

OPENING THE ARGUMENT.

Mr. Bodwell, Counsel for McBeath, Speaks for Over Five Hours.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF HIS REMARKS

The Adams Will Case At Last Drawing to a Close - The Attorney-General Commences His Argument for the Plaintiff.

Mr. E. V. Bodwell, counsel for the defendant in the case of Adams vs. McBeath, spoke for five hours yesterday in opening the argument.

He referred to the fact that owing to the protracted time which the trial had occupied, it could not be expected that the case would be decided before the opening of the argument.

He also referred to the fact that the attention which his lordship had paid to the proceedings throughout rendered it impossible to do more than refer to the subject in a few lines.

He then proceeded to deal with the evidence which had been given from day to day in the presence of the witness and the most trying nature, and the witness had been subjected to the most severe cross-examination.

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reference to his nephew, having regard to the evidence that Adams had never spoken to McBeath on the subject, but before this was to be considered as an insuperable difficulty it must not be forgotten that Adams never spoke to Hastie, Phillips, or other friends of his relatives, and that the whole thing was explained by the different conversations which took place between Kersop and Adams and McBeath and Adams.

As Adams was not communicating with McBeath at the time that he would be the first to broach the subject. This was clearly shown in the correspondence which lasted over so many years, and only once there is any enquiry, and that is of his sister, Margaret, for whom he evidently had a very strong affection, and who had sent liberal supplies of money.

With regard to the statement that a will had actually been made in favor of his nephew, Mr. Bodwell argued that the evidence disclosed the fact that Adams had never made up his mind in this regard, although it was a matter upon which he sometimes thought, and upon which many conversations evidently took place between him and Kersop and Williams.

It was also plain that Adams could not be persuaded to have the documents properly authenticated, and it is never a man for this that Adams did not wish to go into the expense of getting a lawyer to execute the will; this was absurd on the evidence.

The whole course of the proceeding which Mr. Bodwell adopted to procure the execution of the will is so foreign to the idea of carrying out any such scheme as that which has been suggested upon the part of the plaintiff.

The evidence throughout shows that the plaintiff, however, has been a witness for him with very great art and skill, and the principal part has been assigned to him by the attorney-general, but it is a stupid fellow, through his foolish blundering and inability to follow stage directions, spoils the entire effect.

The reverse of this was the case, as was shown even by the authorities quoted by his learned friend, Thompson vs. Torrance, 2 O. App. and Parit vs. Lawrence, 2 P. and D. L. R., both of which have been referred to by Mr. Bodwell, showed clearly that when the court had under consideration an extraordinary document such as this, a document drawn up by the beneficiary, or through his instructions, it was not necessary to prove fraud, but it was clearly laid down that the beneficiary must prove the truthfulness of the transaction, and on him and him alone rested the onus of showing that he had acted bona fide.

More than that, there was a duty laid on the medical attendant who was present about the time the will was executed, but was not apprized of what was going on, and also on the solicitor drawing up the will.

There was another objection raised by Mr. Bodwell to the effect that the authorities quoted had reference to the fact that the attorney-general had to have probate of a will granted and not as in the present case, where an attempt was made to have the will proved without a distinction.

It was a mere question of form and procedure, and the plaintiff in the present case had no objection to such an ex parte probate granted when he was thousands of miles away.

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MEMENTOS OF COLUMBUS.

Life and Times of the Great Discoverer as Illustrated at the Fair.

THE MONASTERY OF LA RABIDA.

Portraits, Maps, Books and Historical Pictures Giving a Graphic Record of the Navigator's Career - An Intensely Interesting Collection.

(Correspondence of the Times.) World's Fair Grounds, Chicago, April 20. - Situated on the banks at the artificial water course of the Jackson Park grounds, and close to Lake Michigan, stands the reproduction of the monastery of Rabida in Spain, where history relates Christopher Columbus asked for food and drink from the monk Marchena.

Columbus found a hospitable reception, and advanced his views of the new world for the consideration of the Dominican friars, convinced them of the truth of his ideas, won them to his cause, and through their support was able to undertake his voyage of discovery.

The monastery is a two-story building of the same shape as the original. The walls are white, the windows are small and dingy-looking, and the roof is slanting and old-fashioned pottery tiles are used in roofing.

It is interesting as the reproduction of the monastery to those who would like to see the original. The altar steps show signs of being worn away by the good friars in kneeling and singing their praises to the creator of the universe.

Among the many curiosities at the fair is the Grace Darling boat, in which the heroine on the night of Sept. 6, 1838, put to sea off the Farne Islands and rescued the crew of a shipwrecked steamer.

A small band of South Sea Islanders arrived at Jackson Park to-day. They are the students of the Mission at San Francisco, and have brought with them the material for the construction of a Samoan village.

Three fire engine houses have been built on the grounds. Eighteen firemen will be in attendance, and the fire apparatus on hand consists of three two-horse engines, one one-horse engine, one 60-gallon hand-tank, twenty-six hose carts with 18,000 feet of hose, and 470 chemical hand-extinguishers.

THE CONCLUDING CEREMONIES

Of the Opening of the Great Fair in Chicago.

EVERYTHING NOW IN FULL SWING. President Cleveland Never Before Faced Such an Immense Throng - The Descendant of Columbus Was Fatigued After Yesterday's Exertions.

Chicago, May 2. - In the opening ceremonies yesterday less than an hour was occupied in the journey from the starting point and the triumphant entry into the great white city. As the head of the column emerged from the midway pleasure it was met by a detachment of Columbian guards accompanied by Col. R. A. Crofoot.

From the centre of the platform proper the president radiated a special stand, and upon this were chairs for President Cleveland, Vice-President Stevenson, Judge de la Puente, and other high national and local officers of the fair.

The opening ceremonies began with the playing of Prof. John K. Paine's Columbian march. This was followed by prayer, led by the kind chaplain, Rev. M. J. Conroy of the United States service.

After an orchestral overture General Davis, as master of ceremonies, made the opening address. Following this came the reading of the address by the president, which was read in a clear, ringing, and unfurled myriads of flags from the great building, and the stupor of the crowd.

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