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Oscar Wilde  
Scrapbook

Vol. 5

o'clock. They proceeded to the second or third floor and went to a sitting-room. No one was there but witness and Wilde, who ordered whisky and soda, and two were brought. After the waiter had gone Wilde said, "Come into my bedroom." There was a door leading into a bedroom. They both went into the bedroom. After they had been there two hours, witness left, Wilde giving him £2, and telling him to call again there in a week at eleven o'clock at night. Witness did so, and similar misconduct took place. Prisoner and witness supped together on chicken and champagne. They were alone, and witness stayed at the hotel on this occasion about an hour and a half. Wilde gave him £3 on leaving, and told him to buy some clothes. After that he saw Wilde from time to time. Wilde gave him besides money a silver cigarette case and a gold ring. He also went to Wilde's address in St. James's-place, which he first visited between four and five o'clock one afternoon. Criminal acts took place. He went there very often, and at one time he visited Wilde's rooms nearly every day. Once he accompanied Wilde to the Crystal Palace, and on another occasion they had a box at the Pavilion Music-hall. Witness took one room at Park-walk (near Wilde's house, at Tite-street, Chelsea), and Wilde visited him there once, but nothing took place. There was a little unpleasantness with the landlady, and witness left. At one time he stayed in Camera-square, which is in the same vicinity. He also visited Wilde at the Albemarle. Eight or nine months ago Wilde was driving near Trafalgar-square in a hansom. On seeing witness, he pulled up, and said, "How are you? You are looking as pretty as ever." (Laughter.) Parker uttered these words with some hesitancy, and blushed deeply.

As the examination of this witness had proceeded Wilde moved restlessly about the corner of the dock in which he had seated himself, and occasionally passed his hands across his face in a way indicative of distress of mind.

Parker resumed by saying he was arrested with Taylor last year in a raid at Fitzroy-street, Fitzroy-square, and since then he had given up his evil companionship. He did not see a woman's dress at Little College-street.

Mr. C. O. Humphreys here announced that he had instructed counsel for the defence, and Mr. Travers Humphreys, who was with Sir Edward Clarke and Mr. Mathews at the Old Bailey, now entered the court, and took his seat at the barristers' table.

Mr. Travers Humphreys applied that his cross-examination of witness might be reversed. They had been taken quite by surprise in this matter.

Mr. Gill said he did not desire to bring the witness there again.

Mr. Travers Humphreys said he would give his friend notice if he wished to cross-examine him at any adjourned hearing.

The application was granted. The evidence having been read over and signed, he was bound over to give evidence at the sessions at the Central Criminal Court.

The court then adjourned for luncheon. During the adjournment the gossip in court was that Sir Edward Clarke had written to Wilde's solicitor expressing his willingness to defend the prisoner without fee. On inquiry, this statement proved to be well-founded.

On the court resuming, William Parker, a brother of the former witness, and strongly resembling him, was called. He deposed to being formerly a groom. In March, 1893, he, like his brother, was out of employment. He met Taylor at St. James's Restaurant under the circumstances already described by his brother, Charles Taylor, to introduce him to Oscar Wilde, "who was a gentleman and a good man for money." The witness was being further questioned, but complained of feeling unwell. The usher thereupon accommodated him with a seat. Parker, whose face was suffused with a death-like paleness, said, falteringly, that Taylor suggested the introduction to Wilde, so that he and his brother might act as women of a certain class. He and his brother met Taylor and went to a restaurant, where in a private room they were introduced to Wilde, and the four dined together. It was a very good dinner. 1893-03-16  
Parker then turned to Charles with the remark, "This is the boy for me. Are you

coming to the Savoy." They went away together. That was the only time he ever saw Wilde. Subsequently witness received a communication from his brother, but he did not meet prisoner again.

Mr. Travers Humphreys did not cross-examine this witness on behalf of Wilde, but put a question as to the time at which the introduction to Taylor took place. It was in March, 1893.

Sir John Bridge (to Taylor): Do you wish to put any questions?

Taylor: No; I won't say anything at present.

Mr. Gill intimated that this was as far as he would go that day in this class of evidence against Wilde, but he would call a witness against the prisoner Alfred Taylor.

The next witness was Mrs. Grant, a middle-aged, rather good-looking woman, dressed in black. She said she was the wife of William Grant, and lived at 13, Little College-street. The prisoner, Taylor, occupied rooms there for a year and eight months, beginning

in 1892 and ending in 1893. The rooms he occupied consisted of a sitting-room, bedroom, bath-room, and kitchen, for which he paid £3 a month. The apartments were furnished very nicely. The linen in the bedroom was very good. The windows of the room were very dark, especially the sitting-room, there being muslin strained over the glass, lace curtains, and dark curtains. There was no daylight. The sitting-room was lit by candles.

Was there anything peculiar about the bed?—There was no bedstead. There was a full-size spring mattress on the floor.

Did he furnish the place himself?—Yes. Witness continued that Taylor kept no servant. He did his own cooking. He was visited by a great many gentlemen—young gentlemen. Witness was always given to understand that Taylor was a bachelor.

Sir John Bridge: You saw no woman there?—Witness: Oh, no.

Mr. Gill: What were the ages of the young gentlemen who called?—Witness: From sixteen upwards. (Sensation.)

Answering the questions by Mr. Gill, witness said that she had seen ladies' wigs and things for fancy dress about the rooms—stockings and shoes, and things of that kind. Mr. Taylor was very fond of scent. He used to burn it and use it also. He had a large number of scented bottles.

Have you seen his nightdress?—Witness: His nightshirt.

How was it fastened?—With a gold brooch or pin.

Further questioned, witness said that she could not identify Wilde as one whom she had seen at the house.

The Magistrate (to Wilde): Stand up. (Prisoner Wilde rose.)

Witness: I cannot identify him.

Answering the questions, she said she had heard Taylor call someone who was there "Oscar." In January, 1893, a young man named Woods was staying with Taylor, and slept with him. He was there about three weeks, and he had seen a boy named Sidney Mavor who had slept all night with Taylor. A boy named Charley Mason had slept there. The gentlemen who came to tea came from four to six o'clock. Witness had seen Taylor sewing on buttons. (Laughter.) He decorated the rooms. He and Woods used to go out together. There were others who stayed there all the night besides the names she had given. Letters and telegrams used to arrive for Taylor. Shortly before Taylor left a sergeant of police came to the house as a friend of Mr. Taylor's, and placed himself in such a position that he could hear Taylor's voice. Witness knew that the house was watched. Witness had heard Taylor calling young men "Charley, dear." Taylor never told her what his occupation was.

Sir J. Bridge: Was there nothing to show what business he followed?—He said he was a gentleman.

Sir J. Bridge: Taylor, do you wish to ask any questions of the witness?

Taylor: Not at present, sir.

Sir J. Bridge (to witness): Did you ever see the person called "Oscar"?

Witness: No.

Mrs. Grant was then bound over to give evidence, if necessary, at the Central Criminal Court.

Alfred Woods, a slim, fair-looking youth, next called, deposed he was formerly a clerk, and he knew Mr. Alfred Taylor. In January, 1893, he was staying with Taylor at 13, Little College-street. At that time he had been out of employment about a week. Taylor had no legitimate occupation. He knew Oscar Wilde, whose acquaintance he made at the Cafe Royal in January, 1893, about three months before witness went to America. He was alone at the time he met Wilde. They went to the Cafe Florence, in Rupert-street, and had supper together in a private room. On leaving the Cafe Florence Wilde took witness to the Cafe Royal, Chelsea. He and Wilde went to bed.

Mr. Travers Humphreys objected to leading questions.

Mr. Gill: I wish to save your client by not going much into details.

Resuming his evidence, Woods said he was under the influence of drink, as he not only had taken champagne with his supper, but had also had whisky, brandy, and, at Wilde's house, hock and seltzer. Wilde gave him £3 before leaving the Florence. He again went to Times-street, at prisoner's request, and had supper. There was no servant there, and Wilde went into the pantry for the food. They did not repeat the same acts on that occasion. He once met Wilde at Taylor's rooms, in Little College-street. He had lunched and dined at the Cafe Florence with Wilde on two occasions. He had also seen Wilde at tea at 36, Langham-street, where witness had a bed and sitting-room. No impropriety took place. Witness afterwards took rooms at 4, Great Russell-street, but he could not remember whether Wilde visited him there. Witness occupied the rooms in Great Russell-street until his departure for America. Wilde gave him £5 or £4 on several occasions, also a watch and chain. About this time he expressed a wish to get away from "Wilde and these people."

Mr. Gill: Let us deal with the case from the point of view of Wilde alone, but I believe there were one or two other people who came to these tea parties?—Yes.

One or two who are out of the country at the present time, I think?—Yes.

Resuming, witness told Taylor he wished to go to America, and Taylor communicated this to Wilde. There was a meeting in Little College-street, at which witness agreed to hand over certain letters to Wilde. After the letters had been given up Wilde gave him two £10 notes and two £5 notes. Next day they lunched at the Cafe Florence, where Wilde gave him another £5. Witness then left for the United States, where he remained fourteen months.

Sir John Bridge: Was it in consequence of something that was said to you that you went to the Cafe Royal?—Yes. I had received a telegram from a gentleman.

Was that some gentleman you had met at Taylor's, or that you had heard of at Taylor's?—Yes.

Mr. Gill: Was that the first time you saw Wilde—that time at the Cafe Royal?—Yes.

Sidney Arthur Mavor, a young man of good appearance, said that he first knew Taylor in 1892, when the latter was living in Little College-street, where witness visited him. He had stayed with him there. At that time witness had no occupation. Occasionally he went there to tea parties, and met several men. Witness first met Oscar Wilde at Kettner's Restaurant, he thought, in September, 1892. Witness on that occasion was with Taylor and Lord Alfred Douglas. They dined there, but witness did not know what Taylor's occupation was. A week or two after he met Wilde the latter sent him a silver cigarette case. In October of that year he met Wilde at the Albemarle, this being their second meeting. They had supper together alone in a private sitting-room. There was a bedroom off the sitting-room, and witness found that Wilde had taken a bedroom for him at the hotel. This bedroom of witness's opened off Wilde's bedroom. They had wine for supper.

What took place between you that night?—Nothing.

Where did you pass the night?—In my bedroom.

Why did you sleep there that night?—Because I stayed there very late, and 'it was a long way for me to go home to Notting Hill.

Sir J. Bridge: Was the bed taken when you got there?—Yes.

Mr. Gill: And you went to stay all night with a man you had only seen once. Did he pay for you?—He paid the bill.

Further examined, witness said he left the next morning. He thought Wilde was staying in town. He didn't know that Wilde took these rooms for one night only. Witness had stayed at Taylor's and slept with Taylor, perhaps, three times. Taylor's sitting-room sometimes smelt of incense. He had not seen it lit artificially in the daytime. At the time he stayed with Taylor witness was out of employment. Witness had seen Wilde at this room. He used to call him "Oscar," and Wilde called him "Sidney."

Sir J. Bridge: Did Wilde ever give you any money?—Witness: Never.

M. Anton Migge deposed that the Savoy Hotel was one of the hotels in which he pursued his vocation as a masseur. In March, 1893, Oscar Wilde was staying at the Savoy Hotel. He went to massage Wilde from the 16th to the 20th of March at ten o'clock in the morning. One morning witness went into Wilde's room for massage and there saw a young man in prisoner's bed. He must have been from sixteen to eighteen years of age. Wilde was at the time dressing himself, and he said to witness, "I feel much better. I have no time to have the treatment this morning. I am very busy."

Did you ever massage Wilde after that?—No.

THE APOSTLE OF CULTURE  
BEGINS TO REALISE HIS POSI-  
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INTERVIEW WITH LORD ALFRED  
DOUGLAS.

At length Oscar Wilde appears to realise the terrible position in which he is placed. On Saturday night, upon his being taken into the charge-room at Bow-street Police-station, he showed his first trace of weakness. Prior to this he had borne himself with the greatest nonchalance, affecting to treat the whole affair as a matter of no importance. As soon, however, as he was inside the station itself, his demeanour appeared to change completely. Had he not supported himself by the rail which runs down the lower end of the office, he would have fallen. In a few seconds, however, he recovered himself, and, sweeping back his hair from his forehead, desired to know in what manner he was to be treated. He was informed that he would be placed in an ordinary cell. "Cannot I have a private room?" he plaintively queried. "No," was the reply, "but we will make you as comfortable as possible." First, however, before he was placed in the cell for the night, he was requested to give up any articles which he had upon him. He, without a word, turned out his pockets. A few loose coins, a pencil case, some papers, and twenty £5 notes, this was all he had upon him. The notes were kept by the police, but the remaining articles, excepting the pencil, were returned to him. Then he was conducted to the cell, one of those on the ground floor of the building. It is furnished in the usual manner, with a chair, a table, and a wooden bench fixed against the wall. "How am I to sleep to-night?" was Oscar's next question. In reply a constable brought in a few rugs he had collected in the living rooms of the men adjacent the station, and, throwing them upon the bench already referred to, indicated that that would be the bed for the night. These little matters settled, the question of dinner was next to be considered. The prisoner, placed as he was, would be allowed to secure special food if he so desired. He did so desire, and a messenger, acting on his request, was despatched to the Tavistock Hotel, in Covent-garden. He returned, attended by one of the hotel servants bearing a water pail with soup, fish, chicken, and a small bottle of champagne. For this repast, recherche although it might be, Oscar displayed only the slightest partiality, and it was returned but little diminished in quantity. Then he requested to be provided with a book in order to while away the time in reading. The light in the cell, however, prevented this. He slept very lightly, and now and then paced his cell. As soon as morning broke he stepped up to the door of the cell, and, catching sight of the constable who had been detailed for the duty of watching him during the night, had a brief conversation with him. At eight o'clock a messenger arrived from the Tavistock Hotel again with his breakfast. This consisted of coffee and bread and butter. The coffee he drank, but the solid food he returned untouched. A curious feature, however, was that, before this food could be taken from the cell, another messenger arrived with coffee, bread and butter, and two eggs. This, of course, was returned.

LORD ALFRED DOUGLAS.

Lord Alfred Douglas told a reporter in an interview on Saturday evening that he did not think he would be one of the witnesses for the defence in the case of Wilde, but that, at any rate, he would "be on hand if wanted." He is anxious to deny the statement that on Friday he went to the bank and drew money for Wilde. "The only foundation for the story," he says, "is that Mr. Wilde sent a friend of his own to inquire at the bank what balance he had, and to draw a very small sum of money." He accuses the press generally of having "deliberately suppressed" letters read in court which fully explain the attitude he takes up with regard to his father. "I refused to acknowledge that my father had any right over me, inasmuch as he never treated my mother as his wife nor me as his son." Questioned as to what he was going to do now, his lordship replied, "If Mr. Wilde should be looked up, I shall get a house near the prison, and live there till he comes out."

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The Press Association has authority for stating with reference to Mr. Oscar Wilde's defence that Sir Edward Clarke wrote early on Saturday to Mr. Humphreys, saying that, having regard to the events of Friday, he thought it right to say that if Mr. Oscar Wilde desired that he should defend him on his trial he would do so, and that for the services so offered he, of course, would not accept any fee. Mr. Humphreys has replied, stating that Mr. Oscar Wilde gratefully accepts the offer.

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Lord Alfred Douglas drove to Downing-street on Monday afternoon, and went to the Treasury, where he remained for some time. On leaving his lordship ordered his coachman to proceed to the Home Office, and here also he stayed for some time.

Jane Margaret Cotlar was the next witness to enter the box, and as she was ushered in Mr. Willie Wilde, prisoner's brother, entered by the same door, and took up a position at the back of the court. Miss Cotlar described herself as a chambermaid at the Savoy. In March, 1893, during Wilde's stay at the hotel, she discovered a youth in his bed. She reported this, and also the appearance of Wilde's room on different days.

REMAINED IN CUSTODY.

Mr. Gill said he did not propose to go further that day. He suggested the proceedings should be resumed on Thursday next.

Sir John Bridge thereupon ordered a remand until Thursday next at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Humphreys applied that Wilde might be admitted to bail on the ground that, though he must have known on Friday morning that a warrant would be issued for his arrest, he made no attempt to get out of the way, and there was no difficulty in finding him.

Sir John Bridge: I do not think it is a case for bail.

Mr. Humphreys: I can offer substantial bail.

Sir J. Bridge: It is not a case for bail at all.

The prisoners were then conducted from the dock to the cell.

A REPUDIATION.

The Hon. and Rev. A. Douglas writes:—"My nephew, Lord A. Douglas, was certainly not authorised by my mother, my sister, and myself to say, as reported, every member of our family except my father disbelieves absolutely and entirely the allegations of the defence. I most certainly believe them, and must repudiate any sympathy with the statement of my nephew."

NO MORE ARRESTS.

Up to ten o'clock on Sunday night no further arrest was made in connection with the Oscar Wilde case.

TAKING ACTION IN AMERICA.

A Reuter's telegram from New York says:—"The management of the Lyceum Theatre, where Oscar Wilde's play, 'An Ideal Husband,' is now running, have decided to remove the author's name from the bills and programmes. Miss Rose Coghlan, who has been playing 'A Woman of No Importance' in the Western States, has resolved to omit the play from her repertoire."

A later telegram from New York says:—"The directors of the Lyceum Theatre have decided to discontinue the performance of 'An Ideal Husband' after this week."

OSCAR WILDE AND MR. CARSON COLLEGE MATES.

It is somewhat remarkable that Mr. Oscar Wilde, Mr. Carson, and Mr. Gill, the leading counsel against him, and Mr. Justice Collins, who tried the case, are all Irishmen, and are all graduates of Dublin University. Mr. Wilde is a graduate of both Dublin and Oxford. Mr. Justice Henn Collins is a graduate of both Dublin and Cambridge. Mr. Wilde's father, the late Sir William Wilde, was the leading oculist in Dublin, and Mr. Justice Henn Collins's father, the late Mr. Collins, Q.C., was one of the leaders of the Irish Bar. Mr. Edward Carson and Mr. Oscar Wilde were undergraduates together in Trinity College, Dublin, upwards of twenty years ago, and were, indeed, members of the same class. Oscar Wilde was a scholar of Trinity, and one of the best classics of his year. Mr. Carson's academic career was, comparatively speaking, undistinguished.

OTHER SENSATIONAL DISCLOSURES EXPECTED.

The London correspondent of the "Birmingham Mail," writing on Friday, says:—"I hear to-night in the lobby, on excellent authority, that the Oscar Wilde case, which has been the chief topic of conversation to-day, overshadowing all other subjects, is likely to have a most sensational sequel. If the rumours which are afloat to-night should prove to be correct, we shall have such an exposure as has been unheard of in this country for many years past."

OSCAR WILDE'S PLAYS.

At the close of Saturday night's representation of 'An Ideal Husband' at the Haymarket Theatre—the last before the removal of the piece to the Criterion—a remarkable demonstration was witnessed, the curtain being raised seven times, and the audience continuing to applaud until Mr. Lewis Waller, one of the managers, came forward and briefly returned thanks on behalf of the company. Messrs. Lewis Waller and H. H. Morell have since addressed a letter, in course of which they say that they "do not feel justified in making a large number of people suffer" by altering their plans, and that they will, therefore, adhere to their engagements and play the piece at the Criterion on Saturday next.

PARIS PETRIFIED BY THE NEWS.  
A Paris correspondent, telegraphing on Saturday night, says that Paris is petrified at the news of this unexampled exposure.  
INTERVIEW WITH MR. BEERBOHM TREE.

A Dalziel's telegram from Baltimore says:—"Mr. Beerbohm Tree was interviewed on Saturday morning by a reporter in reference to the mention of his name in the course of the trial of Mr. Wilde's libel action against the Marquess of Queensberry. He declined to make any comment whatever on the affair, and would say nothing beyond expressing his keenest regret that his name had been linked even remotely with it. He appeared to be greatly mortified and very sorrowful that he had been mentioned at all in connection with the case."

THE OSCAR WILDE  
CASE.

ACCUSED AGAIN BEFORE  
MAGISTRATES.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE TO  
DEFEND PRISONER.

THE POET PALER AND THINNER.

On Thursday Sir John Bridge again sat in the Extradition Court at Bow-street to hear further evidence on the charges of gross indecency preferred against Oscar Fingal O'Flaherty Wilde, poet and dramatist. With him was Alfred Taylor, who, it will be remembered, was arrested during the progress of the case on Saturday last. On Thursday morning two stalwart police-constables guarded the gates at the foot of the staircase leading to the Extradition Court, and a few minutes before eleven, when, at a signal given by the chief usher, the bolts were drawn, there was a rush for places, but owing to the very limited accommodation the majority of those who were admitted were obliged to stand.

COUNSEL IN COURT.

Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., whose offer to conduct the defence of Wilde had been thankfully accepted, sat in the seats reserved for counsel, accompanied by Mr. Travers Humphreys, barrister, his junior. Mr. Arthur Newton, freshly instructed, sat at the solicitors' table, holding in his hand a brief for the prisoner Taylor. Mr. C. F. Gill, who, instructed by Mr. Angus Lewis, conducts the case for the prosecution, arrived later. The Hon. H. Cuffe, of the Treasury, also attended.

THE CHARGE AGAINST TAYLOR.

The charge against Taylor is that of conspiring with Wilde to obtain boys for an unlawful purpose.

WILDE PALER AND THINNER.

Sir John took his seat at five minutes past eleven o'clock. Wilde's face had undergone a distinct change since his previous appearance. He was paler and thinner. He entered with a languid and wearisome air, and, having seated himself at one end of the dock, leant heavily upon his right elbow. Taylor had lost the jaunty and rather contemptuous bearing with which he surveyed his surroundings on the last occasion.

STATEMENT BY SIR E. CLARKE.

