley, of the United States Agricultural Department; Prof. Vaughn of Ann Arbor University; Profs. Belle and Webber, of the Ohio State University, were called to defend Ariosa. Dr. Wiley had made a careful examination of the method of manufacturing Ariosa. He told of the 19,000,000 eggs used by the Arbuckles yearly in the preparation of this glazing. On this point in cross examination, the State's attorney deftly drew from him the information that these eggs might be kept in cold storage by the Arbuckles for a year or two at a time.

The experts who heard Dr. Wiley's testimony were pleased to be able to "catch" so famous a chemist. The doctor at one point in his testimony explained very clearly how it is that the egg put into the coffee pot by the house wife settles the coffee. He said that the bent coagulates the egg, and as it sinks to the bottom of the pot it carries the fine particles of coffee with it, and thus clarifies the drink. It is the act of coagulation in the coffee pot that does the work. Later on in his cross examination, he had to admit that when the egg was put on Ariosa coffee at the factory it became coagulated, and as egg cannot be coagulated but once, that the coating on coffee was practically no value, as a "settler" when it reached the coffee pot.

Prof. Wiley acknowledged that the glazing might be a favorable medium for the propagation of bacteria, although he would not testify positively either way because he was not a bacteriologist.

Prof. Vaughn, of Ann Arbor, also a

witness for the Arbuckles, said he found bacteria on Ariosa coffee.

Prof. Belle, another witness for the defense, found any number of lively bacteria on Ariosa coffee he examined, and he agreed that glazed coffee surely was a more favorable medium for the propagation of bacteria than unglazed coffee.

Pure Food Commissioner Blackburn says: "The State is very much elated over its victory against this corporation. We are now considering the advisability of informing every grocer in the State of Ohio that it is an infraction of the laws to sell Ariosa, and at the same time give warning to consumers that the coffee is an adulterated food article."

The verdict of the jury in this case is of national importance because a great many other States have pure food laws like that of Ohio, and it is natural to suppose that similar action will be taken by other Pure Food Commissioners to prevent the sale of glazed coffees.

Washington's Fastidious Kinsman.

Lawrence, earl of Ferrers, a distant relative of George Washington, had a most tyrannical temper, and one day in a fit of passion he cut down with his sword his steward, an old gentleman named Johnson. The latter had given no provocation for the deed, and the crime was an act of brutality inexcusable save that the earl may not have been well balanced mentally. He was brought to trial for killing Johnson and demanded and received the privilege of being tried by his peers.

The house of lords was thronged during the hearing. The evidence proved to be conclusive, and Ferrers was sentenced to be hanged at Tyburn. Appeals were made to the king for clemency, but in vain. Ferrers met his fate with considerable bravado. He was carefully attired for the occasion and insisted on providing a silken cord for the ceremony. To this whim the executioner agreed, and the earl was turned off otherwise like any other felon.

All but One Peeped In.

When a prominent picture dealer of New York starts the topic of woman's curiosity, his wife always laughs and blushes, for she knows the story that is coming.

"One day," the picture dealer begins, "I decided to close the small exhibition studio which leads from the gallery and put 'Private' on the door just for an experiment. There was an important collection of water colors by one of our best artists in the gallery. I sat at the desk just outside the entrance and presented to each lady a fresh catalogue of the paintings. When she took it, I politely requested her to leave it as she went out."

"This request was complied with in every instance, and I was enabled to notice a most interesting series of coincidences. On every catalogue save one there was in one place or another a little smear of gilding transferred to the paper from the carefully prepared knob of the door marked 'Private.'"

When the story had been accepted, with laughter, by his listeners, somebody is sure to ask, "How about the one catalogue that was undecorated?" To this query the picture dealer has one invariable answer:

"It was the catalogue carried by the young woman who afterward became my wife. She told me that the other women turned the knob merely to see if the door was locked, but she knew that sort of gilding rubbed off, and she had on light gloves."

In 1881 the isles of Ischia and Stelo suffered terribly from an earthquake, losing about 4,000 to 5,000 people. Ischia was again visited in 1883, but did not get off as easily as before, coming out of the wreck with 10,000 dead and missing. The great calamity of the nineteenth century was the great convulsion in Java in 1883, which is said to have killed not less than 120,000 persons.

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