

THE BUTTONS DEALT IN SPURIOUS COIN

Lysle, However, Got the Benefit of the Jury's Doubt.

VERDICT RECEIVED WITH CHEERS

All the Buttons from Grandpa Ike Button Down to Bobby Button Together with a Score of Other Springvillians Attended Yesterday's Session of United States Court—Judge Buffington Prefers Justice to Law. The Case from Providence.

The Button family and their neighbors from up Springville way, in Susquehanna county, took up about all the time and attention of Judge Buffington and the United States court yesterday.

Last summer there was a lot of spurious coin about in the country thereabouts and an agent of the secret service bureau of the treasury department, M. J. McManus, went up to investigate. He found the tills of the country stores in Nicholson, Lake Carey, Springville and neighboring villages rich in bad money and after a season of quiet inquiry, secured evidence sufficient to convict one Simon Button and a James Baker of making and passing counterfeit coins.

The extent to which the business had been carried on led the secret service bureau to believe that there were others concerned in the transaction and with an idea of running the thing to the bottom, Detective McManus went back to the neighborhood and resumed his investigations. The local constabulary was not a little chagrined at having lost such a grand opportunity of winning fame and a free trip to Pittsburg, Erie or Scranton and was very much on the alert to prevent it recurring. While thus aroused the alarm was given that spurious coin was again in circulation. Storekeepers G. M. Doyle and Lis clerk, H. T. Fish, of Nicholson, had each taken in a bad half dollar and both remembered positively that one of the Button family, Lysle Button, a young cousin of Simon, had passed the queer money on them. Constable J. C. Reynolds was informed. The line and cry was raised. A posse of deputies were impressed into service on the spot and manning a big wagon they drove to Springville and made a descent on the Button domicile.

LYSLE WAS COMMITTED.

Lysle was seized, handcuffed, and carried to the bottom of the wagon and taken to West Nicholson, where he was given a hearing before Squire O. E. Reynolds, and committed to jail. Two days later they searched the house, and yesterday Lysle was acquitted. The government officers said at the time they were gradually working up to Lysle and had the constables kept their hands off they would have had a good case against him. There was small hope in the mind of the government authorities of convicting him when he was given a hearing before the court. He was committed to jail before the case was closed. The prosecution openly admitted that there was a rather weak one.

The accused is a young married man of good appearance. As he sat at the defendant's table with his three-year-old daughter sleeping in his breast, a staid-looking wife sitting at his side with another of the children on her lap, and his aged father sitting beside him intently watching every step of the proceedings, he created a good opinion and no one would have little from the jury.

He was represented by Attorneys W. E. Dawson, Detective McManus as representative of the government with the government attorney, Messrs. Heiner and Myers. The first witness called was the clerk of the store, H. T. Fish. On Aug. 18, 1897, Lysle Button and his wife came into the store and purchased a pair of children's shoes, for which the husband gave in payment a fifty-cent piece. After they had gone the clerk discovered that the money was spurious and placed it in a separate compartment of the till, intending to call his employer's attention to it.

WARRANT ISSUED.

The eighty-five cents was made up of a half dollar, a quarter and a dime. When the Buttons had departed he found that the fifty cents was spurious and, like the clerk, placed it in a separate part of the cash drawer. Later when he learned that the clerk had also been victimized and that the Buttons were the victimizers, he had a warrant issued for the husband's arrest.

Constable Reynolds detailed the arrest and told of finding three bad half dollars in the pockets of a pair of trousers which Button had discarded. He also stated that Mrs. Button cried out vehemently against her husband's arrest, saying he was innocent and explaining that the money had been received in change for a five dollar bill which she gave to a peddler in payment for some safety pins the day before. He also testified to having been present at the hearing and that Button there made the statement that the coins had been given to him by Simon Button in payment of a debt of \$2.50.

Detective McManus told of receiving the coins from Squire Reynolds and as an expert testified to their being counterfeit. He also told of taking Button into custody and confining him in the Lackawanna county jail.