Sir Edward Clarke at once rose and said: "I appear in this case with my friend, Mr. Travers Humphreys, for the defence of Mr. Oscar Wilde. I have had the opportunity of reading the depositions which were taken last Saturday, and I am much obliged for the permission to postpone the cross-examination of those witnesses. But upon considering the matter, I have decided not to ask for those witnesses to be called for cross-examination, as, probably, no cross-examination could affect the result so far as this court is concerned and so far as your action in the matter is concerned. And, of course, it is desirable on all grounds that the investigation shall be taken in as short a time as possible, and with as few occasions of hearing in this court as possible. And saying that with regard to the witnesses who have been called, I shall probably take the same course with regard to other witnesses with a view to shorten the proceedings before you."

Sir John Bridge: It is absolutely incumbent upon all of us to get the matter over as quickly and speedily as possible.

Mr. Newton asked to be allowed to put a few questions.

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#### OSCAR WILDE AND MR. CARSON COLLEGE MATES.

It is somewhat remarkable that Mr. Oscar Wilde, Mr. Carson, and Mr. Gall, the leading counsel against him, and Mr. Justice Collins, who tried the case, are all Irishmen, and are all graduates of Dublin University. Mr. Wilde is a graduate of both Dublin and Oxford. Mr. Justice Henn Collins is a graduate of both Dublin and Cambridge. Mr. Wilde's father, the late Sir William Wilde, was the leading oculist in Dublin, and Mr. Justice Henn Collins's father, the late Mr. Collins, Q.C., was one of the leaders of the Irish Bar. Mr. Edward Carson and Mr. Oscar Wilde were undergraduates together in Trinity College, Dublin, upwards of twenty years ago, and were, indeed, members of the same class. Oscar Wilde was a scholar of Trinity, and one of the best classics of his year. Mr. Carson's academic career was, comparatively speaking, undistinguished.

#### OTHER SENSATIONAL DISCLOSURES EXPECTED.

The London correspondent of the "Birmingham Mail," writing on Friday, says:—I hear to-night in the lobby, on excellent authority, that the Oscar Wilde case, which has been the chief topic of conversation to-day, overshadowing all other subjects, is likely to have a most sensational sequel. If the rumours which are afloat to-night should prove to be correct, we shall have such an exposure as has been unheard of in this country for many years past.

#### OSCAR WILDE'S PLAYS.

At the close of Saturday night's representation of "An Ideal Husband" at the Haymarket Theatre—the last before the removal of the piece to the Criterion—a remarkable demonstration was witnessed, the curtain being raised seven times, and the audience continuing to applaud until Mr. Lewis Waller, one of the managers, came forward and briefly returned thanks on behalf of the company. Messrs. Lewis Waller and H. H. Morell have since addressed a letter, in course of which they say that they "do not feel justified in making a large number of their engagements and play the piece at the Criterion on Saturday next."

#### PARIS PETRIFIED BY THE NEWS.

A Paris correspondent, telegraphing on Saturday night, says that Paris is petrified at the news of this unexampled exposure.

#### INTERVIEW WITH MR. BEERBOHM TREE.

A Dalziel's telegram from Baltimore says:—Mr. Beerbohm Tree was interviewed on Saturday morning by a reporter in reference to the mention of his name in the course of the trial of Mr. Wilde's libel action against the Marquess of Queensberry. He declined to make any comment whatever on the affair, and would say nothing beyond expressing his keenest regret that his name had been linked even remotely with it. He appeared to be greatly mortified and very sorrowful that he had been mentioned at all in connection with the case.

# THE OSCAR WILDE CASE.

## ACCUSED AGAIN BEFORE MAGISTRATES.

### SIR EDWARD CLARKE TO DEFEND PRISONER.

#### THE POET PALER AND THINNER.

On Thursday Sir John Bridge again sat in the Extradition Court at Bow-street to hear further evidence on the charges of gross indecency preferred against Oscar Fingal O'Flaherty Wilde, poet and dramatist. With him was Alfred Taylor, who, it will be remembered, was arrested during the progress of the case on Saturday last. On Thursday morning two stalwart police-constables guarded the gates at the foot of the staircase leading to the Extradition Court, and a few minutes before eleven, when, at a signal given by the chief usher, the bolts were drawn, there was a rush for places, but owing to the very limited accommodation the majority of those who were admitted were obliged to stand.

#### COUNSEL IN COURT.

Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., whose offer to conduct the defence of Wilde had been thankfully accepted, sat in the seats reserved for counsel, accompanied by Mr. Travers Humphreys, barrister, his junior. Mr. Arthur Newton, freshly instructed, sat at the solicitors' table, holding in his hand a brief for the prisoner Taylor. Mr. C. F. Gill, who, instructed by Mr. Angus Lewis, conducts the case for the prosecution, arrived later. The Hon. H. Cuffe, of the Treasury, also attended.

#### THE CHARGE AGAINST TAYLOR.

The charge against Taylor is that of conspiring with Wilde to obtain boys for an unlawful purpose.

#### WILDE PALER AND THINNER.

Sir John took his seat at five minutes past eleven o'clock. Wilde's face had undergone a distinct change since his previous appearance. He was paler and thinner. He entered with a languid and wearisome air, and, having seated himself at one end of the dock, leant heavily upon his right elbow. Taylor had lost the jaunty and rather contemptuous bearing with which he surveyed his surroundings on the last occasion.

#### STATEMENT BY SIR E. CLARKE.

Sir Edward Clarke at once rose and said: I appear in this case with my friend, Mr. Travers Humphreys, for the defence of Mr. Oscar Wilde. I have had the opportunity of reading the depositions which were taken last Saturday, and I am much obliged for the permission to postpone the cross-examination of those witnesses. But upon considering the matter, I have decided not to ask for those witnesses to be called for cross-examination, as, probably, no cross-examination could affect the result so far as this court is concerned and so far as your action in the matter is concerned. And, of course, it is desirable on all grounds that the investigation shall be taken in as short a time as possible, and with as few occasions of hearing in this court as possible. And saying that with regard to the witnesses who have been called, I shall probably take the same course with regard to other witnesses with a view to shorten the proceedings before you.

Sir John Bridge: It is absolutely incumbent upon all of us to get the matter over as quickly and as speedily as possible.

Mr. Newton asked to be allowed to put a few questions

**CHARLES PARKER RECALLED.**

Charles Parker was then re-called, and, in answer to Mr. Newton, said he was born in 1874. He was in employment at the present time, and had been in it for nearly eight months.

Were you not arrested in Fitzroy-square in August last?—Yes.

Were you a friend of many of the men who were arrested there?—No, I only knew one.

Mr. Newton then questioned witness with regard to a conversation he had with Taylor when the latter, as witness alleged, spoke to him at St. James's Restaurant in 1893.

Witness said that was the first time he saw Taylor, and the latter was not introduced to him by a man named Harrington. He made the statement as to the conversation which then took place to Mr. Charles Russell, the solicitor.

Mr. Newton: Were you afraid when you made that statement that you would be brought into the libel case?—Not at all.

You knew that you had committed illegal acts over and over again, and might be prosecuted?—I was not aware of it.

As a fact, you had committed indecencies with men?—Not before, I met Mr. Wilde.

Did you not know you might be prosecuted for it?—Yes.

With regard to the dinner, at which four of them were present, witness did not know that it was Taylor's birthday.

Am I right in saying nothing was said by Mr. Wilde to you about going to the Savoy in Taylor's presence?—He asked me in Taylor's presence, but I do not know whether Taylor heard it.

On the second occasion when witness went to the Savoy Taylor had nothing to do with it. He knew a young man named Atkins.

Is he a notorious blackmailer?—I don't know.

Is he a man who extorts money by making accusations against gentlemen?—I don't know.

How long have you known him?—About three years.

What is his occupation?—A comedian.

**COUNSEL INTERPOSES.**

Mr. Gill: I do not know for what purpose this mode of cross-examination is being indulged in. If it is for the purpose of preventing the man coming here as a witness, it will not succeed. If it is pursued I shall go into other cases against Taylor.

Mr. Newton: I am entitled to test this evidence and to show that this man Parker is the associate of the most notorious and depraved characters in London.

Sir J. Bridge: Go on.

**QUESTIONS RESUMED.**

Mr. Newton (to witness): You say you do not know what Atkins is?—No.

Why did you leave the service in which you were engaged as a valet?—The gentleman could not afford to keep me.

Did he not say you had stolen some of his clothes, and discharged you as a thief?—No; it was after I left that he said I had stolen the clothes.

Did you steal a sovereign that came for Taylor?—No.

Did you not get from two men £30, which they had extorted from a gentleman on the ground of an accusation of crime?—Yes.

Mr. Newton: They had extorted from the gentleman a large sum—more than £30, anyhow. And was it you who had committed indecency with the gentleman who paid the money?—Yes.

Then it was hush money to prevent your saying anything about it?—They did not tell me it was to keep my mouth shut.

But they did tell you where it had come from?—Yes.

Did you not ask Taylor to introduce you to Wilde?—No. He asked me if I would like to be introduced to Wilde, and I said I would.

How long had you been out of employment when you met Taylor?—Two or three weeks.

Had you been in constant employment before that?—Always.

Re-examined by Mr. Gill: Until you met Taylor did you know such men as have been referred to existed?—I knew there were such men.

But had you been brought in contact with them?—No.

From the time you made Taylor's acquaintance up to the time of the arrest in Fitzroy-square did you see Taylor frequently?—Yes.

After Taylor left Little College-street did he go to live in Chapel-street?—Yes.

Is that close to Park Walk?—Yes.

Did you frequently go across from Park Walk to 3, Chapel-street?—Yes.

**WITNESSES TO BE FETCHED.**

Mr. Newton said he desired to ask some questions of William Parker and the landlady of 13, Little College-street, but he did not propose to ask anything of Wood or Mayor.

Mr. Gill said the witnesses mentioned were not present, no notice having been given, but he would secure their attendance.

**FREDERICK ATKINS IN THE BOX.**

Frederick Atkins, examined by Mr. Gill, said he was now twenty years of age. He knew the prisoner Taylor when he occupied rooms at 13, Little College-street, Westminster. In November, 1892, he was asked to dine at the Florence Hotel. He went. Wilde and Taylor and two other gentlemen were present. This was the first time he had seen Wilde, and prisoner asked him to go to Paris with him as his private secretary. He consented, and two days subsequently he went to Victoria Station,

and, there meeting Wilde, they crossed to Paris. They had adjoining rooms at a hotel in the Boulevard Capuchin. The day after their arrival witness and Wilde lunched at a cafe, and then went to a hairdresser's to get their hair cut. Witness's hair was curled by the attendant after something said to him in French by Wilde. (Laughter.) Wilde afterwards took him to dinner—the best dinner he ever had in his life. (Renewed laughter.) After dinner Wilde gave him a louis, and told him not to go to the Moulin Rouge, but he did go. (Laughter.)

Witness added that when he got back to the room Wilde was already there. He was in bed. Witness got him a brandy and soda, and had one himself. (Laughter.) Then he went to bed—that was at half-past two in the morning. Later in the morning Wilde came to witness's room.

Did he make any proposal to you?—No, he kept on talking to me about women.

Did he buy you a present while you were in Paris?—Yes, a silver cigarette case.

Did he give you any money?—Yes, £3, as soon as we got back to Victoria, where we parted. I afterwards went to Tite-street, in consequence of a letter I got from Wilde. I took the letter with me. When he saw me he asked me for the letter, and I gave it to him.

Did he say anything about the visit to Paris?—He told me not to say anything about it. Wilde afterwards visited me while I was having tea with a friend—a young man. I introduced him to Wilde.

How did you make the acquaintance of Taylor?—I was introduced to him.

What did Taylor call you?—He and Wilde called me "Fred."

Witness, continuing, said he remembered Wilde's conduct at the dinner at the Florence. When he asked witness whether he would like to go to Paris he put his arms round witness's neck.

Mr. Newton, in cross-examination: Do not mention any name, but were you introduced to Taylor by the gentleman who was in Paris?—Yes.

And did not that gentleman also introduce you to Wilde?—No.

Did some other gentleman introduce you to Mr. Wilde?—Yes.

You have no occupation, have you?—Yes, I am a comedian and bookmaker's clerk.

For some years past you have been living with a man named Burton?—Yes.

Committing immoral acts from time to time with various persons, and then getting money from them?—No.

Do you seriously say that you have not, on more than one occasion, extorted money from men by threatening to accuse them of crimes?—I never have.

Has Burton?—Not to my knowledge.

Sir John Bridge: Did you do any secretarial work for Wilde in Paris?—Yes, I wrote something about "A Woman of No Importance."

Was the person in bed with him a man or a woman?—A man.

Mr. Gill: He was the man who introduced you to Taylor?—Yes.

**EDWARD SHELLEY GIVES EVIDENCE.**

Edward Shelley was the next witness. He said he was formerly employed by Messrs. Elkin and Matthew, Vigo-street, publishers. In 1891 defendant Wilde came there, and witness made his acquaintance. He was about to re-issue a book of poems of his. In February, 1892, Wilde sent him a note from the Albermarle

Hotel, and witness went there to see him. Wilde invited him to dinner, and they dined in a public room. They had plenty of wine at dinner, and witness had sufficient to excite him. After dinner they went to Wilde's private sitting-room and drink was brought in. At about half-past one or two o'clock in the morning he asked witness to go into the bedroom. Witness thought he was going to put him up for the night and went to bed. Wilde also went to bed.

Mr. Gill: While you were in the room did he kiss you?—Yes, just as I was going into the bedroom.

Was he a man for whom you had a great admiration for his talent?—Yes, and he always professed to be fond of me and flattered me.

Did you stay there the night?—Yes.

Sleeping in the same bed?—Yes.

Witness added that on the following night he went to a theatre with the defendant Wilde, and afterwards had supper with him in the sitting-room at the Albermarle Hotel. After that Wilde took him to the Prince of Wales's Club and other places—Kettner's and the Cafe Royal. Wilde wrote letters to his place of business, but witness had destroyed everything given him by Wilde except books, which included a large edition of "Dorian Grey." He tore out the title-pages containing the inscriptions. Some time in 1893 he wrote a letter to Wilde regarding the conduct shown towards him, and expressing his wish not to see the prisoner again. It was after writing that letter that witness destroyed Wilde's letter to himself.

Mr. Newton: Taylor is a stranger to you? Witness: Yes; quite a stranger.

**THE CHELSEA LANDLADY TALKS.**

Mrs. Lucy Rumsby, 50, Park-walk, Chelsea, examined by Mr. Gill, deposed that Charles Parker took a small back room in her house, and occupied it for a fortnight. She then gave him a week's notice to leave. She had seen Parker go to call on a friend in Chapel-street. A young man called once or twice to see Parker, but, her eyesight being bad, she could not now recognise him. It was in consequence of something said to her by another lodger that she gave Parker notice.

**MORE LANDLADIES.**

Mrs. Margery Bancroft deposed that she had lived at 50, Park-walk for eight years, and was there during Parker's occupancy. Parker was there visited by a man whom she now recognised as Taylor. She had heard Parker speak of Oscar Wilde (both prisoners were requested to stand up). One night a cab stopped at the door and two people alighted. One of them was Parker. A quarter of an hour after they went downstairs. Her suspicions had been previously aroused. Looking out of the window as one of the men returned to the cab, she recognised him as Oscar Wilde, having seen him frequently before.

Mrs. Sophia Gray, 3, Charles-street, Park-walk, next called, said Taylor had two rooms in her house from August, 1893, to the end of the year. Parker used to visit him there, and had occasionally slept in the same bed. Taylor had an accident, and Wilde came to see him. After Taylor left the rooms witness sold some of his effects to pay herself the debts Taylor owed. Amongst these effects was a hat-box containing letters. Taylor did not appear to have any occupation.

Cross-examined by Mr. Newton: She knew Taylor was well connected, and always treated her as a gentleman. He acted as a gentleman in her presence.

Mr. Gill: You never saw any ladies there?—Oh, no, sir. (Laughter.)

The court adjourned for luncheon.

**SERVANT IN THE BOX.**

On resuming at two o'clock Mary Applegate was sworn, and said she was a servant where Atkins had been living. She recognised Oscar Wilde as having come to tea on two occasions. There was a picture of Wilde in the room. On one occasion prisoner was accompanied by another person.

**A WAITER FOLLOWS.**

Thomas Price, waiter at 10, St. James's-place, sworn, said Wilde had rooms on the ground floor from October, 1893, to April, 1894. It was a private hotel. Prisoners had a good many visits from young men. He had seen Charles Parker in on several occasions, and Taylor was also a visitor there, but witness did not remember seeing him more than once. Atkins had been to No. 10 two or three times, also boys named Scarle and Barford.

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M. Alois Vogel, proprietor of the Albermarle Hotel, was examined as to certain dates in 1892 and 1893 upon which Wilde had visited or stayed at his house. He at first thought the

**CHARLES PARKER RE-CALLED.**

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Mr. Newton: Were you afraid when you made that statement that you would be brought into the libel case?—Not at all.

You knew that you had committed illegal acts over and over again, and might be prosecuted?—I was not aware of it.

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After Taylor left Little College-street did he go to live in Chapel-street?—Yes.

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**A WAITER FOLLOWS.**

Thomas Price, waiter at 10, St. James's-place, sworn, said Wilde had rooms on the ground floor from October, 1893, to April, 1894. It was a private hotel. Prisoners had a good many visits from young men. He had let Charles Parker in on several occasions, and Taylor was also a visitor there, but witness did not remember seeing him more than once. Atkins had been to No. 10 two or three times, also boys named Scarfe and Barford.

**HOTEL PROPRIETOR EXAMINED.**

M. Alois Vogel, proprietor of the Albemarle Hotel, was examined as to certain dates in 1892 and 1893 upon which Wilde had visited or stayed at his house. He at first thought the

young men who came there with Wilde had something to do with the theatre, but from the conclusion that Wilde should not come to the hotel again. He pressed Wilde, through his solicitors, for a small outstanding bill, thinking that by doing so he would prevent the return of Wilde. Witness went abroad for his health, and on his return found to his great annoyance, that Wilde was at the Albemarle from the 1st to the 17th of January of the present year. To prevent his coming there again, he issued a writ for payment of a week's bill.

**A HOUSEKEEPER SPEAKS.**  
Miss Annie Perkins, now of Southsea, formerly housekeeper at the Savoy Hotel, London, deposed to receiving reports from the chambermaid as to Wilde's room while he was staying there.

**PUBLISHER IN THE BOX.**  
Mr. Charles Mathews, publisher, Vigo-street, formerly partner with Mr. John Lane, said while he was with Mr. Lane the youth Shelley was in the firm's employ. They were acting as publishers for Wilde, and prisoner occasionally came to the office. He was aware of one letter being addressed by Wilde to Shelley. After that a communication was made to Mr. Lane, and Shelley left their employ.

**THE ARRESTS.**  
Police-inspector Charles Richards said on the 5th inst. he went with Police-sergeant Allan to the Cadogan Hotel, Sloane-street, and saw the prisoner Wilde there. Witness said, "Mr. Wilde, we are police officers. A warrant has been issued for your apprehension for committing some indecent offence with a male person." He said, "Yes. Where shall I be taken?" Witness said, "You will have to go to Scotland Yard with me, and then to Bow-street." He said, "Can I have bail?" Witness replied, "I don't think so." Witness then conveyed Wilde to Scotland Yard. On the next night witness went to 25, Denbigh-place, Pimlico, where prisoner Taylor lived. He searched Taylor's rooms.

Inspector Thomas Brookwell said that at five o'clock on April 5 he received a warrant granted by Sir John Bridge for the arrest of Wilde. While witness was at Scotland Yard Wilde was brought in by Inspector Richards and Police-sergeant Allan. The warrant was read to him, and he asked, "What are the mentioned names?" Witness replied, "On the 29th of March, 1893, and divers other days," Wilde made no further reply. Witness conveyed Wilde to Bow-street, where he was formally charged. Some letters, memoranda, and three writs were found upon him, also an envelope addressed "Sydney Mason, Esq.," with a pencil note enclosed, in the following words:—"Dear Syd.—Could not wait any longer. Come on at once and see Oscar. He is at 11, Fitz-street, Chelsea.—I am, truly yours, Alfred Taylor." Witness also found another envelope and paper. The envelope was addressed to Oscar Wilde, Esq., and the letter, written in pencil, was as follows:—"Dear Oscar.—When I left here yesterday I left a note, as I told you, for Sidney Mavor if he called. Littlechild, the detective, called shortly after I left, and, as I was out, asked to write a note. So was shown into my room, where the letter for Sydney was. When I returned last night I found the enclosed letter for me, and the letter I had written to Sydney had been opened.—Yours, Alfred Taylor." Witness added that he also found upon Wilde the following letter from Littlechild to Taylor:—"April 2. Dear Sir—I wanted to see you, but to-morrow morning will do. I will be on the look-out for you at the Old Bailey at ten.—Yours truly, J. J. Littlechild." There was also a letter signed Harry Bartlett, and two writs by jewellers for jewellery and cigarette cases. Witness was present at Bow-street on the morning of the 6th inst. when Taylor was brought in. When the warrant was read, Taylor said, "Is that the only charge?" Witness said, "I do not know."

Police-sergeant William Harris said, in consequence of communications made to the police, he kept observations in May, 1893, on 15, Little College-street. The windows were closed for seventeen or eighteen days. The interiors of the rooms were heavily draped and soiled. He kept observations on Taylor's recent address, 25, Denbigh-street, and last Saturday took him into custody "for committing indecency with male persons." He replied, "Very well; I expected you last night. What are you going to do?" Witness replied, "I shall take you to Bow Street." On arrival there the warrant was explained, and Taylor was brought before the magistrates.

Cross-examined: He found upon Taylor a copy of a subpoena to attend the Central Criminal Court during the hearing of the Wilde v. Queensberry case.  
Mr. Newton: Do you know that he attended every day?  
Witness: I do not.

