THE HAMILTON TIMES

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1909.



CRIMINAL CASE TRIED.

King Street Shooting Before Judge and Jury To-day.

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Nothing Malicious In Arrest of David Watson.

Sayer vs. Hamilton Cataract Company Settled Out of Court.

The action of Watson, vs. the St. Mary's & Western Ontario Railway Company for \$3,000 damages for false arrest began last night, and was con-cluded this morning at the Assize

Court. The argument set up by the plain-tiff, Mr. David Watson, of Toronto, was that during the summer of 1907 he tobk up his residence at St. Mary's, being employed by John E. Webb, contractor, and engaged in building the company's lines. On August 11 the chief engineer came to him and demanded the time books of the company which he recame to him and demanded the time books of the company, which he re-fused, saying he had no books except those belonging to Webb. Notwith-standing this, the secretary and solicitor for the company, James W. Graham, without reasonable cause, he alleges, malicionsly and falsely laid an informa-tion before J. M. Stauley, the police magistrate of St. Mary's, had him ar-rested and path in juil until he had prorested and put in jail until he had pro-rided bail at \$1,000. After hearing the rided bail at \$1,000. After hearing the evidence the magistrate dismissed the charge against him, and honorably dis-charged him from custody. The plaintiff also claims that Graham was acting under directions' of the defendant, and by reason of the arrest and prosecution he suffered great annovance disgrace suffered great annovance. disgrace, ss of time, credit and reputation, also nsiderable expense in defending himelf. He therefore claimed \$3,000 dam-

self. He therefore claimed \$3,000 dam-ages sustained thereby. The defendant company denied having authorized or directed the arrest or imprisonment of the plaintiff, and that, Graham, in arresting Watson did not act within the scope of his employment as the secretary of the company. Fur-ther, that Graham had reasonable and her, that Graham had reasonable and robable cause for believing that the plaintiff did steal the book

Mr. T. H. Crerar, in addressing the Jury, explained the circumstances sur-rounding the incident, which led up to the arrest of plaintiff. Watson, he said, was arrested because he would not hand over certain time books to another per-son in the employ of the railway com-many without notice to do so from his pany, without notice to do so from his pany, without notice to do so from his employer. Upon his refusing to give np the books he was arrested and marched through the streets and held in jail until \$1,000 hail could be pro-rided for. Such treatment was dam-aging to his reputation. The connsel for defendants might say that plaintiff was arrested after dark, and try to make light of it, but the fact remained that he was arrested and his wife was make lig that he that he was arrested and his wife was compelled to make provision for \$1,000 bail before he was let out of prison. Mr. George S. Kerr, acting for the railway company, said that the books in question were valued at very little and of no use to anyone but the com-pany. As Graham understood the books belonged to the railway, and were of no use to plaintiff, he asked plaintiff for them, but Watson refused to give was arrested and his wife or them. but for them, but Watson refused to give them up, and Graham had him arrested. Mr. Kerr contended that the arrest was made maliciously, but in good faith that the plaintiff had no right to refuse

that the plainfill had no right to remse to give up the books. His lordship, in laying the case before the jury, said that the main thing to be sidered was, was there an absence of reasonable cause for the action of Gra-ham, which he believed was true? The first that the valuatiff was imagent of ham, which he believed was true? The fact that the plaintiff was innocent of the charge laid against him should not enter into the question of damages, as it was not a violation of the law to arrest one, even though he is not guilty. provided the arrest was made in good faith. The whole question was, did Graham act maliciously, and, if so, what damages did the plaintiff sustain by reason of the arrest, and imprisonment. of the arrest and imprisonment The jury returned a verdict to the effect that Graham had not acted mali ciously in arresting Watson. LORENZO SHOOTING CASE.

LORENZO SHOOTING CASE. The only criminal case for the as-sizes was next taken up. Joseph Lorenzo, an Italian, was charged with shooting at 1nomas White with intent to do grie-vious bodily harm. Through Mr. J. O'-Reilly, K. C., Lorenzo pleaded not guil-

ty. W. L. Ross, K. C., acting crown at-torney, explained the case to the jury. The first witness, David Mugford, one of the companions of White, said



one of the companions of White, said Tom Truscott and himself were stand-ing in front of the Greek candy store, near the corner of King and Catharine streets, on the night in question. After prisoner had fired one shot, witness started toward him. Prisoner fired an-other shot, then turned and ran up Ca-tharine street. Shortly before the occur-rence, witness, Truscott and White, had been walking east on King street, but White stopped to speak to someone, and they walked on about 50 yards. The prisoner and White were about a yard apart when the shot was fired, and it was apparently fired in an upward direc-tion. Next day when witness saw White the mark on his face was gone, but traces of powder still remained on his ear.

When cross-examined by M. J. O' Reilly, witness said White and Lorenzo had backed about 30 feet out into the road when the first shot was fired.

Th as Truscott substantiated the evi-Thomas Truscott substantiated the evi-dence of Mugford in regard to the ac-tions of himself and companions be-fore the shooting. The shots, two in number, followed one another quickly. To him it appeared that the pistol was pointed at White. Edward, Burt, said his attention was drawn to the spot by the loud talk. Prisoner backed out into the road about 10 or 12 feet and White backed out af-ter him, whereupon prisoner warned him

r him, whereupon prisoner warned him be keep back, pulled the revolver from back pocket and fired two shots. The rection the revolver was pointed was ward White's head. The prisoner was rested on Hughson street, by P. C. rown, and had the revolver in his hand the time

be time. C. Brown, the constable who are d the prisoner, said table