Isaac K. Button, father of the accused, was the first witness for the defense. He testified that he was present when his daughter-in-law made the purchases from the peddler and saw her receive half dollars in the change of a five dollar bill.

He was also present at the hearing in Squire Reynolds' office. He was positive that his son did not say that he wanted to withdraw the statement that the bad coins had come into his possession through a peddler and substitute the statement that Simon Button had given them to him. His son did not know at the time whether it was the peddler or Simon Button who had given him the bad money. It was a suggestion of the witness made at the squire's office that caused the son to first sue and on reflection to be later convinced that the counterfeit came from his cousin Simon.

COUSIN SIMON ON THE STAND.

Cousin Simon was next called to the stand. He had been brought from the Western penitentiary to give testimony for Lysle. District Attorney Heiner raised the objection that the testimony of a convict is not competent in United States court and asked

ABLEST GERMAN JOURNALIST IN U. S. Preetorius of the Westliche Post Uses PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND



The St. Louis Westliche Post is the leading German daily of the Mississippi valley, and one of the few great German newspapers in the United States.

Established in 1857, it soon passed into the hands of Dr. Emil Preetorius and the Hon. Carl Schurz. For 40 years the Westliche Post has shown the most effective devotion to honorable and progressive ideas.

Edward Preetorius, business manager and treasurer, is a man of distinction throughout the southwest, and is known to many thousands in other portions of the country for his broad business methods, and for the commanding influence of his journal in national, state and city politics. Mr. Preetorius is an indefatigable worker. Subjected by his profession to unusual business cares, overwork and sudden demands upon his nervous strength, his personal experience and his estimate of Paine's celery compound must have exceptional weight, especially with brain workers, and men and women whose nerves are incessantly called on, as if they were of iron and steel, and not the most sensitive parts of the body.

Mr. Preetorius' letter, given below, shows his confidence in America's greatest remedy.

St. Louis, Jan. 15, 1898. Messrs. Wells & Richardson Co., Gentlemen: I have found that Paine's celery compound is the only remedy that will restore the nerves

to have the witness taken from the stand. Judge Buffington ruled that the point was well taken, but in this case, where there was an evident possibility of convicting an innocent man, he would prefer justice to law technicalities and admit the evidence.

The witness then went on to tell that he had given his cousin, Lysle, five bad half-dollars early in August, 1897, in payment of a debt, which he had owed to him since the night of July 4. He got the money from Baker, who was concerned with him in the Lake Carey transaction.

The defendant was then called to the stand and testified that he had never suspected that the money he had was spurious. He told of how he came by it, as previously described, and detailed the visits to Doyle's store, his arrest and the occurrence in the squire's office. At his father's suggestion he swore out a warrant for Simon Button's arrest.

Character testimony was given by W. E. Compton, postmaster at Springville; Oliver Squires, merchant of Springville; Ira Strickland, assessor and jury commissioner of Susquehanna county; Herman Stark, of Springville; Frank Park, miller at Springville, and Jeremiah Stephens, ex-county commissioner of Susquehanna county.

They all were acquainted with Lysle Button and knew him to be a good, honest, industrious young man.

CLOSING ADDRESSES.

The closing addresses were made by Mr. Dawson for the defense and Mr. Heiner for the government. Judge Buffington made a charge that was not unfavorable to the defendant and in a very short time the jury returned with a verdict of not guilty.

When the announcement was made by Clerk Lindsay, all the Buttons and Springvillians burst forth into a cheer, and some of the more enthusiastic ones continued clapping their hands for some time. Judge Buffington laughed heartily at the outbreak.

Without leaving the box a jury convicted Simon Hovis, of Franklin, Vermont county, of passing counterfeit money. Two colored men, Charles Lawson and Cal Law, who were his unsuspecting dupes in shoving the queer, were the principal witnesses against him. He met them on a street corner and sent them on four errands for whiskey or tobacco, each time giving them a silver dollar. When he was arrested four other silver dollars were found in his vest pocket. They were wrapped up in a piece of cloth "to prevent them from sweating and turning black," as Detective Griffin explained.