**WOOD RE-CALLED.**  
Alfred Wood, re-called, said the letter produced was one he wrote to Taylor from America. In that letter he mentioned the name of Burton, but he did not remember whether the man Burton was known to Taylor.  
Mr. Gill: In the letter you write, "I'll Oscar he can send me a draft for an Easter egg." (Laughter.) Did Taylor ever answer that letter?—No, sir.  
Have you had money from Taylor sometimes?—No, I borrowed five shillings from him once, and paid it back.  
Has he given you money by cheque?—No.  
A cheque bearing witness's name was then produced, but witness said it never came to him.

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Mr. Geo. Frederick Claredge, clerk to Messrs Thernhill and Co., silversmiths, deposed to the purchase of a silver cigarette case by Wilde, with the inscription, "S. A. Mavor, Esq."

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Mr. Gill said he did not propose to go further that day. He would ask for a further remand. Having regard to the course adopted by Sir E. Clarke, he did not think it would be necessary for him to occupy the court very long.  
Sir John then remanded the prisoner until twelve o'clock next Friday, and again refused to accede to applications for bail.

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A Central News telegram from New York says:—"Mr. John Lane, publisher of London, writes to the Central News agent in New York as follows:—"The details of Oscar Wilde's case have not been extensively reported here, but private cabled advices inform me that it has been stated in court that I introduced Shelley to Oscar. Allow me to say that I did not know Wilde except by sight until he became an active partner with Elkin Mathews in February, 1892. At that time Shelley had been clerk to Mathews for a whole year, and, acting in that capacity, Shelley had already made the acquaintance of Wilde. My relations with Wilde have been entirely of a business nature. I have never introduced anyone to him. On the contrary, I have frequently declined to do so. My attitude towards him is quite well known. After seeing the papers here on my arrival last Sunday I immediately cabled my manager to withdraw all of Wilde's books, and not merely his name from the title pages."

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The Central News is authorised to contradict a statement published recently with reference to the withdrawal of Oscar Wilde's novels. The chief librarian of the British Museum has issued no order prohibiting Oscar Wilde's books. No such order has been issued, nor has it been in contemplation.

**OSCAR'S EGOTISM.**  
"I have known Oscar Wilde off and on for years," writes Mr. Labouchere in "Truth." "Clever and witty he unquestionably is, but I have always regarded him as somewhat wrong in the head, for his craving after notoriety seemed to me a positive craze. There was nothing that he would not do to attract attention. When he went over to New York he went about dressed in a bottle-green coat with a waist up to his shoulders. When he entered a restaurant people threw things at him. When he drove in the evening to deliver his lectures the windows of his carriage were broken, until a policeman rode on each side of it. Far from objecting to all this, it filled him with delighted complacency. 'Insult me, throw mud at me, but only look at me,' seemed to be his creed; and such a creed was never acted upon by anyone whose mind was not out of balance. So strange and wondrous is his mind when in an abnormal condition, that it would not surprise me if he were deriving a keen enjoyment from a position which most people, whether really innocent or guilty, would prefer to die rather than occupy. He must have known in what a glass-house he lived when he challenged investigation in a court of justice. After he had done this he went abroad. Why did he not stay abroad? The possibilities of a prison may not be pleasing to him, but I believe that the notoriety that has overtaken him has such a charm for him that it outweighs everything else. I remember, in the early days of the cult of aestheticism, hearing someone ask him how a man of his undoubted capacity could make such a fool of himself. He gave this explanation. He had written, he said, a book of poems, and he believed in their excellence. In vain he went from publisher to publisher asking them to bring them out; not one would even read them, for he was unknown. In order to find a publisher he felt that he must do something to become a personality. So he hit upon aestheticism. It succeeded. People talked about him; they invited him to their houses as a sort of lion. He then took his poems to a publisher, who—still without reading them—gladly accepted them."

All the efforts to get Oscar Wilde bailed out until Thursday have, so far, been ineffectual, and he remains at Holloway Gaol. Lord Alfred Douglas drove to Downing-street on Monday afternoon, and went to the Treasury, where he remained for some time. On leaving his lordship ordered his coachman to proceed to the Home Office, and here he also stayed some time. As already stated, Wilde was not placed in an ordinary cell; at his own request he was immediately located in a specially-furnished one, for which the payment of 10s. per week is made. The room is fairly light and lofty, and is situated directly over the administrative offices, in the centre of the building, a little to the left, or west, of the inner gates. It faces the courtyard, and is in the first storey. The furniture is evidently not quite good enough, for Wilde has expressed his intention of asking the authorities to supplement the surroundings with a few artistic articles of his own.

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According to the London correspondent of the "Leeds Mercury," the tails are gathering around at least one other "eminent" person. The rapidity with which the case against Wilde was got together is one of the most confounding things to the friends of the accused, but the fact of the matter is that for three or four weeks a small army of expert investigators had applied the whole of their energies to discovering incriminatory evidence, with results indicated in Mr. Carson's deadly cross-examination at the Old Bailey. The Marquess of Queensberry's son, Lord Alfred Douglas, who telegraphed to him, "What a funny little man you are," is some 25 years old, not as was stated the other day, nineteen or twenty.

**A POEM BY OSCAR.**  
We have no desire to dwell unnecessarily on the squalid, unwholesome topic of the hour in the English-speaking world, but a poem issued by Oscar Wilde in 1882 (and now unearthed by a correspondent of the "Yorkshire Post") is charged with so much sad significance in the light of later revelations that we cannot resist the temptation to re-produce it, viz:—

"HELAS!"  
To drift with every passion till my soul  
Is a strung lute on which all winds can play,  
Is it for this that I have given away  
Mine ancient wisdom and austere control?  
Methinks my life is a twice written scroll,  
Scrawled over on some boyish holiday,  
With idle song for pipe and wreath,  
Which do but mar the secret of the whole.  
Surely there was a time I might have trod  
The sunlit heights, and from life's dissonance  
Struck one clear chord to reach the ears of God:  
Is that time dead? Lo! with a little rod  
I did but touch the honey of romance—  
And must I lose a soul's inheritance?

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A correspondent writes:—"The Marquess of Queensberry, from the middle of November to the middle of February, resided at Kinnmont House, one of his seats in Dumfriesshire. While there he apparently believed that his son had broken off with 'Oscar Wilde.' At all events, when, about the middle of February, he left Kinnmont, he went to Carlisle, where he had taken a house, and where he meant to stay for some time. But a day or two later he had an interview with his brother-in-law and his sister, Sir A. B. and Lady Florence Dixie, who were on their way to Glen-Stuart House, the marquess's other seat in Dumfriesshire; and, whether or not in consequence of that interview, he immediately left for London. His subsequent conduct has already been detailed. He spent a fortnight or eighteen days in seeking a meeting with Oscar Wilde, but as he was forbidden that gentleman's house he ultimately had to adopt the plan of leaving a 'libellous' card at the Albemarle Club." "The Marquess," adds the same correspondent, "is a man who has a better side to his character than that which is known to the public. Although by no means wealthy, he is one of the best landlords in Scotland, his relations with his tenants being in all respects admirable. He is also a man of much generosity, giving almost more, in proportion to his means, than any man in the British peerage."

**OSCAR'S BOOKS TO BE DESTROYED IN AMERICA.**  
A Central News telegram from New York on Tuesday says:—"The committees of the St. Louis Public Library and Newark (New Jersey) Public Library have resolved to withdraw from circulation and destroy all works bearing Oscar Wilde's name."

young men who came there with Wilde had some connection with the theatres, but from something he saw on the third occasion he came to the conclusion that Wilde should not come to the hotel again. He pressed Wilde, through his solicitors, for a small outstanding bill, thinking that by doing so he would prevent the return of Wilde. Witness went abroad for his health, and on his return found, to his great annoyance, that Wilde was at the Albemarle from the 1st to the 17th of January of the present year. To prevent his coming there again, he issued a writ for payment of a week's bill.

#### A HOUSEKEEPER SPEAKS.

Miss Annie Perkins, now of Southsea, formerly housekeeper at the Savoy Hotel, London, deposed to receiving reports from the chambermaid as to Wilde's room while he was staying there.

#### PUBLISHER IN THE BOX.

Mr. Charles Mathews, publisher, Vigo-street, formerly partner with Mr. John Lane, said while he was with Mr. Lane the youth Shelley was in the firm's employ. They were acting as publishers for Wilde, and prisoner occasionally came to the office. He was aware of one letter being addressed by Wilde to Shelley. After that a communication was made to Mr. Lane, and Shelley left their employ.

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Police-inspector Charles Richards said on the 5th inst. he went with Police-sergeant Allan to the Cadogan Hotel, Sloane-street, and saw the prisoner Wilde there. Witness said, "Mr. Wilde, we are police officers. A warrant has been issued for your apprehension for committing some indecent offence with a male person." He said, "Yes. Where shall I be taken?" Witness said, "You will have to go to Scotland Yard with me, and then to Bow-street." He said, "Can I have bail?" Witness replied, "I don't think so." Witness then conveyed Wilde to Scotland Yard. On the next night witness went to 25, Denbigh-place, Pimlico, where prisoner Taylor lived. He searched Taylor's rooms.

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Mr. Jissen 2019-03-16 09:58 By Library  
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WILDE AND TAYLOR SENT FOR TRIAL.

APPLICATIONS FOR BAIL REFUSED.

Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor were again placed in the dock at Bow-street on Friday (before Sir John Bridge) on charges of indecency. There was again a crowded attendance of the public, the Extradition Court being inconveniently filled when the magistrate took his seat. Mr. Arthur Newton, the solicitor defending Taylor, was the first legal gentleman to put in an appearance. Mr. J. P. Grain, barrister, arrived almost immediately after, and, as the learned counsel had not previously held a brief in the case, there was some speculation as to whom he was concerned for. This was set at rest by the announcement that Mr. Grain was watching the proceedings in the interests of a witness already examined, namely, Mr. Sidney Mavor. Mr. Newton and Mr. Grain were holding a brief consultation when Mr. Travers Humphreys, who is acting as Sir Edward Clarke's junior in the defence of Wilde, took his seat at the barristers' table. Mr. Humphreys passed a note to Mr. Newton, and following this the two gentlemen had a conversation as to the proposed course of procedure. Mr. C. F. Gill (instructed by the Hon. Hamilton Cuffe, of the Treasury) again conducted the prosecution.

The prisoners were brought into court at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock. Wilde, who was more pallid and much thinner than when he last appeared in the dock, stood for a moment with a disconsolate air. On being given permission to be seated he threw himself upon the bench with a gesture of weariness, and rested his head heavily upon his arm.

Taylor presented much the same appearance as heretofore, and listened eagerly to every question put by counsel. He smiled on hearing replies affecting himself, and with great alertness prompted his solicitor when he thought occasion required his interference.

Charles Parker was first re-called, and further examined by Mr. Gill. He said he remembered staying at 13, Little College-street, after he had been at the Savoy Hotel. He did not think his brother was with him. Witness slept in the same bed with Taylor, but on that occasion Taylor did not make any proposition to him. Pressed as to whether Taylor made any proposition to him on other occasions on which they slept together, witness answered, "I forget now."

Mr. Gill: Don't say you forget now. You have made statements about this, you know, more than once.

Witness, after hesitating for some time, then admitted that Taylor did on one occasion make a proposition to him.

Mr. Gill: Do you remember him telling you about a man named Charlie Mason?—Yes.

Just attend, please. What was it he said about himself and Charlie Mason?—He told me that they got married.

Did he say anything about dress?—He told me that he (Taylor) was in woman's dress.

Did he say who was the husband?—Yes, Mason was the husband.

Did he tell you anything about a wedding breakfast?—Yes. He told me they had a wedding breakfast.

Did you ever see Charlie Mason there?—No. William Parker was next re-called. He said he remembered going to 13, Little College-street, and alleged that on that occasion Taylor behaved indecently.

Cross-examined: Witness said that happened two years ago.

Mr. Frederick Curley deposed that he was a supernumerary detective-inspector, and he had acted for Messrs. Day and Russell, solicitors, in certain inquiries. As a result of those inquiries he visited 3, Chapel-street, Park Walk, a house occupied by Mrs. Gray. After a statement had been taken from Mrs. Gray, he went to Chapel-street, and she handed him a leather hat-box, containing papers. Amongst these were certain papers selected for the purposes of the case.

The witness having identified these, Mr. Gill put further questions upon them. Two were cheques, signed Sidney Mavor; the first for 30s., and the second for £2. March 7, 1893, a telegram despatched from 369, Strand, to Alfred Taylor, 13, Little College-street, Westminster.—"Can you call at six o'clock.—Oscar Savoy." Another, August 21, 1893, from Gosling, Reading, to Taylor, 13, Little College-street, Westminster.—"Cannot manage the dinner to-morrow; very sorry.—Oscar." Another to Alfred Taylor—"Obliged to see Tree five o'clock, so don't come to Savoy. Let me know at once about Fred.—Oscar"; a Christmas card from Sidney Mavor, and a piece of paper with the address, 10 and 11, St. James's-place.

Mr. Charles Robinson, book-keeper at the Savoy Hotel, said Wilde, stayed there from the 2nd of March to the 29th of March, 1893. Witness produced a duplicate of the bill supplied to the prisoner.

Mr. Theodore Leigh, clerk at the Marylebone Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, produced a certified copy of the account of the prisoner Alfred Waterhouse Somerset Taylor from the 1st of January, 1892, to the 29th of December, 1893. He did not know Taylor by sight.

Mr. Newton: There will be no dispute about it.

Sir John Bridge: The only name I have now before me is "Alfred Taylor."

Mr. Newton: There will be no dispute about the name, sir.

Mr. Reginald William Brooks, a clerk in the Westminster Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, produced a certified copy of Wilde's account from the end of 1892 to the 9th of April of this year.

Mr. J. H. Lehmann, shorthand writer, said he, in conjunction with Mr. Howard, took a full shorthand note of the trial, which took place at the Central Criminal Court on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of April, the Queen against Queensberry. He put in the transcript of the notes he took on the first two days.

Mr. E. Howard also put in the transcript of the notes he took at the trial.

Mr. Gill said that would be the case for the prosecution. He then handed to Sir John Bridge a document which he said contained a list of the charges, upon which he asked that the prisoners should be committed for trial.

Sir John Bridge, having read the document, handed it to the clerk to be read aloud, and, addressing the prisoners, said, "These are the charges which you have got to answer."

The Clerk then read the list of alleged offences, which included charges of conspiracy against both prisoners to commit acts of gross indecency with other male persons. There was a further allegation against Taylor that he did, in September, 1893, attempt to commit an abominable crime with one Charles Parker, and that in April, 1893, he attempted to commit an abominable crime with one William Parker.

Sir John Bridge then, addressing Wilde, asked him whether he wished to say anything. Wilde: Not at present, your worship.

Sir John: Do you wish to say anything, Taylor?

Mr. Newton replied that on behalf of Taylor he wished to take his worship's ruling as to whether there was really any evidence upon which he could commit Taylor for what was called an attempt to perpetrate an abominable crime. He would say nothing about the misdemeanour. The charge rested absolutely upon the evidence of two persons, who, he was sure, Sir John would agree, were in the highest sense of the word discredited persons. There was no corroboration beyond the fact that undoubtedly they had stayed in the same place. Before he committed Taylor on that very serious matter, he thought his worship would come to the conclusion that there ought to be some evidence other than that of those two persons.

Sir John Bridge thought the evidence on the whole was corroborated—certainly enough to commit.

Mr. Travis Humphreys then applied for bail on behalf of Wilde, who, he said, was prepared to find substantial sureties. There was no charge of felony in Wilde's case—merely of misdemeanour.

Sir John said it was a matter within his discretion.

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**WILDE AND TAYLOR SENT FOR TRIAL.**

**APPLICATIONS FOR BAIL REFUSED.**

Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor were again placed in the dock at Bow-street on Friday (before Sir John Bridge) on charges of indecency. There was again a crowded attendance of the public, the Extradition Court being inconveniently filled when the magistrate took his seat. Mr. Arthur Newton, the solicitor defending Taylor, was the first legal gentleman to put in an appearance. Mr. J. P. Grain, barrister, arrived almost immediately after, and, as the learned counsel had not previously held a brief in the case, there was some speculation as to whom he was concerned for. This was set at rest by the announcement that Mr. Grain was watching the proceedings in the interests of a witness already examined, namely, Mr. Sidney Mavor. Mr. Newton and Mr. Grain were holding a brief consultation when Mr. Travers Humphreys, who is acting as Sir Edward Clarke's junior in the defence of Wilde, took his seat at the barristers' table. Mr. Humphreys passed a note to Mr. Newton, and following this the two gentlemen had a conversation as to the proposed course of procedure. Mr. C. F. Gill (instructed by the Hon. Hamilton Cuffe, of the Treasury) again conducted the prosecution.

The prisoners were brought into court at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock. Wilde, who was more pallid and much thinner than when he last appeared in the dock, stood for a moment with a disconsolate air. On being given permission to be seated he threw himself upon the bench with a gesture of weariness, and rested his head heavily upon his arm.

Taylor presented much the same appearance as heretofore, and listened eagerly to every question put by counsel. He smiled on hearing replies affecting himself, and with great alertness prompted his solicitor when he thought occasion required his interference.

Charles Parker was first re-called, and further examined by Mr. Gill. He said he remembered staying at 13, Little College-street, after he had been at the Savoy Hotel. He did not think his brother was with him. Witness slept in the same bed with Taylor, but on that occasion Taylor did not make any proposition to him. Pressed as to whether Taylor made any proposition to him on other occasions on which they slept together, witness answered, "I forget now."

Mr. Gill: Don't say you forget now. You have made statements about this, you know, more than once.

Witness, after hesitating for some time, then admitted that Taylor did on one occasion make a proposition to him.

Mr. Gill: Do you remember him telling you about a man named Charlie Mason?—Yes.

Just attend, please. What was it he said about himself and Charlie Mason?—He told me that they got married.

Did he say anything about dress?—He told me that he (Taylor) was in woman's dress.

Did he say who was the husband?—Yes, Mason was the husband.

Did he tell you anything about a wedding breakfast?—Yes. He told me they had a wedding breakfast.

Did you ever see Charlie Mason there?—No. William Parker was next re-called. He said he remembered going to 13, Little College-street, and alleged that on that occasion Taylor behaved indecently.

Cross-examined: Witness said that happened two years ago.

Mr. Frederick Curley deposed that he was a superannuated detective-inspector, and he had acted for Messrs. Day and Russell, solicitors, in certain inquiries. As a result of those inquiries he visited 3, Chapel-street, Park Walk, a house occupied by Mrs. Gray. After a statement had been taken from Mrs. Gray, he went to Chapel-street, and she handed him a leather hat-box, containing papers. Amongst these were certain papers selected for the purposes of

The witness having identified these, Mr. Gill put further questions upon them. Two were cheques, signed Sidney Mavor; the first for 30s., and the second for £2. March 7, 1893, a telegram despatched from 369, Strand, to Alfred Taylor, 13, Little College-street, Westminster—"Can you call at six o'clock.—Oscar, Savoy." Another, August 21, 1893, from Goring, Reading, to Taylor, 13, Little College-street, Westminster—"Cannot manage the dinner to-morrow; very sorry.—Oscar." Another to Alfred Taylor—"Obliged to see Tree five o'clock, so don't come to Savoy. Let me know at once about Fred.—Oscar"; a Christmas card from Sidney Mavor, and a piece of paper with the address, 10 and 11, St. James's-place.

Mr. Charles Robinson, book-keeper at the Savoy Hotel, said Wilde, stayed there from the 2nd of March to the 29th of March, 1893. Witness produced a duplicate of the bill supplied to the prisoner.

Mr. Theodore Leigh, clerk at the Marylebone Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, produced a certified copy of the account of the prisoner Alfred Waterhouse Somerset Taylor from the 1st of January, 1892, to the 29th of December, 1893. He did not know Taylor by sight.

Mr. Newton: There will be no dispute about it.

Sir John Bridge: The only name I have now before me is "Alfred Taylor."

Mr. Newton: There will be no dispute about the name, sir.

Mr. Reginald William Brooks, a clerk in the Westminster Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, produced a certified copy of Wilde's account from the end of 1892 to the 9th of April of this year.

Mr. J. H. Lehmann, shorthand writer, said he, in conjunction with Mr. Howard, took a full shorthand note of the trial, which took place at the Central Criminal Court on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of April, the Queen against Queensberry. He put in the transcript of the notes he took on the first two days.

Mr. E. Howard also put in the transcript of the notes he took at the trial.

Mr. Gill said that would be the case for the prosecution. He then handed to Sir John Bridge a document which he said contained a list of the charges, upon which he asked that the prisoners should be committed for trial.

Sir John Bridge, having read the document, handed it to the clerk to be read aloud, and, addressing the prisoners, said, "These are the charges which you have got to answer."

The Clerk then read the list of alleged offences, which included charges of conspiracy against both prisoners to commit acts of gross indecency with other male persons. There was a further allegation against Taylor that he did, in September, 1893, attempt to commit an abominable crime with one Charles Parker, and that in April, 1893, he attempted to commit an abominable crime with one William Parker.

Sir John Bridge then, addressing Wilde, asked him whether he wished to say anything.

Wilde: Not at present, your worship.

Sir John: Do you wish to say anything, Taylor?

Mr. Newton replied that on behalf of Taylor he wished to take his worship's ruling as to whether there was really any evidence upon which he could commit Taylor for what was called an attempt to perpetrate an abominable crime. He would say nothing about the misdemeanour. The charge rested absolutely upon the evidence of two persons, who, he was sure, Sir John would agree, were in the highest sense of the word discredited persons. There was no corroboration beyond the fact that undoubtedly they had stayed in the same place. Before he committed Taylor on that very serious matter, he thought his worship would come to the conclusion that there ought to be some evidence other than that of those two persons.

Sir John Bridge thought the evidence on the whole was corroborated—certainly enough to commit.

Mr. Travis Humphreys then applied for bail on behalf of Wilde, who, he said, was prepared to find substantial sureties. There was no charge of felony in Wilde's case—merely of misdemeanour.

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# OSCAR WILDE.

