

## THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM AND SUN-TELEGRAM.

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PROSECUTOR (?) JESSUP.

The Darby-Gordon-McCool trial for assault and battery has served one very good purpose and that is to show Wilfred Jessup, Richmond's bossing (?) prosecutor, in his true character. Jessup allowed what should have been a common, ordinary assault and battery case to degenerate into a slanderous attack on the Palladium. In fact, instead of having Gordon and McCool on trial for assault and battery, a spectator in the court room would have supposed that the Palladium was on trial. And all this because the Palladium dares print all the news whether it affects a rich newspaper owner or a poor outcast. Jessup, at the outset of the trial, stated that a wrong impression had been allowed to gain circulation to the effect that the Palladium was prosecuting the case. Of course, we are deeply obliged to Jessup for this exoneration, but hardly think it was necessary in view of the way he handled the trial, as it was clearly to be seen that the Palladium, instead of prosecuting, was being prosecuted. That all this had absolutely no bearing on the case, which was a common assault and battery case, made no difference. Jessup realized who his master was and answered the crack of the whip with alacrity.

## Was Fully Established.

The examination of several witnesses Tuesday afternoon showed that the testimony was all the same, in the main, that both Gordon and McCool had struck Darby, Gordon once and McCool twice to their knowledge.

Jessup in his closing speech said that if he were on the jury he would not find Gordon guilty, but characterized the assault of McCool as vicious. McCool should be fined and was in no wise justified for the attack he made upon Darby. McCool, he said, was a man who had no business to interfere in the trouble between Darby and Gordon but was swayed by a strong emotion to hit some one, and therefore rushed in and struck the defenseless man. McCool he said, by his actions was apparently itching for a fight and therefore had made the savage attack. Darby's actions were not directed against McCool and therefore the latter should be convicted—with a fine.

## Johnson's Fireworks.

Henry U. Johnson followed Jessup in a vociferous, brimstone-burning speech, in which he defended the man McCool, whom Jessup had characterized as making a savage and brutal attack. He would acquit the man for if the jury did not it would show that an item attack had been fired for scrapping and what a shame that would be. It would be an injustice to the people of Richmond, as the good opinion of the sanctum on North Seventh street might be jarred. An acquittal of both defendants was asked, notwithstanding the assault, that the reputation of the Evening Item might be sustained. It was not whether the men were guilty or not guilty with the ex-congressman from the sixth district; it was boosting the Evening Item and protecting its editor and circulation manager's fair names, that he was after. A lily of unusual whiteness was a withered flower compared with the men who had assaulted a man whose health is all but gone.

With a few more eulogies, a few more balls of fire, Johnson then drew a very pretty picture of the Good Samaritan, allowing his mind to roam along through religious and pastoral fields. An appeal for sympathy and the trial was closed although the jury had not left the room.

The jurymen acceptable to both at-

## COULDN'T KEEP IT.

Kept it Hid From the Children.

"We cannot keep Grape-Nuts food in the house. It goes so fast I have to hide it, because the children love it. It is just the food I have been looking for ever so long; something that I do not have to prepare and still is nourishing."

The jury could not have done otherwise than find both the defendants not guilty. Jessup as prosecutor brought no evidence that could convict the men. One of the redeeming features to the trial was the testimony of the defendants. They both told straight forward stories and even admitted that they had struck Darby. What any other attorney but Jessup could have done with this testimony is not a matter of doubt.

Isn't it a shame the way a rich man is allowed to be provoked by a poor man?

Yes, Jessup is for the common people. He wants their votes badly at every election.

Darby didn't get his just deserts. As prosecuting witness he should have

been sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

Let's see—what was that we used to read so much about rich men breaking the laws with impunity and being no better than anarchists?

And, oh yes. What was all that about senators pretending to represent the people when in reality they were working hand in glove for the corporations?

CONFESSED GUILT  
BUT ARE FREED BY  
CITY COURT JURY

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tend to place Gordon in a strong and favorable light with the jury. Never did he assume the antagonistic air so common with him, when some poor devil accused of a minor offense, sits meekly before him with head bowed in shame and chargin. No, not he.

The characteristics of Jessup's every day prosecution were never more forcibly illustrated than when C. S. McCool came to the stand to testify in his behalf. Jessup stroked his Samsonian locks, peeped over the rim of his "specks," glared at McCool, and the usual police court prosecution was on. Not a single question was asked but what would further incriminate McCool on the charge which was placed against him. McCool is the circulation manager of the Evening Item, and what cared Jessup for him. Nothing. He was an underling and was therefore subject to the full limit of the law. The change of positions of the prosecutor when the respective defendants were on the stand would have run a lightning change vandeville artist into the corner, feebly calling for a seltzer bottle. When McCool entered the stand, Jessup assumed the attitude of a prosecutor for the first time during the day and proceeded "to go after him" with the "big stick."

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