There was a battle royal when the case of the government against Anthony Duck and John Noack was called. They are the North End Polanders who tried to pass a clumsily altered \$2 bill for a \$20 bill in Fidler's hotel in Providence, two weeks ago today.

Mr. Soper, attorney for Duck, tried to place the blame on Noack, and Mr. Hawley, who was assigned to defend Noack, retaliated by striving to show that it was the other man who was guilty. Each attorney argued that his man was an ignorant Pole and the

A Sale of Cotton Goods Worth Reading About

IT'S GOING TO BE A COTTON GOODS SEASON. Already there is complaint from merchants that orders are delayed in delivery, owing to the rush which has overwhelmed the manufacturers. There seems little doubt but that these Dainty Fabrics will assume a high place in Dress goods importance from now on. All this makes the sale we have to tell about this morning the more remarkable. It represents a great purchase by us, and great buying opportunities for you.

Friday and Saturday, March 25 and 26

We shall place on sale OVER SEVENTY THOUSAND YARDS of this season's productions, at prices that should crowd the store. The main aisle will be devoted to the selling of the extraordinary purchase—with extra clerks, to give you prompt attention. Here is the story in detail:

- 12,650 yards of FINE IMPERIAL ORGANDIES, 40 inches wide, dainty designs and soft colorings. Positively worth 12 1/2c yard. For this great sale at EIGHT CENTS YARD.
- 4,280 yards of AMERICAN MADRAS—a fine grade of Lawn, handsome color effects, positively worth 8c yard. For this great sale at FOUR AND THREE-QUARTER CENTS.
- 3,726 yards of Open Work LACE DIMITIES—reproductions of foreign patterns that would be worth 35 cents a yard. For this great sale at TWELVE AND ONE-HALF CENTS.
- 12,062 yards of LAPPET LAWN—beautiful Wash Fabrics in an endless variety of patterns; positively worth 18 cents. For this great sale at TWELVE AND ONE-HALF CENTS.
- 6,848 yards of DOMESTIC ORGANDIES—most any style or color you may ask for. Good value at 17 cents. For this great sale at TEN CENTS.
- 10,374 yards of BEAUTIFUL ORGANDIES—imported cloth with domestic printings; every pattern a beauty; positively worth 38 cents. For this great sale at TWENTY-FOUR CENTS.
- 1,872 yards of PRINTED SWISS—crisp, dainty designs, in all the colors of noonday. Positively worth 22 cents a yard. For this great sale at FIFTEEN CENTS.
- 18,355 yards of MADRAS, 36 inches wide, in plaids, Roman stripes and fancy patterns; positively worth 16 cents. For this great sale at TWELVE AND ONE-HALF CENTS.
- 8,417 yards of FRENCH ORGANDIES—new as the morning, beautiful as the rainbow. Tremendous values at THIRTY-EIGHT and FORTY-EIGHT CENTS.
- 1,980 yards of COVERT BICYCLE SUITINGS, in tans, browns and other dark shades, for Skirts and Suits, worth 18 cents a yard. For this great sale at EIGHTEEN CENTS.

Remember, this great array of Spring Fabrics will be ready for your picking tomorrow morning. Don't miss this greatest opportunity of the year, for we can assure you, with confidence, that no such selling has ever been known in Scranton

THE TWENTY-FIVE CENT DINNERS.

More gratifying evidence yesterday of the success of our Quarter Dinners. Big crowd—to be sure. All promptly waited on, and highly pleased. Many families took their dinner here. Said it was cheaper and better, with greater variety than they could get at home. There'll be many new comers today, but we've room for them all. Dinner ready at eleven o'clock. continues until two. Restaurant in Basement.

Jonas Long's Sons

BEFORE BREAKFAST.

"Well, if they're agoin' to have war and nobody nor nothin' can't stop 'em," remarked a small gamin on the street yesterday, "why in thunder don't they have it?" and the listeners who passed almost paused to wonder the same thing.

Miss Kimball, the general secretary of the C. L. S. C., is a lady of most pleasing appearance. She has been so long connected with the Chautauqua movement in this important capacity that it was a surprise to her many admirers in this city to see so young a person. Her wide culture and enthusiasm make her a valuable director of the great work. Miss Kimball is a relative of J. Harry Fisher.