## HOW HE IS EXERCISED.

### SCENE IN THE POLICE COURT.

#### COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

#### LETTER FROM LORD ALFRED DOUGLAS.

#### THE RECORDER'S CHARGE.

[BY OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.]

LAST week I dealt with the kind of life led by Oscar Wilde in Holloway prison, and the daily routine he is compelled by the official regulations, to follow whether he likes it or not. This week it is my intention to deal with but a single phase—truly, a phase little known to the public—in the daily life of one of the most sensational prisoners of the 19th century—the compulsory morning and afternoon exercise of the prisoners who are under remand in Holloway Gaol. To see Oscar Wilde in the exercise yard is to pity him. For a moment just imagine what the feelings of a man of the Wilde temperament must suffer at being compelled to walk so many miles per day in an unartistic ground surrounded by high walls. In all his life Wilde has practically not walked fifty miles, for as he said himself at the Old Bailey, when under cross-examination by Mr. Carson, Q.C., "I never walk; I always take cabs." The repartee—for repartee it was to some caustic remark of the learned counsel—was true in substance and fact, for it is notorious that Oscar Wilde never dreamt in his freedom of taking manual exercise. It was always, even if he was going to the next street, a case of riding in a carriage or cab. Just for a brief space imagine what his sufferings must be. He is now bound to walk, and naturally brings into play muscles and tissues which have not been used for years. It is no good Mr. Wilde complaining he is ill and cannot walk, for the doctor says, "Walking is the best cure for most ailments, and far superior to all the medicine in the world." Yes, I say, think of this and you will then pity the man as I do.

But now let me try to draw with my pen a vivid picture of Mr. Wilde at exercise in Holloway Castle. In the first place I will describe the exercise ground as it is when vacant and unused. The ground is situated in the centre of the prison and in itself is square. It is surrounded by four high walls, the only relief in which are the iron bars protecting the little windows which allow the light to penetrate to the prisoner's cell. On the ground level of each set of walls are numerous archways leading from the exercise ground to the prison itself. These archways and the black high walls give indeed a prison-like appearance to all the surroundings. The exercise ground itself is paved with bricks, and many of them are considerably worn, thus making the walking on them anything but an agreeable task. In the centre of the yard is a kind of cairn or mound built of stones, and it is around this the prisoners promenade. There is a well worn track surrounding the cairn, and it is in this path that the prisoners are required to walk.

We will now fill in the picture and take a peep at Mr. Wilde and his companion Taylor indulging in their compulsory out-door exercise. First of all we must paint in the almost natural surroundings of the ground before allowing the prisoners to take up their positions therein. A warder first mounts to the top of the cairn, and in the centre of it he stands watching the prisoners' movements whilst they are promenading around him. Next four other warders take up a stand on the four sides of the cairn, but on the ground level, and are thus inside the ring around which the prisoners walk. On the other side of the circle more warders at various intervals are placed, whilst the top of the four high walls are tenanted by the usual armed guard. In short, any prisoner trying to escape during exercise would, to use an Americanism, "have a very rough time of it." Now the ground is ready for us to bring on our central figures. The prisoners under remand and the debtors are exercised together in batches of twenty-five, and each set are allowed exactly two hours per day—one hour in the morning and another in the afternoon. We will follow the Oscar Wilde and Taylor batch. Shortly after nine o'clock in the morning a warder goes to Mr. Wilde's cell and conducts him to the exercise ground. Oscar is placed on a certain spot on the track and told to stand there until he is permitted to walk. In front of him, at a distance of about one and a half yards, is another unfortunate prisoner, and another man is placed at exactly a like distance at the back of him. When the circle thus formed is completed, the chief warder gives the order "March," and off walk the twenty-five unfortunate individuals around the beaten path surrounding the cairn. Thus walk these poor prisoners, who are compelled by the warders to go only at a certain pace, and to keep their distance, for fifteen minutes. At the end of that time the word "Halt" is given, and the procession suddenly stops. "Right about turn" is the next order, and the circle in the opposite direction was to prevent the men becoming giddy. In this manner the exercise is continued for one hour.

April 27, 1895.

I will now take one figure—truly a central one—in this procession, the figure of Oscar Wilde. When he is placed on what is known in prison language as "his pitch," he looks the very picture of unhappiness. His face, wan, tired, and sunken, is not by a long way improved by the soft felt American hat he wears on his head. His long, unkempt hair flows out behind the hat, and as the wind catches it many streaks of grey may be seen intermingled in the locks. His long familiar coat with the velvet cuffs always finds a place on his back, whilst his patent leather boots would look all the better for a good polish. Thus stands Oscar awaiting the signal to start on his weary tramp. When the word "March!" is given he places one hand between the buttons of his waistcoat and on his breast. The other hand he

lets idly dangle at his side, and with bent-down head he trudges on his way. His walk can hardly be called such, for it is more of a spasmodic limp, interspersed with an occasional genuine movement of the limbs. His boots seem to pinch him, and the uneven brick-made ground evidently make his tender feet very sore; in short, the whole proceeding is either a dreadful bore to Mr. Wilde or else the exercise is a task which occasions him considerable physical pain. During the whole hour he is walking he never by chance takes his eyes off the ground, and seems all the time to be in deep and troubled thought. Yes! to see Oscar Wilde taking his forced exercise is to pity him. It is the sight of a man whose life has suddenly been turned upside down, the sight of a man performing a task he does not like, but yet withal the sight of a man struggling manfully to perform a duty which a humane law imposes upon him. Yes, truly the mental and physical agony that Wilde suffers must be intense. The man Taylor is placed three or four spaces from Wilde during exercise. He seems to rather enjoy the air and the active life, and by no means looks discontented. There is a marked difference as intense as light from darkness in the manners and bearings of the two prisoners.

At the expiration of the hour the prisoners are again halted, and ordered to stand in their places. One by one the men are removed by the warders from the circle and conducted back to their prison cell. In Mr. Wilde's individual case he is, immediately the exercise is completed, taken in hand by the warder who has been specially told off to look after him, and marched back to his private cell. After resting for some time on his bed, he rises, and sitting in his favourite chair near the window, reads the daily papers, of which he has a plentiful supply. At one o'clock he partakes of luncheon, and at three o'clock he again dresses himself in his overcoat and hat, and is taken out for another hour's promenade around the cairn in the prison yard, where exactly the same performance as that acted in the morning is gone through. Mr. Wilde appears to have considerable difficulty in walking and accomplishing the task set him by the prison regulations. At the expiration of the hour Oscar is conducted back to his cell and spends the remainder of the day in the manner described in last week's *Police Budget*. I repeat, I do pity Mr. Wilde, for his sufferings must be intense. For a man who has been used to no surroundings that was not extremely artistic, to no friends who were not learned, refined, witty, and epigrammatic, and finally, has hardly walked twenty yards during the last few years; the bare, miserable, dark prison walls, unenlivened by any colour; associating by touch with rogues and vagabonds, and compelled to walk on badly worn bricks, I say his mental agony, leaving apart the physical considerations, must be awful to bear. It is to be trusted the warning thus pictured may be a sharp lesson to many a person who might, by a slight error, although perhaps not criminal responsible, place themselves for a time under the domain of the law officers of the Crown.

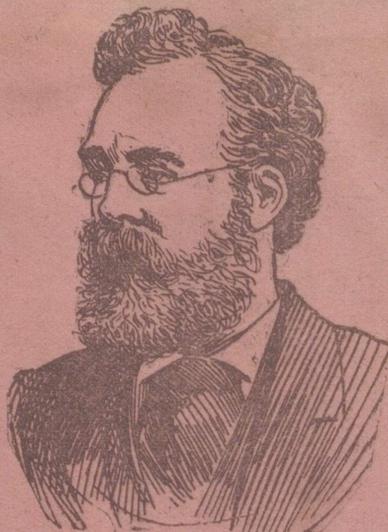
At the opening of the Old Bailey Sessions on Monday the Recorder in charging the grand jury was commendably brief in referring to the Wilde case. He said, "There is a serious charge against two men named Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor. It is not necessary for me to allude to the facts of the case. You will see from the calendar what the charges are, and it is only necessary for me to say that after you have heard the evidence of the witnesses called before the police magistrate I have no doubt you will consider it your duty to return a true bill for all the offences with which they are charged."

The jury on returning to consider the case had before them many witnesses, all of whom were in attendance at the court during the day.

We are informed on the highest authority that after the Recorder had made his charge, the counsel and solicitors engaged in the defence met in consultation in the Temple, and that it was resolved to make application to remove the trial by a writ of certiorari from the Old Bailey to the High Court.

If this action is followed and the writ is obtained, it means that a considerable delay will take place before the trial can possibly come before a judge. In that case bail would be asked for for Mr. Wilde, and most probably granted.

This brings us to the 17th of April, the day on which Oscar and his friend Taylor were to



ROBERT BUCHANAN.

re-appear before the magistrate at Bow Street Police-court. Both Wilde and Taylor were awakened in the morning at the usual rising hour, and partook of breakfast sent into them by the local caterer. As they were booked for the police-court they were not required to undertake their morning exercise in the parade ground for prisoners under remand. At half-past nine o'clock Wilde left his cell accompanied by two warders. The procession—for procession in miniature it truly was—marched down the long passage leading from Wilde's cell to the courtyard of the prison, where the prison van was waiting. One cell in the van had been reserved for Wilde, and with thieves, pickpockets, and

wife beaters he was driven from the prison yard to Bow Street. On arrival at the head police-court of the metropolis Wilde was taken from the van and confined in one of the station cells, and left alone to ruminate upon the hardness of his lot until such time as Sir John Bridge might find it convenient to slip away from his work and hear the additional evidence to be produced against the accused. Oscar had some considerable time for thought, as he arrived at Bow Street shortly before ten o'clock, and the magistrate did not take his seat until fifteen minutes after twelve.

In the meantime, however, a tremendous crowd had collected outside the police-court; but, thanks



FREDERICK CURLEY, PRIVATE INQUIRY OFFICER.

to the admirable arrangements made by the police, no one except lent on business was permitted to enter the precincts of the court under any pretence whatsoever. The court was, however, by no means empty, as the friends of both the prisoners, the eminent counsel and solicitors, to say nothing of the army of journalists, furnished more than enough to fill the space provided in the small, stuffy, and inconvenient Extradition Court of Bow Street.

Punctually at quarter past twelve o'clock Sir John Bridge entered the court and took his seat on the bench. Half a minute afterwards the two prisoners, conducted by Gaoler Bush and two constables, were brought in by a side door and placed in the dock. Wilde led the way, but had Taylor close to heel. Wilde, as he stood in the front of the dock holding in his delicate hand his soft felt American hat, looked ill and careworn. He was dressed in the same clothes as he wore when arrested, and even the familiar long overcoat found a place on his back, although the day was extremely warm and oppressive. Yes! Wilde has altered since the day when I saw him arrested. His face is haggard; his luxuriant hair unkempt, and in places showing unmistakable signs of patches of greyness; his cheeks pale and seemingly falling in, whilst his whole appearance was one of a man who was tired of life, great depression, and sudden age. Thus was Wilde. Now for a moment let us look at the picture—upon the same demeanour and general behaviour of his companion Taylor. He was

## LETTER FROM LORD ALFRED DOUGLAS.

The following letter appears in the London "Star":—Sir,—When the great British public has made up its great British mind to crush any particular unfortunate whom it holds in its power, it generally succeeds in gaining its object, and it is not fond of those who dare to question its power, or its right to do as it wishes. I feel, therefore, that I am taking my life in my hands in daring to raise my voice against the chorus of the pack of those who are now hounding Mr. Oscar Wilde to his ruin; the more so as I feel assured that the public has made up its mind to accept me, as it has accepted everybody and everything connected with this case, at Mr. Carson's valuation. I, of course, am the undutiful son who, in his arrogance and folly, has kicked against his kind and affectionate father, and who has further aggravated his offence by not running away and hiding his face after the discomfiture of his friend. It is not a pleasant position to find oneself in with regard to the public, but the situation is not without an element of grim humour, and it is no part of my intention to try and explain my attitude or defend my position. I am simply the "vox in solitudine clamantis" raising my feeble protest; not in the expectation of making headway against the wave of the popular or newspaper clamour, but rather dimly hoping to catch the ear and the sympathy of one or two of those strong and fearless men and women who have before now defied the shrieks of the mob. To such as these I appeal to interfere and to stay the hand of "Judge Lynch." And I submit that Mr. Oscar Wilde has been tried by the newspapers before he has been tried by a jury, that his case has been almost hopelessly prejudiced in the eyes of the public, from whom the jury, who must try his case, will be drawn, and that he is practically being delivered over bound to the jury of a cowardly and brutal mob. Sir John Bridge, in refusing bail on Friday, stated that he knew of no graver offence than that with which Mr. Wilde is charged. Mr. Wilde, as a matter of fact, is charged with a "misdemeanour," punishable by two years' imprisonment with or without hard labour as a maximum penalty; therefore, the offence with which he is charged is, in the eye of the law, which Sir John Bridge is supposed to represent, comparatively trifling. I should very much like to know how, in view of this fact, Sir John Bridge can reconcile what he said with his conscience, and with his position as the absolutely impartial exponent of the law, and whether it is not obvious that, in saying what he did, he allowed his personal feelings on a particular point to over-ride his sense of abstract justice, to the prejudice of the man charged before him. If a police magistrate of twenty years' experience shows such flagrant prejudice, what can be expected from the men who will at the Old Bailey form the jury of what the law humorously terms Mr. Oscar Wilde's "peers"? There are a thousand other things that might be said, but I am not the person to say them, nor is it my place to make any reply to the precious bit of cant and bad grammar which appears over Lord Queensberry's signature in your issue of to-day, and which I feel I may safely leave to the tender mercies of Mr. Robert Buchanan, whom I hereby beg to thank, in the name of justice, of sanity, and of Christian charity, for his noble letter.—Your obedient servant,

ALFRED DOUGLAS.

Chalcott House, Long Ditton, April 19.

### RECORDER HALL SPEAKS.

The Recorder, Sir Charles Hall, in charging the grand jury at the Old Bailey on Monday, at the opening of the April sessions, said there was a serious charge against two men, Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor. He did not think it was necessary to allude to the facts of the case. It was only necessary to say that, after the grand jury had heard the evidence of witnesses called before the magistrate, they would, no doubt, feel it their duty to return a true bill against each of the accused.

### TO TRY FOR BAIL.

The Exchange Telegraph Company states that nothing has yet been done in respect to making an application for bail in the case of Oscar Wilde. On Monday it will be definitely decided whether an application shall be made to postpone the hearing to the next sessions of the Central Criminal Court, or whether it shall be allowed to go on in the ordinary way, in which event the case, it is expected, will be taken on Friday next at the Old Bailey. In this event no application will probably be made, but in case the indictment stands over to the next sessions, bail will undoubtedly be applied for. The gentlemen who will defend Wilde are the same as appeared in his action against the Marquess of Queensberry, namely, Mr. Charles Mathews, and Mr. Travers Humphreys.

by no means depressed, and entered the dock with the air of a bravado, and even went so far as to smile when some of the witnesses told a revolting story in which it was alleged he was the chief actor. He was dressed in a new black suit of clothes, and was dapper and neat in every detail of his attire. He seemed not to realise the serious side of the charge against him. His attitude was more that of a man playing a part than one who at present stands in a frightful and serious condition, at least, frightful so far as his liberty is concerned.

Let us, for a moment, take a bird's-eye view of the court and its surroundings as the two prisoners stand forward in the dock. Seated on the Bench, in a very high-back chair, is the impassive and learned Sir John Bridge. In front of him on the desk are bundles of papers and innumerable books. Sir John does not lean forward on his desk, but lays back in his chair, crosses his hands, and listens intently to the evidence put before him. On a lower desk, placed immediately below the magistrate's desk, sits the clerk of the court, whose duty it is to inscribe in a big book, which he has on a desk in front of him, all the statements made by the various witnesses. On the floor, but edging on the lower extremities of the clerk's desk, is a big table. On the extreme right sits Mr. Gill, the Treasury counsel, and near to him is Mr. Angus Lewis, a Treasury solicitor, who is responsible for the preparation of the case. On Mr. Gill's left sits Mr. Travers Humphreys, who, in the absence of Sir Edward Clarke, is defending Oscar Wilde. Next to him is Mr. J. P. Grain, who holds a watching brief on behalf of the witness Mavor, the lad who was ambitious for going on the music-hall stage. Mr. Arthur Newton, the solicitor who is defending Taylor, and Mr. Smythe, holding a watching brief on behalf of some one "unknown" to the public, complete the list of eminent men interested in the case who sit on the counsel bench. The table before them is strewn with papers and documents, the major portion of which seem to belong to Mr. Gill. Immediately behind the advocate's bench is the dock, and in this Wilde and his companion, Taylor, stand, looking not as is their wont, the free and easy men about town. One has the appearance of abject despondency, and stares into space as if trying to read his destiny there; the other smiles occasionally, and is apparently in high spirits. To people who study human nature but very slightly, it is at once apparent that both Taylor's spirits and smiles are forced, and that he is but acting a part. In short, the two prisoners do not by a long way look happy. Near to the advocate's table the young man Mavor stands. He is tall, good-looking, clean shaven, but has a slight cast in one of his eyes. He was dressed in the height of fashion, and his immaculate frock-coat and shining silk hat made the dusty coat and ill-trimmed hat of Mr. Wilde look the very emblem of shabbiness. We now only have to dot in various parts of the court, witnesses in the case, to place the policemen

Detective-Inspector Curley, late of the E Division who was employed by Messrs. Day and Russell solicitors to Lord Queensberry, to make enquiries into Mr. Wilde's character after he commenced his libel action against the Marquis, said that in the course of his inquiry he visited the house in Little College Street. The landlady handed him a box containing papers. Amongst the papers were those now produced. These papers included two cheques made out in favour of Sidney Mavor for sums of 30s. and £2 2s. respectively. There was also a telegram running:—"To Alfred Taylor, Little College Street.—Could you call at six o'clock?—Oscar." Another telegram, dated from Goring, near Reading, August 21, 1893, and addressed to Taylor, was as follows:—"Cannot manage dinner to-morrow. Am so sorry.—Oscar." A third telegram sent by Wilde to Taylor from Knightsbridge ran:—"Do not come to Savoy. Let me know at once about Fred.—Oscar."

After George Robinson, a bookkeeper at the Savoy Hotel, had given formal evidence as to Wilde's visits to that establishment, Theodore Leigh, a clerk in the Marylebone Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, produced a certified copy of the account of "Alfred Waterhouse Somerset Taylor" from January 1, 1892, to December 29, 1893, when the account closed.

Reginald Brooks, a clerk in the Westminster Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, handed in a copy of Taylor's account there from January 1, 1892, to April 9th of the present year. The figures of the account did not transpire.

John William Lehmann, a shorthand writer, produced a transcript of the notes which he, in conjunction with Mr. Howard, had taken of the trial of the Marquis of Queensberry at the Old Bailey on the charge of libelling Oscar Wilde. This formal evidence was confirmed by Mr. Lehmann's colleague.

This concluded the evidence for the present, and Mr. Gill, who was visibly affected, addressing Sir John Bridge, said, in a quiet tone, that the case for the prosecution was now complete. He had, he continued, extracted from the depositions the offences on which he would ask Sir John to commit the prisoners to take their trial.

Sir John Bridge suggested that the proposed indictments had better be read out, and Mr. Travers Humphreys said he should like to know what his client had to answer.

The clerk then read over the charges, Wilde meanwhile leaning forward and listening intently. Wilde was charged with the commission of certain offences. Taylor was charged with conspiring with Wilde to procure persons to commit offences, and also with attempting to commit a serious crime.

Sir John Bridge, addressing the prisoner, said: Now you have heard the offences of which you stand charged, and the evidence given against you, do you wish to say anything in answer to the charge? Whatever you say may be taken down in writing and used against you at your trial.

Wilde, standing up, quietly answered, "No, not at present, your worship."

There was not a trace of emotion, and the cultured voice was under perfect control.

Sir John Bridge: Do you Taylor?

Taylor was about to reply, when Mr. Newton stood up and said: Before my client answers the question, will you allow me, sir, to take your ruling upon the question as to whether there is any evidence to meet the graver charge? I hope before you commit Taylor you will come to the conclusion that the only evidence given against him came from two discredited persons.

Sir John Bridge: Their evidence has been corroborated.

Mr. Newton: I respectfully submit, Sir John, that there is no corroboration as to particular offences.

Sir John Bridge: Not as to particular dates, but generally.

Mr. Newton: Considering the nature of the alleged crimes, and that they are alleged to have been committed about three years ago, I do submit that this is not a case to go to the Central Criminal Court, so far as Taylor is concerned.

Sir John Bridge: That does not alter the case at all. A crime is always a crime.

Mr. Humphreys: I must now ask, sir, that Wilde be admitted to bail. You can understand that there are witnesses to be obtained for the defence, and it is very difficult for Wilde to communicate with persons and prepare his defence unless he is to have the facilities of a man at liberty. I think that the case is really one for bail.

Sir John Bridge: It is a matter within my discretion, and I cannot grant bail.

and the officers of the court in their places, and to imagine the journalists and artists present finding seats in every available corner and spot, and we have a perfect picture of the old extradition court at Bow Street as it appeared last Friday morning.

Before the proceedings commenced Mr. Newton obtained the permission of the magistrate for the prisoners to sit down. Wilde seemed to greatly appreciate the privilege, and sank heavily and ponderously into the corner of the dock-seat, and least his head on his hand and appeared to be deeply in thought.

This preliminary settled, the case again commenced, and if possible the evidence given on this occasion was more un reputable than on any former occasion.

The first witness put in the box was Charles Parker, and in reply to some further questions by Mr. Gill gave evidence with regard to his dealings with Taylor subsequent to his (witness's) visit to Wilde at the Savoy Hotel. This evidence was of a very serious character, as against Taylor. The young man, having related some acts of misconduct under considerable pressure, created a great sensation by telling how Taylor had gone through the marriage service with a man named Charles Mason, Taylor dressing himself up as the bride. Parker even had the details of the wedding breakfast, the description of which caused considerable amusement in Court. Further evidence was obtained from him, and it went to suggest against Taylor the suggestion and attempt, if not the commission of the gravest offence.

