

CAPT. CHAPMAN ON TRIAL

WITNESSES OF HIS APPEARANCE AT THE SEELEY DINNER.

Cora Routt and Kathleen Warren Testify—Mr. Seeley Declares That He Had Stipulated There Should Be No Impropriety.

The testimony of the second day in the trial, at Police Headquarters, of Capt. Chapman, charged with unlawfully interrupting the Seeley dinner at Sherry's, Dec. 19, was listened to by a crowd that filled the room to its capacity.

After Commissioner Grant had taken his seat and had seen that Police Commissioner Welles of Brooklyn was similarly provided for, James H. Phipps, the theatrical agent who furnished the entertainment at the dinner, was cross-examined by Attorney Hart. Mr. Hart asked what he engaged Lottie Mortimer to do. There was some squabbling among the lawyers, and then Mr. Phipps answered that it was "to do her regular act." He also testified that Miss Renwood was engaged to travesty Trilby and distribute Mr. Seeley's presents to his guests.

Cora Routt was called to the stand, and described everything she knew about the affair. Beside the stage in the dining room there were two rooms, partitioned by heavy curtains. One was an anteroom for performers to await their calls, and the other was the women's dressing room. No men were allowed in this room, and none came while any woman was dressing. She had just finished her act, and was changing her stage costume for her street dress when Capt. Chapman entered the room from the door leading to the corridor of the second floor. Without any warning he went to the centre of the room and looked all around. Miss Routt said: "It's strange we can have no privacy here!" With that the Captain, she testified, came up to her and started abusing her. She took refuge behind some portières and commenced crying.

Miss Routt said the noise had attracted the attention of those outside. In rushed Mr. Phipps, who had been in the anteroom, and several guests. Capt. Chapman explained who he was, and stated he had heard something improper was to be done, and he intended to investigate it. The men present told the Captain that they would explain everything to him, but he must come out of the ladies' dressing room. After four or five minutes' talk he went into another room. Miss Routt then, she declared, watched the proceedings through a curtain. The Captain finally went out into the dining hall and stood beside a table while Kathleen Warren performed her act. When it was finished he turned and said: "Why, that's all right." and then, on being asked to remain and see that everything was all right, said: "I am sorry I can't stay." Miss Routt testified that soon after Capt. Chapman withdrew, accompanied by his two ward men, who had come with him.

To the same effect was the testimony of Kathleen Warren.

Herbert B. Seeley, the host at the dinner, testified that between 12 and 1 o'clock he heard the loud conversation of men in the dressing room and went there. His attention was called to a man, whom he afterward found was Capt. Chapman, talking to Cora Routt.

"What was he saying to her?"

"He said"—the witness spoke slowly—"You are no woman. You are a disgrace to your sex. Put on your clothes and get out of here. I know what you are going to do here."

Then, Mr. Seeley said, he asked the Captain what he wanted. The Captain, in a very excited manner, said he had heard that there was going to be an improper performance there and he wanted to investigate it. "I told him every facility would be afforded him to find out," continued the witness. "After the Captain had entered the dining room he said: 'Gentlemen, I had been informed that there was going to be an immoral performance here. I have made a mistake. You appear to be gentlemen.'"

"Then," concluded the witness, "he went away."

Lawyer Hart carefully cross-examined Mr. Seeley. The witness said he made arrangements personally for the vaudeville entertainment at the dinner. During all these arrangements, the witness declared, he had expressly stipulated that there should be nothing vulgar in the performance. The witness emphatically denied that there was any impropriety about Miss Renwood's costume when she travestied Trilby and distributed the presents. The presents were small, mostly toys, and Little Egypt performed her usual dance in more costume than she is to-day wearing on the stage.

Louis V. Sherry was the last witness called. His testimony was unimportant, and then the hearing was adjourned until this morning.

PURROY AMONG HIS MEN.

Sheehan the Subject of His Talk and an Original "Anthem."

County Clerk Henry D. Purroy and his followers in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards held a meeting in their clubhouse, in Webster Avenue, Fordham, last night, for the purpose of hearing reports from the various district leaders as to the primaries to be held next Tuesday night. About 200 men were present, and they applauded loudly the favorable reports.

After several returns had been made, Mr. Purroy said he wished to make a few remarks in reply to John C. Sheehan.

"A few days ago," he said, "Mr. Sheehan, the wounded Buffalo, turned tail and tried to run away, but another strong thrust from the lance of truth pierced his thick hide and brought him to his knees bellowing in impotent rage. To the only part of his scurrility in to-night's papers which is at all intelligent, I have to say that I plead guilty to the atrocious charge of being of Spanish-Irish descent, and before a year is out Mr. Sheehan will find that I am of good fighting stock."

Then an "anthem," composed by Mr. Purroy, was sung, each verse ending with the line, "And we'll bounce Sheehan by-and-by."

TO PURIFY PRIMARIES.

The Loyal Republican Club of Harlem Takes the Initiative.

The Loyal Republican Club of Harlem met last night at 172 East One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Street. Delegates representing nearly fifty other Republican clubs of the city were present. The object of the meeting was to bring about a reform in holding primaries. Alderman Goodman presided, and George H. Sutton acted as Secretary. It was resolved that a committee, to be named hereafter, be appointed to draft an amendment to the present law governing primary elections, to make them as strict and honest as regular elections.

Addresses were made by Alderman Woodward, Alderman Wines, Edward Du Bois, William R. Spooner, and Benjamin Oppenheimer. Frank J. Bowers was appointed Chairman of a committee to arrange for a public meeting at Cooper Union or Carnegie Hall in the near future, when the matter of such proposed legislation will be brought before the public.

Niagara Power for the Elevator.

The Electric Grain Elevator Company has been incorporated to conduct a general elevator business for the storage of grain and to buy, sell, and deal in grain in Buffalo. The capital is \$350,000, and the Directors are Edward W. Eames, Buffalo; Yale Kneeland, Franklin Kneeland, Ormsby M. Mitchell, and Ruleman Muller, New York. Kneeland & Co., 104 Produce Exchange, in this city, formed the company. The Messrs. Kneeland said yesterday that they were not ready to talk of the scheme. They will have an elevator with every modern adjunct, and the motive power will come from Niagara Falls.