The lecture given through the courtesy of the Monday Morning Club at the Bicycle club this evening will be one of the few Lenten society events of note. Ladies will remain unbattered during the lecture as otherwise the views from the platform could not as well be seen.

Tonight will be served at Elm Park church one of the famous suppers, so often given there. It will be about the last of the season and an excellent menu has been prepared. The seating capacity of the dining room is so great that all who come may be sure of receiving prompt attention.

The Yale boys will be here April 12, after a Southern trip. On the Thursday before Easter the club sails for Old Point Comfort, Va. If the weather is good it is hard to imagine a more pleasant trip. The steamer sails about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and usually a glorious night upon the ocean is had. With a fine moon, a smooth sea, and banjos, guitars and voices, all mingled in a harmonious whole, it is hard to conceive a pleasanter or more enjoyable experience. If the weather is rough, with the sea rolling and tossing—well, that is different. The club arrives at Old Point Comfort about 5 o'clock in the evening on the following day, and proceeds immediately to a hotel. The club remains there until Monday morning. Fortress Monroe is near at hand and abounds in romantic spots, chief of which is gun 40, which is said to have witnessed many more interesting tete-a-tetes than it has heard shot and shell whistling over its head. During the remainder of the year, few concerts are given besides one in New York, the proceeds presented to the Athletic association to help defray the expenses of the crew, and one in Farmington, Conn., the audience consisting almost entirely of the fair students from Miss Porter's well known school situated in this picturesque spot. After the concert, the club serenades the young ladies, and are the recipients of many beautiful bouquets, each having attached to it a card upon which is written the name of some young knight upon whose happy head a lady's favor has fallen.

The Woman's Health Protective association, of Philadelphia, is having a scrap and Mrs. Olive Pond Aimes, formerly pastor of All Souls' church, of this city, seems to be in it to some degree. The president of the association is also connected with the now famous bribery case in the capacity of a witness, and was accused of prevarication at the hearing the other day. An idea did at one time prevail that the women of Philadelphia were banded together in a Health Protective association for the purpose of keeping a sharp eye out after loose paper and banana peels on the street, and to make men unhappy who had formed the habit of expectorating in the cars, but it seems this was a mistake.

APPEARANCE GOES A GREAT WAY

Many of the best dressed men in Scranton wear misfit clothes. Why? Step in some day and we'll explain. FIT, STYLE, FINISH, WORKMANSHIP, and exclusive novelties in patterns make us the favorite clothier with men who want tailor-made clothes at about the cost of fabric prices.

We buy misfit garments from tailors all over the country. You get them at less than cost. When a man wears a garment bought here he will purchase to other. Regarding our styles and patterns, you will have to drop in and see if they are not strictly up to date.

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- \$20.00 Merchants' Tailor Suits we sell for\$12.00
- \$40.00 Merchants' Tailor Suits we sell for\$15.00
- \$ 5.00 Merchants' Tailor Pants we sell for\$ 2.50
- \$ 8.00 Merchants' Tailor Pants we sell for\$ 4.00
- \$10.00 Merchants' Tailor Pants we sell for\$ 5.00

You'll find these garments of the very best material and workmanship. Come and examine them closely.

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We cheerfully make any alteration to improve the fit. All garments bought of us are kept in repair for one year free of charge.

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AJAX TABLETS POSITIVELY CURE ALL Nervous Diseases—Failing Memory, Debility, Sterility, etc., etc., etc., caused by past abuses, gives strength and vigor to the system, and restores the man to his normal state. Price \$1.00 a bottle, 6 for \$5.00 with a written guarantee for cure or money refunded. DON'T BUY AN IMITATION, but get the genuine AJAX TABLETS. If your druggist has not it, we will send it, prepaid, to you. Write to: **INDAPO REMEDY CO., Proprietors, Chicago, Ill.** or our Agents, **Meers & Higgins, Wholesale and Retail Druggists, 326 Penn. Ave., Scranton, Pa.**

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