William Parker, brother to the last witness, was also recalled, and he declared against Taylor an attempt in the Little College Street rooms of the same grave offence. The evidence was quite un-reportable.

In the cross-examination of the two witnesses spoken of were made more than a couple of years ago.

April 27, 1895.

Mr. Newton: With regard to Taylor, in addition to what I said last week, I should like to say that he was living at the same address during the trial of the Queensberry case at the Central Criminal Court, and he attended the case every day, and made no attempt to avoid arrest.

Sir John Bridge: In deciding what to do with a case of this kind, I have to use my discretion according (in the words of a great judge) to the evidence given and the gravity of the case. With regard to the gravity of the case, I think there is no worse crime than that with which the prisoners are charged. As to the evidence, all I shall say is that it is not slight, and I shall therefore refuse bail.

Wilde and Taylor were then formally committed for trial.

Immediately the proceedings in the court were finished—about 1.30 p.m.—Wilde and Taylor were removed from the dock and placed in separate cells at the back of the court. Luncheon was provided for them from an hotel in the neighbourhood, and both seemed to relish the meal. During the afternoon Wilde had a long conversation with his solicitor, the result of which will be shown when the trial comes on at the Old Bailey. Both he (Wilde) and Taylor seemed from all accounts to be in much better spirits after the committal than they were before. Late in the afternoon they were both placed in the prison van and returned to Holloway to spend some more dreary days of anticipation, and to await with what equanimity they can conjure up the verdict of the jury which is to try this case at the Old Bailey during the present week.

From inquiries made by a reporter, it seems that there is absolutely no prospect of any further arrests being made in connection with the charge against Oscar Wilde. It appears that up to three days ago there was a possibility of a gentleman whose name was mentioned during the late Old Bailey proceedings being placed beside Oscar Wilde in the dock at Bow Street yesterday; but all action in the matter was suddenly dropped—for what reason it is impossible to say. No new arrests seem now to be in contemplation.

Now that Mr. Wilde has been committed for trial, there is a good deal of speculation as to when he will be brought before the judge. The Old Bailey Sessions open on Monday next, and the Treasury officials are anxious that the trial should take place during this sitting of the Court. Of course it will be entirely within the province of Mr. Wilde's advisers to ask for a postponement until next Sessions on the ground that they have not had time to prepare their case. Whether this course will be taken remains to be seen. After the grand jury have dealt with the case on Tuesday next an application will be made by Mr. Gill, the Treasury counsel, to fix a day for the trial at the present Sessions. If Mr. Wilde's advisers determine to apply for a postponement and obtain it, they will ask for bail, and it is stated that any sum, no matter how large, will be forthcoming if the judge should deem it expedient to grant the request.

It was stated that an application would be made to a Judge in Chambers to allow Mr. Wilde out on bail, as he is only committed on a charge of misdemeanour. It is considered likely, however, that if this application be made, the judge, in view of the notness of the Old Bailey Sessions, will refer the applicants to the presiding judge at the Central Criminal Court. It is considered in legal circles that the judge is bound to grant bail on a charge which only amounts to a misdemeanour. This view is supported by two decisions, though there is an instance in which it was disallowed by a high court judge. The magistrate, however, can exercise his discretion in such a matter. The gentlemen who will defend Wilde are the same as were briefed in his action against the Marquis of Queensberry, namely, Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., Mr. Charles Mathews, and Mr. Travers Humphreys.

All the witnesses in the case who are to appear against Wilde and Taylor are being closely protected and watched by detectives, so as to assure their attendance at the Old Bailey next week. It is stated that one gentleman, who would give important evidence against Wilde and Taylor, has left England for the "benefit of his health." He has, it is added, left no address behind.

ACCUSED PLEADS "NOT GUILTY."

Oscar Wilde, 40, author, and Alfred Taylor, 33, no occupation, appeared in the dock at the Central Criminal Court on Friday on the following several indictments:

"Conspiring and agreeing together to commit and procure to be committed acts of gross indecency; Wilde, committing acts of gross indecency with Edward Shelley and Alfred Wood; Taylor, procuring the commission of the said acts; Wilde and Taylor, conspiring and agreeing together to procure the commission by Wilde, of acts of gross indecency (four indictments); Taylor, attempting to commit an abominable crime; Taylor, committing acts of gross indecency with Charles Parker; Wilde, with committing acts of gross indecency with certain male persons unknown."

The approaches to the Old Bailey presented much the same aspect as during the hearing of the action Wilde v. the Marquis of Queensberry, out of which the present prosecution has arisen, but by some alteration of the arrangements for admission by the under-sheriff, the crowding within the building was less. There was no legion of junior members of the Bar blocking up the passages, although the learned gentlemen elbowed each other in the seats usually reserved for counsel. The public galleries were filled long before the jury filed into their box.

COUNSEL IN THE CASE.

Mr. C. F. Gill, Mr. Horace Avory, and Mr. A. Gill conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Treasury; Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Mathews, and Mr. Travers Humphreys defended Wilde. Taylor was represented by Mr. J. P. Grain and Mr. Paul Taylor. Mr. Kershaw held a watching brief for the witness, Sidney Mavor.

Mr. Justice Charles took his seat at half-past ten o'clock. Wilde, on taking his place in the dock, appeared pale and ill. He was attired as he appeared at Bow-street, and wore a dark blue overcoat, with velvet collar and cuffs. He leant languidly on the bar. Taylor, whose great coat of light brown cloth was in strong contrast to the darker attire of his companion, surveyed the court with a somewhat impassive air, his gloved hands joined in front of him.

A PRELIMINARY OBJECTION.

The accused being called upon to answer, Sir Edward Clarke rose and made a preliminary objection, the gist of which was that neither of them could be asked to plead, because one part of the indictment, being under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, they could not be competent witnesses. Upon the charge of conspiracy, which was another part of the indictment, they could not be competent witnesses. The learned counsel based his argument upon certain cases in the law reports, and he submitted a demurrer on the ground that the counts had not been lawfully joined.

Mr. Gill having replied, His Lordship said there was very little assistance from the authorities, as there were broad distinctions between this case and those upon which decisions had been given. He, however, thought that the case the Queen v. Owen, to which attention had been called by Mr. Gill, pointed against his acceding to the request of Sir Edward Clarke. Though he felt the inconveniences of the present state of things, as already expressed by the late Lord Chief Justice in the Queen v. Whelan, he did not agree with the view of the learned counsel that the several counts could not be lawfully joined.

Prisoners were accordingly asked to plead, and to the several indictments they replied "Not guilty."

Sir E. Clarke then raised the point that the prosecution must elect whether they would proceed on the count of conspiracy or upon the count of misdemeanour.

Mr. Gill submitted that it was entirely for the discretion of the learned judge. His Lordship said he agreed, and he felt it impossible in this case to put the prosecution to the election as to which of the counts they would offer evidence upon.

CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. Gill then opened to the jury, intimating at the outset that he was there to conduct the prosecution by the direction of the Public Prosecutor. Though much had been published about the case, he appealed to them to approach its consideration without bias. Mr. Gill briefly sketched the circumstances of the action of Wilde v. the Marquis of Queensberry, the subsequent arrest of Wilde and the apprehension of Taylor during the preliminary examination of Wilde at Bow-street, prefacing his statements with the observation that it was an extraordinary fact that a man like Wilde should have been in contact at all with Taylor. The learned counsel detailed the circumstances under which Charles Parker, valet, and William Parker, groom, were introduced to Wilde by his fellow-prisoner, and stated the nature of the evidence as to their subsequent relations at various addresses in London. Passing from the incident of the mock wedding between Taylor and Charles Parker, Mr. Gill traced their later movements—Parker's visits to Wilde, and the relations of the two prisoners, as disclosed by correspondence in possession of the prosecution. The allegations in respect to other persons mentioned in the several counts of the indictment were next described at considerable length, and in this connection Wilde's visit to Paris was alluded to, also his conduct in making presents and in giving money. Counsel next adverted to the alleged Savoy Hotel incidents, and finished his address at half-past twelve.

During the greater part of it Wilde had sat disconsolately with a hand to the right side of his face. He moved restlessly from time to time. Taylor closely followed Mr. Gill as he passed from point to point of the story.

THE EVIDENCE.

The youth, Charles Parker, valet, was the first witness sworn. He described his introduction to Oscar Wilde by Taylor as a result of an arrangement made at St. James's Restaurant. Witness was at that time out of employment. Taylor told him there was a lot of money to be made, and that Wilde was a very good man to boys whom he liked. Witness received £3 from Wilde after accompanying him to his private rooms at the Savoy Hotel, the incident of which Parker described. They had previously dined sumptuously. On other occasions the indecent acts were repeated, and further sums of money given. Counsel then took the witness to another part of the case—that against Taylor. He was told by Taylor that he had dressed and acted as the woman in a marriage with a certain male person mentioned, and that after the ceremony there was a wedding breakfast. Witness several times slept with Taylor at 15, Little College-street, and at 5, Chapel-street. Parker was closely examined as to the acts of Taylor on these specific occasions. When occupying a room at Park-walk Wilde visited him, and gave him a cigarette case and a gold ring. Witness testified to visits which he had made to Wilde at rooms in St. James's place, at an address in Chelsea, and at the Albemarle Hotel, and spoke of grossly indecent acts, as to which details were not adduced at Bow-street. He ceased to associate with the other prisoner, Taylor, in 1894, and went away to the country, where he embarked upon another occupation. He enlisted, and was found by Mr. Arthur Russell, solicitor, to whom he made a statement.

The court then adjourned for luncheon. On the court resuming after luncheon, Sir E. Clarke began his cross-examination of Parker, who said it was after he joined his regiment that Mr. Russell, the solicitor, found him. He had not in the meantime communicated with any person. He had spoken in his examination at Bow-street of having received £30 as part of a sum of money extorted from a gentleman upon an allegation of misconduct with witness. The man who extorted the money were Wood and Allen. Witness was guilty of alleged misconduct a few weeks before the money was actually paid. The misconduct took place at Camera-square.

How much money did Wood and Allen get?—Three or four hundred pounds. (Sensation.) When you had spent your portion, you went into the Army?—Yes, I spent it in three or four days.

At Sir Edward's request Parker wrote the name of the gentleman in whose employ he had been as a valet before meeting Taylor. The name was handed to his lordship. The learned counsel remarked that as the gentleman had no connection whatever with this case there could be no object in mentioning the name in open court.

Replying to further questions, Parker said that after leaving this particular gentleman's employ he received a letter from him charging him with stealing clothing. He sent the articles back to his late employer. He told Wilde about his own parentage, and expressed a wish to go on the stage. He knew of the man Wood having got possession of some letters of Wilde's which he had found in some clothes given to him. Wilde's rooms in St. James's-place were very "public," and servants came in and out.

Do you mean to assert that in rooms thus described this sort of conduct went on again and again?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. Grain: He was not introduced to Taylor by another person, named Harrington, although Harrington (who was a clerk) was in the bar at the St. James's Restaurant when witness made Taylor's acquaintance. Wood visited witness at Camera-square frequently.

Was £30 the only sum you ever received under similar circumstances?—Yes.

What means of subsistence had you when you met Taylor in the St. James's Restaurant?—I had just left a situation.

How much money had you in your possession?—A few shillings.

Further cross-examined: He went to Paris with an operatic composer in 1893. It was as valet that he went. He was given two louis a week.

Did you occupy the same bedroom?—No; I stayed in a different place. I knew a man, named Burton, and went with him to Monte Carlo.

Re-examined by Mr. Gill: He knew neither Wood, Allen, or Burton, until he became acquainted with Taylor. He knew Lord A. Douglas. The letters which Wood had possession of were supposed to be letters received by Lord A. Douglas from Wilde.

Mr. Gill called attention to another part of Parker's deposition at Bow-street, and examined the witness upon it with the view to prove that there was no discrepancy in his testimony as a whole.

William Parker, groom, brother to the preceding witness, corroborated the evidence given, as to the introduction to Wilde by the other prisoner (Taylor). On two occasions he (Wm. Parker) slept at Taylor's, 15, Little College-street. On the second occasion Taylor attempted a certain offence alleged in the indictment.

Mrs. Grant, a married woman, who occupied a portion of the house known as 15, Little College-street, described Taylor's apartments. Light was not allowed to enter the rooms from the street, the coverings of the windows being nailed up. The place was highly scented. She had seen ladies' wigs and shoes and stockings there, but no woman's dress. A number of young men used to visit Taylor, and at different times they stayed all night.

Mrs. Margaret Bancroft, 50, Park Walk, deposed to seeing Wilde visit Parker, and Mrs. Sophia Gray, 3, Chapel-street, Park Walk, proved visits of Wilde to Taylor. After his departure from the rooms which he occupied there Taylor's papers were given to the police.

Mr. Curley, a supernumerated police inspector, acting in the Queensberry case for Messrs. Day and Russell, produced the telegrams and other exhibits put in last week at Bow-street.

Alfred Wood said he was introduced to Wilde at the Cafe Royal by Lord Alfred Douglas, whom he had previously met at Taylor's rooms. He was introduced by a telegram—(laughter)—it was in consequence of a telegram that he went to the Cafe Royal. Wilde spoke first, and asked, "Are you Alfred Wood?" Witness replied, "Yes," and had something to drink. They then partook of supper, with champagne, and Wilde took him to Tite-street, Chelsea.

Woo gave particulars as to what took place on that occasion. On a subsequent visit to him Wilde purchased half a dozen shirts, collars, and cuffs for him, and presented him with a watch and chain. Wilde had given him money at various times. On one day Wilde gave him £30 for certain letters. These letters witness had found in some clothes which Lord Alfred Douglas had given him. They were letters addressed to Lord A. Douglas by Wilde. Witness went to America, and wrote to Taylor, "Tell Oscar that if he likes, he can send me a draft for an Easter Egg—Burton and Douglas were at Liverpool for the races."

The court adjourned until to-day (Saturday).

LORD ALFRED DOUGLAS GONE ABROAD.

The Central News is requested by Lord Alfred Douglas to state that, in response to an urgent telegram from his mother, he started on Friday for Italy to see her, but hopes to return to London in a few days.

April 27, 1895.

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All the witnesses in the case who are to appear against Wilde and Taylor are being closely protected and watched by detectives, so as to assure their attendance at the Old Bailey next week. It is stated that one gentleman, who would give important evidence against Wilde and Taylor, has left England left no address behind.

## ACCUSED PLEADS "NOT GUILTY."

Oscar Wilde, 40, author, and Alfred Taylor, 33, no occupation, appeared in the dock at the Central Criminal Court on Friday on the following several indictments:

"Conspiring and agreeing together to commit and procure to be continued acts of gross indecency; Wilde, committing acts of gross indecency with Edward Shelley and Alfred Wood; Taylor, procuring the commission of the said acts; Wilde and Taylor, conspiring and agreeing together to procure the commission by Wilde, of acts of gross indecency (four indictments); Taylor, attempting to commit an abominable crime; Taylor, committing acts of gross indecency with Charles Parker; Wilde, with committing acts of gross indecency with certain male persons unknown."

The approaches to the Old Bailey presented much the same aspect as during the hearing of the action Wilde v. the Marquess of Queensberry, out of which the present prosecution has arisen, but by some alteration of the arrangements for admission by the under-sheriff, the crowding within the building was less. There was no legion of junior members of the Bar blocking up the passages, although the learned gentlemen elbowed each other in the seats usually reserved for counsel. The public galleries were filled long before the jury filed into their box.

## COUNSEL IN THE CASE.

Mr. C. F. Gill, Mr. Horace Avory, and Mr. A. Gill conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Treasury; Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Mathews, and Mr. Travers Humphreys defended Wilde. Taylor was represented by Mr. J. P. Grain and Mr. Paul Taylor. Mr. Kershaw held a watching brief for the witness, Sidney Mavor.

Mr. Justice Charles took his seat at half-past ten o'clock. Wilde, on taking his place in the dock, appeared pale and ill. He was attired as he appeared at Bow-street, and wore a dark blue overcoat, with velvet collar and cuffs. He leant languidly on the bar. Taylor, whose great coat of light brown cloth was in strong contrast to the darker attire of his companion, surveyed the court with a somewhat impassive air, his gloved hands joined in front of him.

## A PRELIMINARY OBJECTION.

The accused being called upon to answer, Sir Edward Clarke rose and made a preliminary objection, the gist of which was that neither of them could be asked to plead, because one part of the indictment, being under the Criminal Law Amendment Act, they could upon that be competent witnesses. Upon the charge of conspiracy, which was another part of the indictment, they could not be competent witnesses. The learned counsel based his argument upon certain cases in the law reports, and he submitted a demurrer on the ground that the counts had not been lawfully joined.

Mr. Gill having replied,

His Lordship said there was very little assistance from the authorities, as there were broad distinctions between this case and those upon which decisions had been given. He, however, thought that the case the Queen v. Owen, to which attention had been called by Mr. Gill, pointed against his acceding to the request of Sir Edward Clarke. Though he felt the inconvenience of the present state of things, as already expressed by the late Lord Chief Justice in the Queen v. Whelan, he did not agree with the view of the learned counsel that the several counts could not be lawfully joined.

Prisoners were accordingly asked to plead, and to the several indictments they replied "Not guilty."

Sir E. Clarke then raised the point that the prosecution must elect whether they would proceed on the count of conspiracy or upon the count of misdemeanour.

Mr. Gill submitted that it was entirely for the discretion of the learned judge.

His Lordship said he agreed, and he felt it impossible in this case to put the prosecution to the election as to which of the counts they would offer evidence upon.

## CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. Gill then opened to the jury, intimating at the outset that he was there to conduct the prosecution by the direction of the Public Prosecutor. Though much had been published about the case, he appealed to them to approach its consideration without bias. Mr. Gill briefly sketched the circumstances of the action of Wilde v. the Marquess of Queensberry, the subsequent arrest of Wilde and the apprehension of Taylor during the preliminary examination of Wilde at Bow-street, prefacing his statements with the observation that it was an extraordinary fact that a man like Wilde should have been in contact at all with Taylor. The learned counsel detailed the circumstances under which Charles Parker, valet, and William Parker, groom, were introduced to Wilde by his fellow-prisoner, and stated the nature of the evidence as to their subsequent relations at various addresses in London. Passing from the incident of the mook wedding between Taylor and Charles Parker, Mr. Gill traced their later movements—Parker's visits to Wilde, and the relations of the two prisoners, as disclosed by correspondence in possession of the prosecution. The allegations in respect to other persons mentioned in the several counts of the indictment were next described at considerable length, and in this connection Wilde's visit to Paris was alluded to, also his conduct in making presents and in giving money. Counsel next adverted to the alleged Savoy Hotel incidents, and finished his address at half-past twelve.

During the greater part of it Wilde had sat disconsolately with a hand to the right side of his face. He moved restlessly from time to time. Taylor closely followed Mr. Gill as he passed from point to point of the story.

## THE EVIDENCE.

The youth, Charles Parker, valet, was the first witness sworn. He described his introduction to Oscar Wilde by Taylor as a result of an arrangement made at St. James's Restaurant. Witness was at that time out of employment. Taylor told him there was a lot of money to be made, and that Wilde was a very good man to boys whom he liked. Witness received £5 from Wilde after accompanying him to his private rooms at the Savoy Hotel, the indecent incidents of which Parker described. They had previously dined sumptuously. On other occasions the indecent acts were repeated, and further sums of money given. Counsel then took the witness to another part of the case—that against Taylor. He was told by Taylor that he had dressed and acted as the woman in a marriage with a certain male person mentioned, and that after the ceremony there was a wedding breakfast. Witness several times slept with Taylor at 13, Little College-street, and at 3, Chapel-street. Parker was closely examined as to the acts of Taylor on these specific occasions. When occupying a room at Park-walk Wilde visited him, and gave him a cigarette case and a gold ring. Witness testified to visits which he had made to Wilde at rooms in St. James's-place, at an address in Chelsea, and at the Albemarle Hotel, and spoke of grossly indecent acts, as to which details were not adduced at Bow-street. He ceased to associate with the other prisoner, Taylor, in 1894, and went away to the country, where he embarked upon

another occupation. He enlisted, and was found by Mr. Arthur Russell, solicitor, to whom he made a statement.

The court then adjourned for luncheon.

On the court resuming after luncheon, Sir E. Clarke began his cross-examination of Parker, who said it was after he joined his regiment that Mr. Russell, the solicitor, found him. He had not in the meantime communicated with any person. He had spoken in his examination at Bow-street of having received £50 as part of a sum of money extorted from a gentleman upon an allegation of misconduct with witness. The men who extorted the money were Wood and Allen. Witness was guilty of alleged misconduct a few weeks before the money was actually paid. The misconduct took place at Camera-square.

How much money did Wood and Allen get?

—Three or four hundred pounds. (Sensation.)

When you had spent your portion you went into the Army?—Yes, I spent it in three or four days.

At Sir Edward's request Parker wrote the name of the gentleman in whose employ he had been as a valet before meeting Taylor. The name was handed to his lordship. The learned counsel remarked that as the gentleman had been in the employ of the prosecution there could be no object in mentioning the name in open court.

Replying to further questions, Parker said that after leaving this particular gentleman's employ he received a letter from him charging him with stealing clothing. He sent the articles back to his late employer. He told Wilde about his own parentage, and expressed a wish to go on the stage. He knew of the man Wood having got possession of some letters of Wilde's which he had found in some clothes given to him. Wilde's rooms in St. James's-place were very "public," and servants came in and out.

Do you mean to assert that in rooms thus described this sort of conduct went on again and again?—Yes.

Cross-examined by Mr. Grain: He was not introduced to Taylor by another person, named Harrington, although Harrington (who was a clerk) was in the bar at the St. James's Restaurant when witness made Taylor's acquaintance. Wood visited witness at Camera-square frequently.

