

COURT IS CONVULSED

By Laughter at the Credulous Tale of Bunked Mr. Murdoch.

A RINGING REBUKE TO ALDERMEN.

That Investigation of Dimmey's Jurors Shows a Strong Breach.

THE HAZLETT ESTATE IN ESCHEAT

The trial of the suit of Dr. W. L. Penney against William Murdoch, G. P. Perkins, E. B. Todd and S. P. Anderson for \$30,000 for false arrest and imprisonment commenced yesterday before Judge Stowe.

The plaintiff showed by Alderman Cassidy that he was arrested on an information made before the Aldermen against Colville et al.

To this Judge Stowe remarked: "They had no more right to arrest Dr. Penney than they have to arrest me."

That information was tried to teach some people for a long time how to conduct cases, but it seems they will never learn until some of these days they will find themselves in a nice fix."

The plaintiff closed his case and the defense, in opening, claimed that the information was made upon what seemed to be probable cause, and if it was upon such belief there could be no recovery against the defendants.

When the evidence was taken before the jury, the defendant's counsel requested the jury to be instructed that if the evidence showed that the information was made upon probable cause, the jury should find for the defendant.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for \$30,000, with interest and costs.

The court then adjourned until next Monday.

The Hazlett estate in escheat was also discussed.

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THE CANVASS ENDED.

Our Special Commissioner Concludes His Travels and Reports

FOUR COUNTIES WITH A STAND-OFF

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MONTGOMERY AND BUCKS WANT BEER.

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On the other hand, the temperance workers consider the gentleman, and aver that the majority may be kept down to about 1,500 or 1,800.

The whole county has a population of 120,000, which means a very considerable increase since the last census, and since the previous vote on the license question.

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But it is doubtful whether it has gained sufficiently to win the day there in June. When local option was voted upon, this county gave 3,285 for license.

It was surprised when one of her principal politicians told me that this big majority will be found to have melted into insignificance.

He explained that the northern section of the county is populated by the old Pennsylvania Dutch, and the southern half by the Quakers.

It would be naturally supposed that the Quakers would effect the introduction of the Dutch in this contest, but with the part the Quakers are going to take they will also have the sympathy and aid of a large percentage of the Dutch.

THE LUTHERAN VOICE.

The Lutherans appear to be heart and soul in the movement. Rev. Mr. Melcher, of Bucks, is preaching and speaking in favor of the amendment.

He is one of the leaders of the Lutherans, and it cannot be denied that that denomination, in this county, at least, is doing a powerful work for the cause.

On the other hand the Methodists are stubbornly opposed to it in Bucks, and, therefore, he sees that the peculiar causes are operating in this county. The largest towns there are Doylestown and Bristol.

In Delaware county is one large town which will have much to do with the election next summer. It is Chester with a population of close upon 20,000.

The other important centers of population in little Delaware county will offset the influence of Chester. While there may be a majority in these places against the amendment the probabilities are that the Quaker contingent in the counties will offset it.

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WITH THE NORTHERN TIER.

In writing up the situation along the northern tier THE DISPATCH almost overlooked McKean county.

Since then I have learned that there was not so much doubt about this way that county will vote. There is only one element of doubt, and that is the large increase in population in the last 15 years. When the license ques-

tion was voted upon under the local option law the total vote of McKean county was only about 1,200.

Now it is fully 11,000. Bradford has since then become one of the important cities of the State.

It is generally conceded that the city will not favor the amendment. But the balance of the county probably will, and in some quarters I hear the estimate made that the whole county will give somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,200 majority for the cause.

The prohibitionists argue that the increase in population is made up of oil well drillers and lumbermen. They say that the men in the lumber camps are of a floating disposition, and that very few of them have a vote; and that, as these articles have already shown, the great bulk of the men at the petroleum rigs are steady-going and ready to give their vote and influence for prohibition.

L. E. STOKEL.

SHE WAS TOO GOOD FOR HIM.

A Young Man Abandons a Beautiful Bride Almost at the Altar.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., February 27.—Miss Emma Silsby, a handsome, dashing country girl, daughter of C. D. Silsby, a wealthy cattle grower and dealer, was to have been married yesterday to Albert A. Pierson, of Royalton, but the day before the bridegroom sent a note to his intended, informing her that he could not marry her, as he thought her too good for him, and trying her to immediately postpone the wedding.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONN.

Table with financial data for the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, including assets, liabilities, and dividends.

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