Was £30 the only sum you ever received under similar circumstances?—Yes.

What means of subsistence had you when you met Taylor in the St. James's Restaurant?—I had just left a situation.

How much money had you in your possession?—A few shillings.

Further cross-examined: He went to Paris with an operatic composer in 1893. It was a valet that he went. He was given two louis a week.

Did you occupy the same bedroom?—No; I stayed in a different place. I knew a man, named Burton, and went with him to Monte Carlo.

Re-examined by Mr. Gill: He knew neither Wood, Allen, or Burton, until he became acquainted with Taylor. He knew Lord A. Douglas. The letters which Wood had possession of were supposed to be letters received by Lord A. Douglas from Wilde.

Mr. Gill called attention to another part of Parker's deposition at Bow-street, and examined the witness upon it with the view to prove that there was no discrepancy in his testimony as a whole.

William Parker, groom, brother to the preceding witness, corroborated the evidence given as to the introduction to Wilde by the other prisoner (Taylor). On two occasions he (Wm. Parker) slept at Taylor's, 13, Little College-street. On the second occasion Taylor attempted a certain offence alleged in the indictment.

Mrs. Grant, a married woman, who occupied a portion of the house known as 13, Little College-street, described Taylor's apartments. Light was not allowed to enter the rooms from the street, the coverings of the windows being nailed up. The place was highly scented. She had seen ladies' wigs and shoes and stockings there, but no woman's dress. A number of young men used to visit Taylor, and at different times they stayed all night.

Mrs. Margaret Baneroff, 50, Park Walk, deposed to seeing Wilde visit Parker, and Mrs. Sophia Gray, 3, Chapel-street, Park Walk, proved visits of Wilde to Taylor. After his departure from the rooms which he occupied there Taylor's papers were given to the police.

Mr. Curley, a superannuated police inspector, acting in the Queensberry case for Messrs. Day and Russell, produced the telegrams and other exhibits put in last week at Bow-street.

Alfred Wood said he was introduced to Wilde at the Cafe Royal by Lord Alfred Douglas, whom he had previously met at Taylor's rooms. He was introduced by a telegram—(laughter)—

it was in consequence of a telegram that he went to the Cafe Royal. Wilde spoke first, and asked, "Are you Alfred Wood?" Witness replied, "Yes," and had something to drink. They then partook of supper, with champagne, and Wilde took him to Tite-street, Chelsea. Woo gave particulars as to what took place on that occasion. On a subsequent visit to him Wilde purchased half a dozen shirts, collars, and cuffs for him, and presented him with a watch and chain. Wilde had given him money at various times. On one day Wilde gave him £30 for certain letters. These letters witness had found in some clothes which Lord Alfred Douglas had given him. They were letters addressed to Lord A. Douglas by Wilde. Witness went to America, and wrote to Taylor, "Tell Oscar that if he likes he can send me a draft for an Easter Egg—Burton and Douglas were at Liverpool for the races."

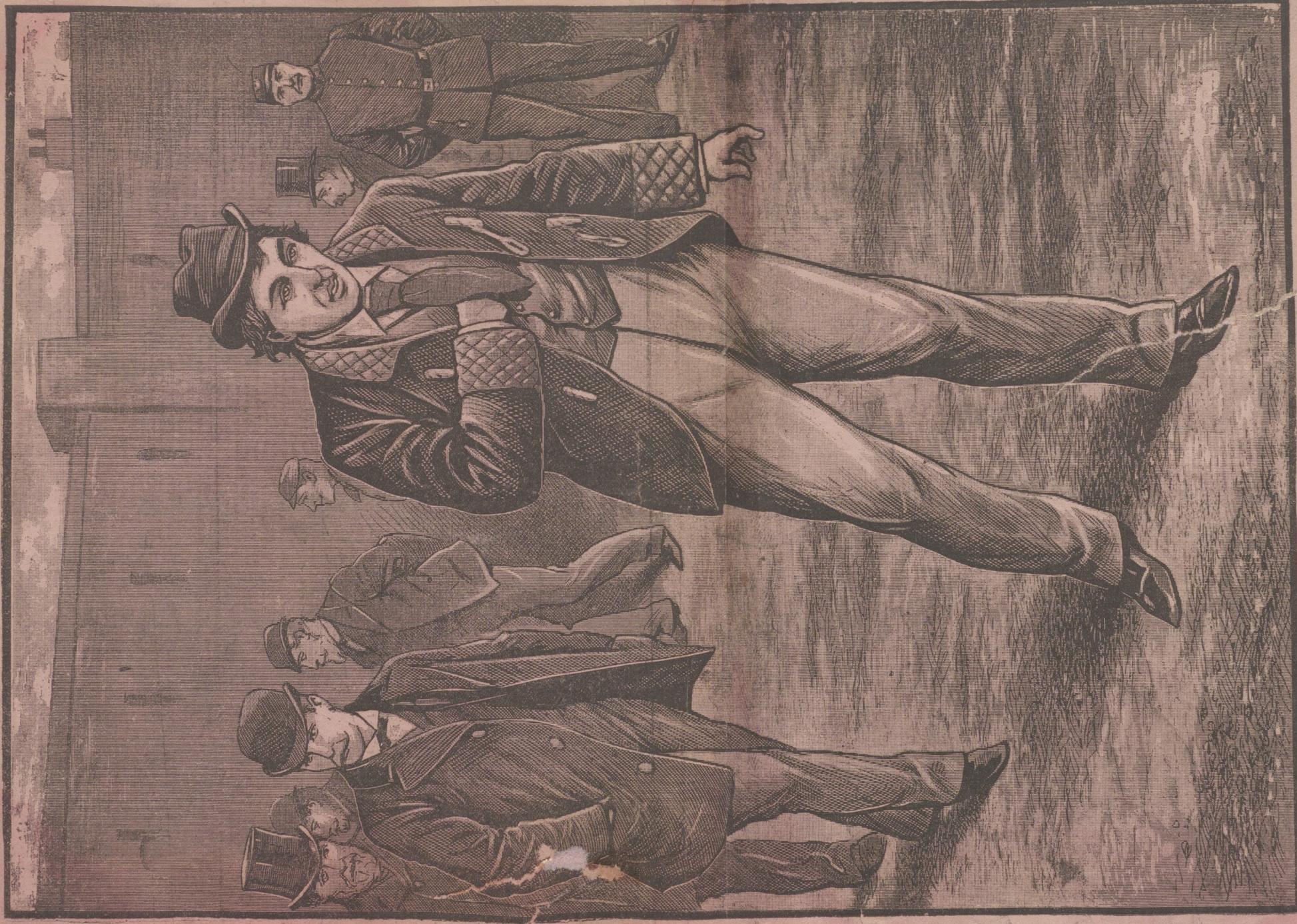
The court adjourned until to-day (Saturday).

## LORD ALFRED DOUGLAS GONE ABROAD.

The Central News is requested by Lord Alfred Douglas to state that, in response to an urgent telegram from his mother, he started on Friday for Italy to see her, but hopes to return to London in a few days. 171

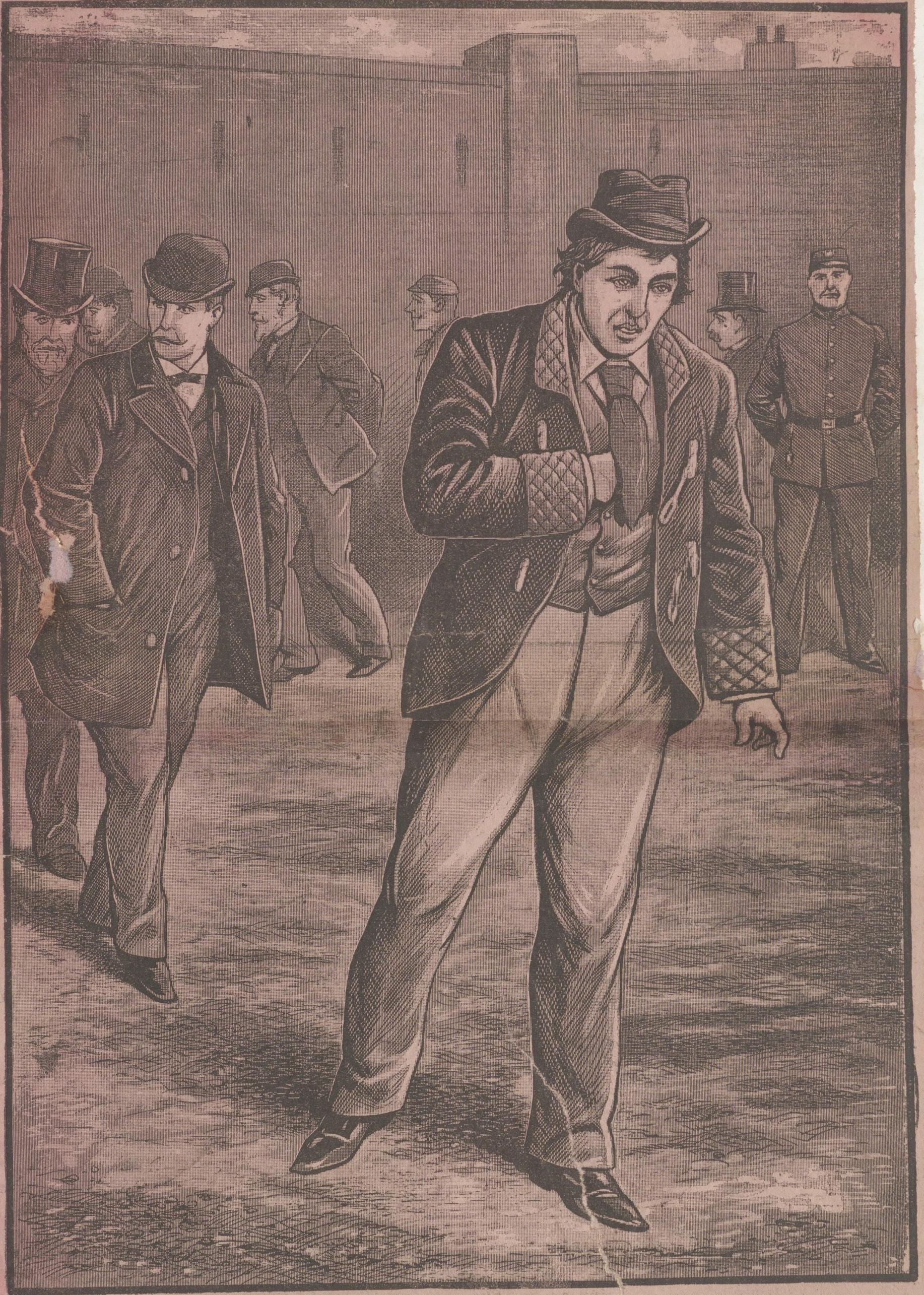


# OSCAR WILDE



OSCAR TAKING HIS CONSTITUTIONAL.

# OSCAR WILDE



OSCAR TAKING HIS CONSTITUTIONAL.

The trial of Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor was resumed on Saturday at the Central Criminal Court (before Mr. Justice Charles and a common jury). When the jury answered to their names, there was a much smaller attendance of the public than on Friday.

The prisoners took their seats in the dock at half-past ten, and Sir Edward Clarke, on behalf of Wilde, resumed the cross-examination of Alfred Wood.

The witness said it was after he told Wilde in 1892 that he wished to get away from the persons with whom, up to that time, he was associated, that Wilde gave him the money with which he went to America. He returned in 1894 ill, and had not yet fully recovered.

May I take it that you have been into employment since?—Yes.

He received £175 altogether from the man Allan. He got employment in America with a chance of leading a decent life, but he returned and got associated with these people again. Witness wrote the name of the place where he was last employed. His work was that of a junior clerk. He did not remember when he left the situation. He had money left him by his father.

The learned counsel next addressed questions to Wood on the subject of the letters of Wilde to Lord A. Douglas. At the time he was supposed to have given up the letters, there was one remaining which was not given up. It was in the possession of Allan, and never came back into his own possession. He knew that particular letter was copied. He was the worse for drink, when he first accompanied Wilde to Tite-street, Chelsea. He had visited Charles Parker at Camera-square, since his return from America. Parker might have introduced him to the landlady as his brother.

Re-examined by Mr. Gill, Wood said Wilde was the first man with whom he ever committed indecency. He was first introduced to Taylor by a gentleman whose name had not been mentioned in this case. He found the letters in the pockets of some clothes given to him by Lord Alfred Douglas at Oxford.

Thomas Price, waiter, 10 and 11, St. James's-place, proved Wilde's occupancy of rooms at that address. Wilde was visited there by Taylor, Parker, Atkins, Scarfe, and other young men. Wilde did not often sleep at St. James's-place.

Cross-examined: Wilde had books and papers there, and his suite of rooms was near the street.

Frederick Atkins deposed that he knew both prisoners. A gentleman introduced him to Taylor, and Taylor introduced him to Wilde at the Cafe Florence. At dinner Wilde kissed the waiter. Wilde invited witness to go to Paris as his private secretary, and he accepted. He again described the visit to the hairdresser's, where Wilde and the operator conversed in French, and witness's hair was curled. (Laughter.) Wilde asked him not to visit the Moulin Rouge. He went. (Laughter.)

His Lordship: Have you told us all he said?

Atkins: Wilde said, "Don't go to those women, they'll ruin you." Wilde said this on several occasions.

The following morning Wilde came into witness's bedroom and made a proposal to him. On returning from Paris, Wilde gave him a silver cigarette case. He visited Wilde at Tite-street in response to a letter. On going to Tite-street he handed Wilde the letter, because it contained a postscript that he was to bring it with him. On his giving the letter to Wilde, prisoner remarked, "Don't say anything about going to Paris." He knew a youth named Mavor.

Had he any nicknames?—Yes, "Jenny."

Cross-examined by Sir E. Clarke: He at first understood that he was going to Paris with a gentleman, but, as he could not cross over at the time arranged, Wilde, who was going to Paris, took him.

Has any act of indecency ever taken place between you and Wilde?—No, he was certain. He returned from Paris with Wilde. He had assisted Burton as a bookmaker's clerk since Christmas, 1891. Witness had also acted as a comedian.

Have you and Burton been jointly engaged in the business of blackmailing?—I don't remember. (Laughter.)

What other names have you gone by?—Fred Denny.

Has Burton got money from men on the ground that they committed indecent acts with you?—No.

Have you ever gone out into the streets in woman's dress?—No.

Sir Edward handed a slip of paper to Atkins, accompanying it by the question, "Do you know the name written there?"—Atkins: No.

Do you know anything about a Birmingham gentleman?—2019-03-16

Did a Birmingham gentleman go with you on the 9th of June, 1891, to rooms occupied by you in Tachbrook-street? Did Burton come into the room very shortly afterwards, and did you and Burton, between you, get a large sum of money from this gentleman?—No.

You swear nothing of the kind took place?—I swear it.

Had "Denis J. Burton" taken the rooms in Tachbrook-street for you?—No; he took them for himself.

Did you, on the 9th of June, 1891 meet the gentleman whose name I have written down at the Criterion?—No.

Did not the gentleman go with you to the rooms in Tachbrook-street from the Criterion, and did not Burton come in and demand money, and threaten to have him locked up?—No.

Did you take the gentleman's watch and chain, and give it to Burton?—No.

And were you and Burton taken to Rochester-street Police-station, and did you there give up the watch and chain?—No.

You say nothing of the kind happened?—No.

Have you occupied rooms in Pimlico?—Yes.

Did you, in August, 1892, dress up as a woman, and take a gentleman to your rooms in Pimlico?—I never dressed as a woman in my life.

Did not Burton find you in bed with a gentleman, and did he not get from the gentleman a cheque for £200?—Not to my knowledge.

Did you and Burton, about two years ago, extort a large sum of money from two American gentlemen at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland-avenue?—No; I have never been there.

Did you and Burton attempt to blackmail a gentleman at Gaze's Hotel, Nice?—No.

And was there a quarrel between you and Burton?—There might have been a little row. Burton was known in the betting-ring as "Watson," and witness was called "Fred."

Cross-examined by Mr. Grain: He was at Scarborough about a year ago, fulfilling a singing engagement at the Aquarium there. He heard the name of a foreign count, whose yacht was in the bay. He did not know the count.

He did not obtain nearly £500 from this foreign nobleman, neither did Burton, to his knowledge. He did not, while living in Buckingham Palace-road, steal a pocket-book belonging to an old City gentleman, and then go to his office and threaten to expose the contents of the book unless he received a certain sum of money.

Mrs. Applegate, of Osaburgh-street, deposed to visits of Taylor and Wilde to Atkins at that address.

Sidney Mavor, who described himself as holding a partnership in the City, was next called, and examined by Mr. Gill. He was introduced to Taylor at a theatre, and stayed with him at Little College-street. He slept with Taylor on more than one occasion. He was introduced to Wilde at a dinner at Kettner's. Wilde sent him a cigarette case. He stayed at the Albemarle Hotel with Wilde on one occasion. He took a bag to the hotel, because, living at North Kensington, he thought it would be impossible to get home. Wilde had wished him to dine at the Albemarle, and he replied by telegram. Their bedrooms adjoined.

What took place between you that night?—Nothing.

How did you address each other?—I called him Mr. Oscar Wilde, and he addressed me as Sidney.

Is there not a nickname by which you are called?—No.

Further examined, witness said he was of no occupation at the time of his visits to Little College-street. He lent Taylor money.

By Sir Edward Clarke: Nothing improper ever took place between himself and Wilde. The dinner at which he was introduced to Wilde was given by a gentleman of very good social position.

Mr. Gill: Was the gentleman who gave the dinner a gentleman about your own age?—Yes.

And you had seen him at Little College-street?—Yes.

Did you understand that the occasion of the dinner was the first meeting of Taylor and Wilde?—Yes.

Edward Shelley, an assistant to a Vigo-street firm of publishers, who acted for Wilde in 1891, was the next witness. Shelley described Wilde's professed interest in his literary studies and his acceptance of an invitation to dinner at the Albemarle. When asked to tell the jury what afterwards took place in Wilde's bedroom, he pathetically appealed to counsel to read it, and spare him the shame of repeating it.

His Lordship referred to his own copy of Shelley's deposition, and Mr. Avory continued the examination by informing the witness that it would be necessary to answer unpleasant questions.

Shelley then deposed to several acts of indecency, repeating several times the observation that he did not know what Wilde was when he accepted the invitation to dinner.

"You are a gentleman," "I am doing so to the best of my ability," Shelley

tremulously replied. He declined the invitations of Wilde to Paris and Brighton, and while at Cromer destroyed his letters and presentation books, and wrote him a letter declining to have anything further to do with a man "of his morality."

The court adjourned for luncheon.

Examined by Sir E. Clarke: He wrote a letter to Wilde in the spring of 1895, saying, "I have suffered more from my acquaintance with you than you are ever likely to know of." Further than this he did not remember the exact terms of the letter, but he accused Wilde of being an immoral man.

Why did you go to dine with Wilde at the Albemarle the same night?—I was only eighteen; he was a man of 39, and I tried to think the best of him.

Why did you go again?—Because I suppose I was a young fool.

Mr. Wilde has never given you money as the price of that sin?—No.

But you had appealed to him, and he had befriended you in other ways?—Yes.

Had it occurred to you before the second occasion that it was a sin?—Yes, I expressed admiration for Mr. Wilde's "Intentions" and his "Lady Windermere's Fan." He was having his works re-published. My friendly relations with Wilde continued up to the time I wrote him a letter in 1893. I did not know that at the time I was invited to Cromer. Wilde was staying there with his wife and family. Indecency was suggested at the Savoy Hotel in March, 1895.

Sir Edward Clarke put to witness certain letters which he had written to Wilde after the alleged occurrences. Shelley replied then, although Wilde had not expressed sorrow for what had happened, his subsequent behaviour implied it. His resignation of his position in the offices of the publishing firm was brought about through his friendship with Wilde. Witness had little money troubles. His father had told him to leave his house because he knew that he had become acquainted with the prisoner.

Sir Edward quoted other letters written in 1894, in which witness addressed Wilde as "Dear Oscar," and asked him for a loan as he was at home eating the bitter bread of charity. He also asked that Oscar might use his influence by getting him into a publishing or newspaper office. In one of these letters he called his former employer, Mr. John Lane, "a viper," but that was because his (Shelley's) mind was disordered.

When did your mind thoroughly recover itself, if it has ever done so?—October of last year.

Has it remained sound ever since? (Laughter.)—I think so.

Sir Edward: I am sorry to hear a laugh, my lord.

Mr. Justice Charles: There is nothing whatever to justify it.

Shelley, further cross-examined, said he was, in January of this year, arrested for an assault upon his father, whose age was 40. He could not have been of sound mind at the time. He wrote a letter to Wilde asking him to find bail, but his father withdrew the proceedings, and he called on Wilde, telling him he did not require assistance.

When the examination of Shelley was concluded, Sir Edward Clarke asked that Atkins might be re-called, and at the same time handed a document to the bench.

His Lordship thereupon warned Atkins to be careful how he answered the questions addressed to him.

Atkins then admitted that in June, 1891, he and Burton were taken to Rochester-row Police-station charged with "hitting" a gentleman, he (Atkins) had taken to Tachbrook-street from the Alhambra Theatre.

Was the statement made at the police-station that you and the gentleman had been in bed together?—Yes.

And that Burton had caught you?—Yes.

Two hours ago you swore that you had never been in custody at all on any charge of this kind. Why did you tell these lies?—Because I did not remember it. (Sensation.)

ANOTHER ADJOURNMENT.

Mr. Mathews, a former partner of Mr. Lane in the publishing house, Vigo-street, Mr. Vogel, proprietor of the Albemarle Hotel, Mr. Claridge, assistant to a firm of jewellers, and Charles Robinson, book-keeper at the Savoy Hotel, having been briefly examined.

The court adjourned until eleven o'clock to-day (Monday).

LORD ALFRED DOUGLAS GONE ABROAD.

The Central News is requested by Lord Alfred Douglas to state that, in response to an urgent telegram from his mother, he started on Friday for Italy to see her, but hopes to return to London in a few days.

CLOSING THE CASE FOR THE CROWN.

Mr. Justice Charles resumed on Monday, at the Central Criminal Court, the hearing of the several indictments preferred against Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor. His lordship took his seat at eleven o'clock, and there was again a crowded attendance of the public. Both prisoners had brief consultations with their legal advisers on re-appearing in the dock.

Mr. Gill first called the shorthand writers by whom the notes were taken in the Wilde v. Queensberry case, and transcriptions were handed in, including a copy of the evidence of Wilde as plaintiff in that action.

A MASSEUR RE-CALLED.

Evidence for the prosecution was continued by the calling of Mr. Mingo, masseur, who, examined by Mr. Avory, said he occasionally attended on Wilde to massage him. On one occasion at the Savoy Hotel in 1893 he saw a young man in Wilde's bed, the prisoner being at the time in the room.

Cross-examined by Sir Edward Clarke, witness said he went to wait on Wilde that morning at the usual time, but prisoner said he was busy, and had not time for massage.

CHAMBERMAID AT THE SAVOY.

Jane Margaret Cotton, chambermaid at the Savoy Hotel in March, 1893, when Wilde stayed there, was examined by Mr. Gill as to the condition of the bed in prisoner's room. She reported what she had observed to the house-keeper. Going to Wilde's room, as was her custom, one morning to light the fire, she saw a boy in the bed, and witness also called the house-keeper's attention to this circumstance.

In cross-examination by Sir Edward Clarke, witness stated that until this visit to Wilde she had never seen him. He stayed nearly a month.

Miss Perkins, formerly housekeeper at the Savoy Hotel, corroborated the testimony of the previous witness as to the complaints.

POLICEMAN TESTIFIES.

Police-sergeant Paris, A Division, said that in May, 1893, he obtained access to 13, Little College-street, Westminster. The windows of the sitting and bed room, facing the street, were draped, and in each of the windows was a large fan. He kept observation on the house for about three weeks. The whole interior was draped. There was no bedstead, the bed being on the floor, under a canopy suspended from the ceiling. He also kept observation on Denbigh-place, where he saw Taylor on the 6th of April, and arrested him on a charge of acts of gross indecency with male persons.

Taylor said, "Very well; I expected you last night. What are you going to do with me?" Witness answered that he must go to Bow. Prisoner had in his pocket a subpoena in the case of Wilde v. Queensberry.

Cross-examined by Mr. Grain, witness said he believed Taylor was present at the Old Bailey during the whole hearing of the Wilde v. Queensberry case. When arrested, prisoner did not say he was on his way to surrender.

THE ARREST OF WILDE.

Inspector Richards deposed to the arrest of Wilde, and to having made certain discoveries at the rooms in Denbigh-place, occupied by Taylor. The inspector brought away a brooch and seven pairs of trousers, the peculiarity of which witness described.

Inspector Brockwell, of the Criminal Investigation Department, said he read the warrant to Wilde at Scotland Yard. He asked for the dates of the alleged offences, but made no further reply. Writs were found in Wilde's possession; also pencil notes from Taylor to Mavor.

DOCUMENTS FOUND ON WILDE.

Sir Edward Clarke said that, as a certain inference might be proved from these notes, it was only fair to Wilde that he should ask that another document found on prisoner should be read.

His Lordship, after perusing it, said he did not feel called upon to ask Mr. Gill to read the document. It was simply a sympathetic letter from a literary friend.

Mr. Gill then put in the original documents found in the box at Taylor's residence. Amongst these were certain cheques—one drawn by Taylor in favour of Wood (which Wood said he had not received), and the others in favour of Sidney Mavor for 50s. and 22. A telegram from "Oscar" asking Taylor to call at the Savoy, another from George notifying that the sender (Wilde) could not attend dinner, and a Christmas or New Year's card to Mavor were amongst other exhibits.

THE QUEENSBERRY TRIAL.

Mr. Read, clerk of arraigns, produced the indictment on the trial of John Sholto Douglas, Marquess of Queensberry, for alleged libel on Oscar Wilde. The alleged libel was contained on a card, addressed, "For Oscar Wilde, posing as a—?" Justification was pleaded. The prosecution withdrew, and a verdict of "Not guilty" was taken. All the persons called, except William Parker, were mentioned in the plea of justification.

Sir E. Clarke and Mr. Gill consulted with the learned judge as to whether part or whole of Wilde's deposition as plaintiff should be read, and finally it was arranged that Mr. Gill should begin with the cross-examination.

The learned counsel read the questions addressed by Mr. Carson, Q.C., to Wilde, and prisoner's answers thereto, the productions to which allusion was made were "The Priest" and the "Acolyte," and "Phrases and Philosophies for the Young," the object being to elicit how far Wilde identified himself with the principles therein expressed. The result embodied Wilde's views upon "art" as distinct from "morality." In "Phrases and Philosophies," Wilde said there is no such a thing as wickedness. It is a word invented by silly people to account for the curious attraction of young people to each other. Is the "Priest" and the "Acolyte" an immoral book? Mr. Carson had asked.—It is worse, was Wilde's reply, it is badly written.

Mr. Gill was still reading at the hour of adjournment for luncheon.

On the court resuming, Mr. A. Gill took up the reading where Mr. C. F. Gill had broken off, at the point where Wilde was questioned as to his letter to Lord Alfred Douglas, beginning, "My own Boy," and closing, "Always with undying love, Oscar." Next came Wilde's answer to the suggestions of Mr. Carson regarding his friendship with the several youths examined in the present case for the Treasury.

Mr. C. F. Gill subsequently resumed his perusal of the voluminous foolscap, the learned judge following closely and occasionally making notes.

Sir E. Clarke interrupted when Mr. Gill approached the case of Adolphus Conway, the Worthing boy, by observing that he fully understood his learned friend to have given an undertaking that he would not read any part of the cross-examination which did not refer directly to the persons called in the present prosecution.

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The jury would have to consider how they would test the evidence from the Savoy Hotel. How could Mr. Wilde answer it after a period of two years, except by a denial. There was not the smallest corroboration of the Savoy case. The jury were asked to accept the view that Mr. Wilde had made the wildest and most wanton exhibition of himself. It did not require the experience of the blackmailers who had appeared in this case that if they came into court with a statement wholly invented their position would be hopeless. They therefore, took the part that was true, and built all the rest. Charles Parker, Wood, and Atkins were three young men who had appeared in this case under circumstances which should disentitle their evidence to the regard of any jury that ever sat. Anonymous letters sent by persons who did not wish to be mentioned in connection with these proceedings had enabled him to drag out of Atkins the story of shameful deeds, one of which was the entrapping of

a gentleman into a house at Pimlico. It deepened one's horror that those arranging the prosecution must have had in their knowledge the deeds to which Atkins had confessed, and by which Atkins had been wholly discredited, and Sidney Mavor had said absolutely nothing against Mr. Wilde. The testimony against him was that of the three blackmailers, Parker, Woods, and Atkins, alone. The sensitiveness of art to flattery was proverbial, and several young men did, no doubt, seek one of the most brilliant talkers and thinkers of the day as one likely to help them to a career. He asked the jury not to convict unless they found evidence overwhelming and convincing, to guard themselves against prejudices, to fix their minds on the tests which ought to be applied to evidence, to gratify a thousand hopes, and to liberate from this terrible position one of the most renowned and accomplished men of letters. In clearing him they would clear society from a stain. (Applause.)

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MR. GILL'S REPLY.

Mr. Gill replied on the whole case. After the learned advocate had occupied the attention of the jury for some time his Lordship asked Mr. Gill proposed to deal with the charge against Taylor and Wilde as it affected Atkins. Mr. Gill replied that his contention in regard to that would be that Atkins was "procured" for the journey to Paris at a London restaurant, where the three dined together. It was a remarkable fact that after introductions had been given these parties were always found sleeping in adjoining bedrooms.

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His Lordship endorsed this view, and Mr. Gill resumed his address on another part of the case. He was still proceeding with an exhaustive review of the whole issues involved when six o'clock was reached, and the court adjourned until to-day (Wednesday).

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At four o'clock Mr. Avory relieved his learned friends by continuing the reading of the deposition. Taylor sat very unconcernedly throughout, and Wilde passed the time by a free use of a quill upon small pieces of paper, several of which he at intervals had handed to his solicitor in the well of the court.

On Mr. Avory concluding, Sir Edward Clarke put in the re-examination of Wilde, and quoted a letter written by the prisoner to the editor of the "Scots Observer." In answer to a criticism, appearing in that magazine upon "Dorian Grey," Wilde said virtue and vice were to the artist only as colours upon his palette. It was, perhaps, natural that Calliban, of the "St. James's Gazette," should have written of the book as he had done, but he expressed his surprise that "Thersites" of the "Scots Observer" should have "made months."

The case for the Crown was closed at twenty minutes to five o'clock, and Mr. Justice Charles further adjourned the proceedings until 10.30 this (Tuesday) morning, when the case for the defence will be opened.

CLOSING THE CASE FOR THE CROWN.

Mr. Justice Charles resumed on Monday, at the Central Criminal Court, the hearing of the several indictments preferred against Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor. His lordship took his seat at eleven o'clock, and there was again a crowded attendance of the public. Both prisoners had brief consultations with their legal advisers on re-appearing in the dock.

Mr. Gill first called the shorthand writers by whom the notes were taken in the Wilde v. Queensberry case, and transcriptions were handed in, including a copy of the evidence of Wilde as plaintiff in that action.

A MASSEUR RE-CALLED.

Evidence for the prosecution was continued by the calling of Mr. Miggs, masseur, who, examined by Mr. Avory, said he occasionally attended on Wilde to massage him. On one occasion at the Savoy Hotel in 1893 he saw a young man in Wilde's bed, the prisoner being at the time in the room.

Cross-examined by Sir Edward Clarke, witness said he went to wait on Wilde that morning at the usual time, but prisoner said he was busy, and had not time for massage.

CHAMBERMAID AT THE SAVOY.

Jane Margaret Cotton, chambermaid at the Savoy Hotel in March, 1893, when Wilde stayed there, was examined by Mr. Gill as to the condition of the bed linen in prisoner's room. She reported what she had observed to the house-keeper. Going to Wilde's room, as was her custom, one morning to light the fire, she saw a boy in the bed, and witness also called the housekeeper's attention to this circumstance.

In cross-examination by Sir Edward Clarke, witness stated that until this visit to Wilde she had never seen him. He stayed nearly a month.

Miss Perkins, formerly housekeeper at the Savoy Hotel, corroborated the testimony of the previous witness as to the complaints.

POLICEMAN TESTIFIES.

Police-sergeant Paris, A Division, said that in May, 1893, he obtained access to 13, Little College-street, Westminster. The windows of the sitting and bed room, facing the street, were draped, and in each of the windows was a large fan. He kept observation on the house for about three weeks. The whole interior was draped. There was no bedstead, the bed being on the floor, under a canopy suspended from the ceiling. He also kept observation on Denbigh-place, where he saw Taylor on the 6th of April, and arrested him on a charge of acts of gross indecency with male persons. Taylor said, "Very well; I expected you last night. What are you going to do with me?" Witness answered that he must go to Bow. Prisoner had in his pocket a subpoena in the case of Wilde v. Queensberry.

Cross-examined by Mr. Grain, witness said he believed Taylor was present at the Old Bailey during the whole hearing of the Wilde v. Queensberry case. When arrested, prisoner did not say he was on his way to surrender.

THE ARREST OF WILDE.

Inspector Richards deposed to the arrest of Wilde, and to having made certain discoveries at the rooms in Denbigh-place, occupied by Taylor. The inspector brought away a brooch and seven pairs of trousers, the peculiarity of which witness described.

Inspector Brockwell, of the Criminal Investigation Department, said he read the warrant to Wilde at Scotland Yard. He asked for the dates of the alleged offences, but made no further reply. Writs were found in Wilde's possession; also pencil notes from Taylor to Mavor.

DOCUMENTS FOUND ON WILDE.

Sir Edward Clarke said that, as a certain inference might be proved from these notes, it was only fair to Wilde that he should ask that another document found on prisoner should be read.

His Lordship, after perusing it, said he did not feel called upon to ask Mr. Gill to read the document. It was simply a sympathetic letter from a literary friend.

Mr. Gill then put in the original documents found in the box at Taylor's residence. Amongst these were certain cheques—one drawn by Taylor in favour of Wood (which Wood said he had not received), and the others in favour of Sidney Mavor for 30s. and £2. A telegram from "Oscar" asking Taylor to call at the Savoy, another from Goring notifying that the prisoner could not arrange the dinner, and a Christmas or New Year's card to Mavor were amongst other exhibits.

THE QUEENSBERRY TRIAL.

Mr. Read, clerk of arraigns, produced the indictment on the trial of John Sholto Douglas, Marquess of Queensberry, for alleged libel on Oscar Wilde. The alleged libel was contained on a card, addressed, "For Oscar Wilde, posing as a—" justification was pleaded. The prosecution withdrew, and a verdict of "Not guilty" was taken. All the persons called, except William Parker, were mentioned in the plea of justification.

Sir E. Clarke and Mr. Gill consulted with the learned judge as to whether part or whole of Wilde's deposition as plaintiff should be read, and finally it was arranged that Mr. Gill should begin with the cross-examination.

The learned counsel read the questions addressed by Mr. Carson, Q.C., to Wilde, and prisoner's answers thereto, the productions to which allusion was made were "The Chameleon," "Dorian Grey," "The Priest and the Acolyte" and "Phrases and Philosophies for the Young," the object being to elicit how far Wilde identified himself with the principles therein expressed. The result embodied Wilde's views upon "art" as distinct from "morality." In "Phrases and Philosophies," Wilde said there is no such a thing as wickedness. It is a word invented by silly people to account for the curious attraction of young people to each other.

Is the "Priest and the Acolyte" an immoral book? Mr. Carson had asked.—It is worse, was Wilde's reply, it is badly written.

Mr. Gill was still reading at the hour of adjournment for luncheon.

On the court resuming, Mr. A. Gill took up the reading where Mr. C. F. Gill had broken off, at the point where Wilde was questioned as to his letter to Lord Alfred Douglas, beginning, "My own Boy," and closing, "Always with undying love, Oscar." Next came Wilde's answer to the suggestions of Mr. Carson regarding his friendship with the several youths examined in the present case for the Treasury.

Mr. C. F. Gill subsequently resumed his perusal of the voluminous foolscap, the learned judge following closely and occasionally making notes.

Sir E. Clarke interrupted when Mr. Gill approached the case of Adolphus Conway, the Worthing boy, by observing that he fully understood his learned friend to have given an undertaking that he would not read any part of the cross-examination which did not refer directly to the persons called in the present prosecution. It was monstrous to assume that because Lord Alfred Douglas might have (he did not say that he had) published certain poems which irritated, annoyed, and outraged the moral view which the jury might apply to literary subjects, therefore, Mr. Oscar Wilde was to be held responsible. It was with amazement that he (Sir Edward) was forced to discuss the poems of Lord Alfred Douglas. He might as well be asked to defend a poem on Rizzio, murdered at the feet of Mary Queen of Scots. He could not refrain from expressing his astonishment that Mr. Gill should have in that part of his cross-examination devoted to literature questioned Wilde, not upon his own works, but upon the poems of Lord Alfred Douglas denouncing the witnesses for the prosecution as a batch of blackmailers. Sir Edward urged that had Wilde been guilty of the charges, he would have recoiled from the ordeal of the witness-box. It was upon tainted evidence that a conviction was asked for. Blackmailers flourished in their frightful trade, because any man drawn into any sort of guilt would rather exile himself than suffer his name to be mentioned in relationship with them. There was an instinctive shrinking of the guilty man, not so with Mr. Wilde. He had courageously gone into the witness-box to dispose of and defeat the accusations against him. He (the learned counsel) trusted to the letters of the witness, Edward Shell to erase the impressions created by his evidence. Certain portions of the correspondence (which Sir Edward read) could not possibly have been written by a sane man, and it was upon the evidence of a witness who admitted that his mind had been deranged that the jury were asked to convict the accused. The jury would have to consider how they would test the evidence from the Savoy Hotel. How could Mr. Wilde answer it after a period of two years, except by a denial. There was not the smallest corroboration of the Savoy case. The jury were asked to accept the view that Mr. Wilde had made the wildest and most wanton exhibition of himself. It did not require the experience of the blackmailers who had appeared in this case that if they came into court with a statement wholly invented their position would be hopeless. They therefore, took the part that was true, and upon it built all the rest. Charles Parker, Wood, and Atkins were three young men who had appeared in this case under circumstances which should disentitle their evidence to the regard of any jury that ever sat. Anonymous letters sent by persons who did not wish to be mentioned in connection with the case, had enabled him to drag out of Atkins the most shameful deeds, one of which was the entrapping of

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CONSPIRACY CHARGES WITH DRAWN.

OSCAR WILDE IN THE BOX.

SPEAKS OF A LOVE NOT UNDERSTOOD IN THIS AGE.

EMPHATIC DENIALS TO THE CHARGES.

The trial of Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor was resumed on Tuesday at the Old Bailey (before Mr. Justice Charles and a jury). The Crown case having closed at the hour of adjournment on Monday, there was again a large attendance of the general public, but the court was scarcely so crowded as heretofore. Pending the arrival of the judge, Taylor was brought into the dock for a consultation with his counsel, Mr. Grain.

When Mr. Justice Charles took his seat, Mr. Gill, on behalf of the Crown, withdrew the counts for conspiracy.

Sir Edward Clarke said that had he known these counts would be withdrawn he should have asked that the prisoners be tried separately, and he now asked for a verdict of "Not guilty," so far as the allegations related to conspiracy.

Mr. Gill observed that he had adopted this course to avoid any difficulty in the way of the prisoners giving evidence.

His Lordship, in acceding to Mr. Gill's application, said he could not consent to the adoption of the course suggested by the learned counsel for the defence.

Sir Edward Clarke replied that he did not wish to appear tenacious, and he would at a later stage of the case ask for a verdict of "Not guilty" upon those particular counts.

Sir Edward Clarke at once began his address for the defence of Wilde. Having at the outset given on his client's behalf an absolute denial to the charges brought against him, the learned counsel adverted to the conduct of a large section of the press, which he alleged was such as to prejudice his client and impel the interests of justice. He accused the Crown counsel of having on Monday read the cross-examination of Wilde in the action brought against Lord Queensberry for the sole purpose of inducing the jury to believe that the man who wrote "Dorian Grey" was likely to commit indecency. But, as Coleridge said, a man should be regarded as superior to his books. There was no single page in "Dorian Grey" where the statement was made of any person being guilty of an abominable sin. From "Dorian Grey" Sir Edward passed on to comment on "The Chameleon," many of the passages in which, from Wilde's pen, he described as merely smart phrases. In that magazine his client said the story of "The Priest and the Acolyte" was a production which was a disgrace to the man who wrote it, to the editor who accepted it, and to everybody concerned with it, and Mr. Wilde became so indignant that he wrote to the conductor of the magazine declining to be longer associated with it. The literary controversy had nothing whatever to do with the questions before the jury. The controversy as to the morality of Shakespeare's sonnets was likely to last as long as the question of who wrote the letters of "Junius" or as to the character of certain sonnets of Michael Angelo to one of his friends. He, therefore, asked the jury altogether to disregard what had been urged against the prisoner in relation to "Dorian Grey" and "The Chameleon."

Coming to Wilde's association with the Queensberry family, he observed that prisoner was still a friend of Lady Queensberry, who divorced her husband.

Mr. Gill: I protest against any attack upon Lord Queensberry, who is not represented. It is altogether irrelevant to say here that Lord Queensberry was divorced.

Sir Edward Clarke said that to hear his learned friend rebuking irrelevance was rather amusing. (Laughter.)

In the case of Wilde v. Queensberry, Sir Edward Clarke and the learned counsel acting with him for Wilde took the responsibility of accepting a verdict of "Not guilty." It was perfectly clear that the jury then sitting would not have found Lord Queensberry guilty of a criminal offence. For the course then adopted by Sir Edward was responsible, and he was there again to meet on his client's behalf a case which could not be properly tried at the former

trial, but which could now be determined upon a proper issue. If Mr. Oscar Wilde had been guilty of the charges against him, would he have provoked investigation as he did by bringing an action for libel? It was said there was a species of insanity which caused men to commit unnatural crimes, but what would they think of a man who, if he had been guilty of such offenses, insisted upon bringing them before the world? He was confident that the evidence of his client would be a complete answer to the allegations brought against him.

Oscar Wilde was then called from the dock and sworn. He answered the questions of Sir E. Clarke in subdued tones. The learned counsel first took him through his academical career at Dublin and Oxford, and passed from this to his career as a dramatist and playwright. Sir Edward Clarke: In cross-examination in Wilde v. Queensberry you denied all the charges against you. Was the evidence then given by you absolutely and entirely true evidence?

Witness: Entirely true evidence. Sir Edward Clarke: Is there any truth in any one of the allegations of indecency which have been brought against you in this case?

Witness: There is no truth whatever in any one of the allegations.

Mr. Gill began his cross-examination much on the lines adopted by Mr. Carson in the former trial. The learned counsel quoted from a sonnet of Lord Alfred Douglas, in which occurred the line, "I am that love, but dare not speak its name." What was the nature of the love represented in that poem?

Wilde now gave with marked deliberation and emphasis the following answer:—It is a love which is not understood in this century. It is the love of David for Jonathan; such love as Plato described in his philosophy as the beginning of wisdom. It is a deep spiritual affection, that is as pure as it is perfect, and has dictated the greatest works of art. It is in this century much misunderstood. It is an intellectual affection between an older and a younger man. The older man has had knowledge of the world, the younger has the joy, the hope, the glamour of life; it is a something which this age does not understand; it mocks at it, and it sometimes puts one in the pillory." (Cheers in the gallery.)

His Lordship: I shall have the court cleared if there is again the slightest manifestation of feeling.

Mr. Gill took the witness through the evidence of the staff from the Savoy Hotel and the masseur, Mr. Biggs. He desired there was a word of truth in it. Wilde also gave the same general denials to the evidence of Charles Parker and Shelley. The latter, he said, used to write him morbid religious letters. The witness Atkins had also given a wrong account of the circumstances under which they met. It was true Atkins and Schwabe went with him to Paris, but the account given of what took place there was untrue. It was grotesque and monstrous. Taylor's rooms in Little College-street, near the Houses of Parliament, were Bohemian. Taylor burnt pastilles there. He (Wilde) went there to smoke, chat, and amuse himself. Actors went there. Taylor was an accomplished pianist. Mavor was a pleasant, agreeable young man, and was his guest at the Albemarle Hotel in an ordinary way. Taylor was a young man of private means. He took the boy Atkinson Conway, whom he met at Worthing, on a trip to Brighton. Conway slept in a room of his, divided by baize doors.

Did you feel the affection you have described for these youths?—Oh, certainly not.

Further cross-examined: He knew that men dressed in women's clothes went to certain rooms in Fitzroy-street, and that Taylor was once arrested there. He (Wilde), knowing that men sometimes dressed as women on the stage, could not imagine what the police were at Fitzroy-street for.

Mr. Gill: And you had no reason why the police should keep observations on Taylor's rooms in Little College-street?

Witness: I saw none.

Sir Edward Clarke elicited in re-examination that Atkins desired to go on the music-hall stage. He communicated that wish to Wilde, and obtained an engagement, the defendant purchasing for him his first song. The Allan letters he did not regard as of any importance.

Sir Edward Clarke: They were not prose poems?

Witness (smiling): Oh, no; they contained some slighting allusions to other people, which I should have been sorry to see published. I know nothing of "The Chameleon," except that I was told that it was to be a literary and artistic magazine.

Wilde then returned to the dock. The prisoner Alfred Taylor was then called and examined by Mr. Grain. He said his age was 33, his father formerly conducted a wholesale business which had now been turned into a limited liability company. He was educated at Marlborough, and was for some time in the militia, intending to pass on to the Army, but

after one training he resigned his commission. In 1883 he came into possession of £245,000, and had since lived a life of pleasure about town. The statements of Charles Parker, alleging against witness an attempted abominable crime were absolutely untrue.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gill, he never went through a sham form of marriage with a man named Charlie Mason. He had never accosted men at the Empire and at the Alhambra. He denied the statements of the brothers Parker as to what took place at his rooms.

Mr. Gill next questioned Taylor as to the incidents of the police raid in Fitzroy-square. You were one of the men arrested?—I was. And you had with you Charles Parker?—Yes.

How was Parker getting his living?—I understood he was receiving money from his father.

You and Parker were discharged, some were fined, and some were bound over?—Yes. Questioned as to the appointments of his apartments at Little College-street, Taylor said he had a censor there, in which he burnt pastilles.

Re-examined: The garment taken from the rooms by the police was an Oriental costume, which had come from Constantinople, and had been obtained by him for a fancy dress ball at Covent Garden.

On the conclusion of Taylor's examination the court adjourned for luncheon.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE SPEAKS.

On the court resuming, Sir Edward Clarke, on behalf of Wilde, addressed the jury on the evidence "as distinct from topics prejudicially imported into the case." He did not remember the remarkable course adopted early in the day by Mr. Gill to have been followed in any previous case. In a case so important as this the counsel for the Crown ought to have made up their minds as to whether they would proceed for conspiracy or not, and he complained that by the action of the Treasury the defence had for three days been embarrassed. There was a cruel hardship in Mr. Oscar Wilde being tried in conjunction with Taylor upon separate and distinct charges, upon which he should ask the jury to give a separate and independent judgment. He pointed this out without desiring in any way to prejudice Mr. Grain's client.

CLOSE OF THE OLD BAILEY TRIAL.

JUSTICE CHARLES SUMS UP.

THE JURY DISAGREE AND ARE DISCHARGED.

REFUSAL TO ALLOW PRISONERS BAIL.

Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor again appeared in the dock at the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday morning on the several indictments preferred against them. There was a crowded attendance of the public.

JUDGE SUMS UP.

Mr. Justice Charles took his seat at half-past ten, and at once began his summing-up to the jury. His lordship said the prosecution had adopted a wise course in withdrawing the allegation of conspiracy, and for himself he did not know why that specific charge was preferred. He would direct a verdict of not guilty upon that part of the case, as well as upon another count preferred against Taylor, to which he would hereafter allude. For weeks past it had been impossible to open a newspaper without finding references to the matters involved in these proceedings, but he appealed to the jury to discard any impressions which might have been produced upon their minds. It was a rule of law that the uncorroborated testimony of an accomplice could not be accepted, but there was corroboration of the witnesses in the sense which the law required. Had there been nothing in the nature of corroboration it would have been his duty to advise the jury to find a verdict of acquittal. Parker, Wood, and Atkins had been properly described by Sir Edward Clarke as blackmailers. Atkins had confessed to gross and most deliberate falsehoods, but when the jury came to consider the details of their evidence they would have to look at the question of character. After a brief allusion to the proceedings in the Wilde v. Queensberry case, and the plea of justification entered therein, his lordship commented on what had been described as the literary part of the case, and there he did not think that in a criminal case the jury ought to place any unfavourable inference upon the fact that Wilde was the author of "Dorian Grey." They were told on Tuesday that a great writer said, "Judge not man by his books." He (Mr. Justice Charles) would rather say, "Confound no man with the persons he creates." Wilde it might be said with perfect truth that Scott and Dickens never wrote a line that could not be read with advantage, there were noble-minded men in the eighteenth century who committed to the pen volumes which it was painful for any person of ordinary modesty or decency of mind to read. "The Priest and the Acolyte" was not the work of Wilde, it would be absurd to hold him responsible for it. He called the attention of the jury especially to the sonnet "Love," written by Lord Alfred Douglas, to Wilde's letters, and to the prisoner's answers given in reply to questions addressed to him upon them. In the elaborate cross-examination during the hearing of Wilde v. Queensberry, Mr. Carson had insisted that Wilde's letters disclosed a horribly indecent passion. Wilde, on the other hand, had asserted that they breathed passion, but not unnatural passion. Upon this the jury must, of course, exercise their own judgment. They had also Wilde's assertion that Lord A. Douglas's poem, "In Praise of Silence," meant shame in the sense of modesty. Having concluded his references to the literary questions raised, his lordship approached a consideration of the various charges in the order of their date. Shelley was undoubtedly in the position of an accomplice, but his evidence was corroborated quite sufficiently to entitle the jury to consider it. Shelley had sought to persuade the jury that what took place at the Albemarle Hotel was against his will, but that could hardly be, having regard to what was alleged to have occurred on the second occasion. Shelley had no copy of the letter which he alleged he wrote to Wilde breaking off acquaintance with him because he (Wilde) was an unscrupulous man, but there were in existence certain friendly letters which Shelley wrote to Wilde, and these the learned judge spent some time in mentioning. In one of these Shelley said, "I am

afraid sometimes I am not very sane. I was arrested for assaulting my father, and could not have been in a sound mind then." An interesting part of the jury's task would be to deal with the evidence of this individual witness. He had told a nauseous tale. Was it to be acknowledged for by disorder of the mind? There was evidence of excitability, but to accuse Shelley of being an insane man would be to exaggerate the effect of his letters. In judging Shelley's evidence the task before the jury was undoubtedly serious and most responsible. Next, as to the evidence of Atkins. If Atkins alone was the only person speaking upon the matters related in his evidence it would be totally unsafe to rely upon him, because, after denying that he and Burton were conveyed to Rochester Police-station in June, 1891, for blackmailing a Birmingham gentleman, he (Atkins) was re-called before the close of the day, and then confessed to the grossest falsehoods as to that incident. The jury were the judges of witnesses, but it was plain that Atkins was untruthful and unscrupulous. It might be urged that though Atkins was a blackmailer he was not so in the case now under consideration, and with these observations he left the question to the jury. A most serious question arose for their consideration when they came to consider the Savoy Hotel evidence. There was a conflict of testimony here between the Crown witnesses and Wilde. There appeared to have been no concealment or locking of Wilde's rooms, and he confessed he could not assist the jury to come to a conclusion. There was the evidence of the chambermaid, Cottar, and of the masseur, Midge. If what they had said was true, then Wilde had spoken untruthfully in denying that two boys were at separate times in his bed at the Savoy. There was nothing against Cottar or Midge, and the jury must decide whether they were witnesses of the truth. In relation to the case of Alfred Wood, who was accused by Sir Edward Clarke of being a member of a society of blackmailers, he seemed to have fallen into evil courses, one of his acts being to extract £300 from a gentleman caught with Parker. It was urged that Wilde, in giving him money to carry him to America, was really doing an act of benevolence. His lordship next recalled the attention of the jury to the fact as to the introduction of Charles and William Parker to Wilde by Taylor, and to the specific allegations against Taylor and his fellow prisoner. On this part of the case, this, in a way, said his lordship, was of great importance to the public at large, and he commended the question to the jury with the utmost confidence.

JURY RETIRE.

The jury retired to consider their verdict at 1.35.

After the jury had been absent some time, his lordship returned to the bench, and when half-past two had passed, the idea prevailed very generally in the crowded court that there was a probability of a disagreement. At ten minutes past three o'clock the jury estimated that they desired lunch to be taken to their room.

THE JURY DISAGREE.

The jury returned into court at 5.15, and his Lordship, addressing them, said he had received a communication from them to the effect that, with the exception of a minor question which he had put to them with reference to Atkins they were unable to arrive at an agreement. The Foreman said that was so. Upon the three main issues of the indictment submitted to them they were unable to agree. His Lordship asked if he could be of assistance, but the Foreman answered that there was no possibility of an agreement. The learned Judge thereupon, in accordance with a ruling given that morning, directed a verdict of "Not guilty" on the count of conspiracy (which had been already withdrawn by the Crown), upon the other counts charging with attempting to procure, and upon the counts dealing with Mavor and Wood. Unhappily, this left the really material issues, which had occupied so many days, undecided, the jury being unable to agree, and he, therefore, directed that they be discharged.

BAIL REFUSED.

Sir Edward Clarke asked for bail for Wilde, and Mr. C. Hall made a similar application on behalf of Taylor. His Lordship: I do not feel able to accede to the application. Sir E. Clarke asked if it might be renewed in chambers, and his Lordship replied in the affirmative. Mr. Gill said the case would be re-tried, and it was then understood that it would stand over to the next session. Wilde and Taylor were removed in custody.

A PUBLIC SCANDAL.

The attention of Scotland Yard has been called to the questionable, if not infamous, character of some of the street songs bearing upon the Oscar Wilde case now being sung in many of the public thoroughfares, particularly in South London. Efforts will at once be made to put an end to this nuisance. Upon the authority of one of the heads of the detective department, it is stated that, should the method usually adopted for preserving decorum in public thoroughfares fail, steps will be taken without delay to prosecute the publishers.

THE WILDE CASE.

The abortive result of the Wilde case has not been a surprise to lawyers who have been watching the case, and who from the first felt doubt as to the efficacy of the tainted evidence. The first hope I hear everywhere is that the authorities will not feel it their duty to submit us to the demoralisation of a second trial. The credit for gaining the case is given to Sir Edward Clarke's masterly defence, and to Wilde's clear evidence on his own behalf. The jury was an unusually young one. I am told there was not a man in the box over 40 years of age. Wilde has suffered acutely. Since his arrest his hair has turned quite grey. If it is decided not to try him again he will be brought up, and the prosecution announcing that they offer no evidence, he will be discharged.

OSCAR WILDE.

A resolute attempt will be made to-morrow to get bail for Oscar Wilde. The application will be made before Baron Pollock in Chambers. It will be opposed as resolutely, for it has now been determined to put Wilde on his trial a second time, and that will be at the next sessions. The new trial will assume a very different character. For instance, the two prisoners will not be charged jointly, but separately. This, it is held, will make some difference in the proof of the case. In the meantime people are clamouring for further prosecutions. It is held that if the horrible thing has to be gone into again it would be better to make a clean sweep, and to satisfy the public mind as to other persons, particularly the persons whom certain of the witnesses confess to having blackmailed.

THE DEFENDANT ADMITTED TO BAIL.

Messrs. Humphreys, solicitors, attended at the Law Courts on Monday and stated they were prepared with the necessary sureties in the case of Oscar Wilde in accordance with the order made in chambers. Later on the solicitors attended before Baron Pollock and stated that the police were quite satisfied with the bail tendered.

An application on behalf of Wilde will be made at Bow-street to-day (Tuesday). Both gentlemen who have offered themselves as bail have been notified to be in attendance, and should the presiding magistrate be satisfied with the nature of their bail, he will sign the order for Wilde's release, and it is anticipated that prisoner will be liberated during the afternoon. He has suffered greatly from insomnia, consequent on extreme nervous prostration.

AA

CONSPIRACY CHARGES WITH  
DRAWN.

OSCAR WILDE IN THE BOX.

SPEAKS OF A LOVE NOT UNDER-  
STOOD IN THIS AGE.

EMPHATIC DENIALS TO THE  
CHARGES.

The trial of Oscar Wilde and Alfred Taylor was resumed on Tuesday at the Old Bailey (before Mr. Justice Charles and a jury). The Crown case having closed at the hour of adjournment on Monday, there was again a large attendance of the general public, but the court was scarcely so crowded as heretofore. Pending the arrival of the judge, Taylor was brought into the dock for a consultation with his counsel, Mr. Grain.

When Mr. Justice Charles took his seat, Mr. Gill, on behalf of the Crown, withdrew the counts for conspiracy.

Sir Edward Clarke said that had he known these counts would be withdrawn he should have asked that the prisoners be tried separately, and he now asked for a verdict of "Not guilty," so far as the allegations related to conspiracy.

Mr. Gill observed that he had adopted this course to avoid any difficulty in the way of the prisoners giving evidence.

His Lordship, in acceding to Mr. Gill's application, said he could not consent to the adoption of the course suggested by the learned counsel for the defence.

Sir Edward Clarke replied that he did not wish to appear tenacious, and he would at a later stage of the case ask for a verdict of "Not guilty" upon those particular counts.

Sir Edward Clarke at once began his address for the defence of Wilde. Having at the outset given on his client's behalf an absolute denial to the charges brought against him, the learned counsel animadverted on the conduct of a large section of the press, which he alleged was such as to prejudice his client and imperil the interests of justice. He accused the Crown counsel of having on Monday read the cross-examination of Wilde in the action brought against Lord Queensberry for the sole purpose of inducing the jury to believe that the man who wrote "Dorian Grey" was likely to commit indecency. But, as Coleridge said, a man should be regarded as superior to his books. There was no single page in "Dorian Grey" where the statement was made of any person being guilty of an abominable sin. From "Dorian Grey" Sir Edward passed on to comment on "The Chameleon," many of the passages in which, from Wilde's pen, he described as merely smart phrases. In that magazine his client said the story of "The Priest and the Acolyte" was a production which was a disgrace to the man who wrote it, to the editor who accepted it, and to everybody concerned with it, and Mr. Wilde became so indignant that he wrote to the conductor of the magazine declining to be longer associated with it. The literary controversy had nothing whatever to do with the questions before the jury. The controversy as to the morality of Shakspeare's sonnets was likely to last as long as the question of who wrote the letters of "Junius" or as to the character of certain sonnets of Michael Angelo to one of his friends. He, therefore, asked the jury altogether to discard what had been urged against the prisoner in relation to "Dorian Grey" and "The Chameleon."

Coming to Wilde's association with the Queensberry family, he observed that prisoner was still a friend of Lady Queensberry, who divorced her husband.

Mr. Gill: I protest against any attack upon Lord Queensberry, who is not represented. It is altogether irrelevant to say here that Lord Queensberry was divorced.

Sir Edward Clarke said that to hear his learned friend rebuking irrelevance was rather amusing. (Laughter.)

In the case of Wilde v. Queensberry, Sir Edward Clarke and the learned counsel acting with him for Wilde took the responsibility of accepting a verdict of "Not guilty." It was perfectly clear that the jury then sitting would not have found Lord Queensberry guilty of a criminal offence. <sup>2</sup> Then adopted he (Sir Edward) was responsible, and he was there again to meet on his client's behalf a case which could not be properly tried at the former

trial, but which could now be determined upon a proper issue. If Mr. Oscar Wilde had been guilty of the charges against him, would he have provoked investigation as he did by bringing an action for libel? It was said there was a species of insanity which caused men to commit unnatural crimes, but what would they think of a man who, if he had been guilty of such offences, insisted upon bringing them before the world? He was confident that the evidence of his client would be a complete answer to the allegations brought against him.

Oscar Wilde was then called from the dock and sworn. He answered the questions of Sir E. Clarke in subdued tones. The learned counsel first took him through his academical career, at Dublin and Oxford, and passed from this to his career as a dramatist and playwright.

Sir Edward Clarke: In cross-examination in Wilde v. Queensberry you denied all the charges against you. Was the evidence then given by you absolutely and entirely true evidence?

Witness: Entirely true evidence.

Sir Edward Clarke: Is there any truth in any one of the allegations of indecency which have been brought against you in this case?

Witness: There is no truth whatever in any one of the allegations.

Mr. Gill began his cross-examination much on the lines adopted by Mr. Carson in the former trial. The learned counsel quoted from a sonnet of Lord Alfred Douglas, in which occurred the line, "I am that love, but dare not speak its name." What was the nature of the love represented in that poem?

Wilde now gave, with marked deliberation and emphasis, the following answer:—It is a love which is not understood in this century. It is the love of David for Jonathan; such love as Plato described in his philosophy as the beginning of wisdom. It is a deep spiritual affection, that is as pure as it is perfect, and has dictated the greatest works of art. It is in this century much misunderstood. It is an intellectual affection between an older and a younger man. The elder man has had knowledge of the world, the younger has the joy, the hope, the glamour of life; it is a something which this age does not understand; it mocks at it, and it sometimes puts one in the pillory." (Cheers in the gallery.)

His Lordship: I shall have the court cleared if there is again the slightest manifestation of feeling.

Mr. Gill took the witness through the evidence of the staff from the Savoy Hotel and the masseur, M. Bigge. He denied there was a word of truth in it. Wilde also gave the same general denials to the evidence of Charles Parker and Shelley. The latter, he said, used to write him morbid religious letters. The witness Atkins had also given a wrong account of the circumstances under which they met. It was true Atkins and Schwabe went with him to Paris, but the account given of what took place there was untrue. It was grotesque and monstrous. Taylor's rooms in Little College-street, near the Houses of Parliament, were Bohemian. Taylor burnt pastilles there. He (Wilde) went there to smoke, chat, and amuse himself. Actors went there. Taylor was an accomplished pianist. Mavor was a pleasant, agreeable young man, and was his guest at the Albemarle Hotel in an ordinary way. Taylor was a young man of private means. He took the boy Alphonso Conway, whom he met at Worthing, on a trip to Brighton. Conway slept in a room of his, divided by baize doors.

Did you feel the affection you have described for these youths?—Oh, certainly not.

Further cross-examined: He knew that men dressed in women's clothes went to certain rooms in Fitzroy-street, and that Taylor was once arrested there. He (Wilde), knowing that men sometimes dressed as women on the stage, could not imagine what the police were at Fitzroy-street for.

Mr. Gill: And you had no reason why the police should keep observations on Taylor's rooms in Little College-street?

Witness: I saw none.

Sir Edward Clarke elicited in re-examination that Atkins desired to go on the music-hall stage. He communicated that wish to Wilde, and obtained an engagement, the defendant purchasing for him his first song. The Allan letters he did not regard as of any importance.

Sir Edward Clarke: They were not prose poems?

Witness (smiling): Oh, no; they contained some slighting allusions to other people, which I should have been sorry to see published. I know nothing of "The Chameleon," except that I was told that it was to be a literary and artistic magazine.

Wilde then returned to the dock.

The prisoner Alfred Taylor was then called and examined by Mr. Grain. He said his age was 33, his father formerly conducted a wholesale business which had now been turned into a limited liability company. He was educated at Millis, intending to go on to the Army, but

after one training he resigned his commission. In 1883 he came into possession of £45,000, and had since lived a life of pleasure about town. The statements of Charles Parker, alleging against witness an attempted abominable crime were absolutely untrue.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gill, he never went through a sham form of marriage with a man named Charlie Mason. He had never accosted men at the Empire and at the Alhambra. He denied the statements of the brothers Parker as to what took place at his rooms.

Mr. Gill next questioned Taylor as to the incidents of the police raid in Fitzroy-square.

You were one of the men arrested?—I was.

And you had with you Charles Parker?—

Yes. How was Parker getting his living?—I understood he was receiving money from his father.

You and Parker were discharged, some were fined, and some were bound over?—Yes.

Questioned as to the appointments of his apartments at Little College-street, Taylor said he had a censor there, in which he burnt pastilles.

Re-examined: The garment taken from the rooms by the police was an Oriental costume, which had come from Constantinople, and had been obtained by him for a fancy dress ball at Covent Garden.

On the conclusion of Taylor's examination the court adjourned for luncheon.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE SPEAKS.

On the court resuming, Sir Edward Clarke, on behalf of Wilde, addressed the jury on the evidence "as distinct from topics prejudicially imported into the case." He did not remember the remarkable course adopted early in the day by Mr. Gill to have been followed in any previous case. In a case so important as this the counsel for the Crown ought to have made up their minds as to whether they would proceed for conspiracy or not, and he complained that by the action of the Treasury the defence had for three days been embarrassed. There was a cruel hardship in Mr. Oscar Wilde being tried in conjunction with Taylor upon separate and distinct charges, upon which he should ask the jury to give a separate and independent judgment. He pointed this out without desiring in any way to prejudice Mr. Grain's client.