

"No; only one. I have never seen that paper since."

"Did you know the amount of the bond you were to sign, and that you would be held responsible for the whole sum?"

"No, I foolishly signed it without knowing the amount."

"Did you make any agreement with Bowman on the amount you would qualify in?"

"No."

"Do you know who wrote the signature purporting to be your own?"

"No, I do not."

"This bond was dated September 26, 1891; at that time were you willing to sign Bowman's bond?"

"Yes."

"Where did you sign what purported to be the bond?"

"In Jones' bank."

"Have you any recollection of hearing of a suit being brought to restrain the county from executing this bond with Bowman?"

"No."

"When did you first see this signature?"

"About a week ago when I was called into Mr. Hall's office."

The witness was then asked to write his name for the purpose of a comparison with the forged bond. Attorney Hiles took him through a cross-examination, but failed to shake his testimony at all.

The cross-examination was allowed on a vote of the court, as Attorney Murphy rather objected to it, but upon the grounds that the whole truth should be brought out it was allowed.

F. H. Dyer was then placed upon the stand. Attorney Murphy said to him:

"I ask you if that is your signature on Mr. Bowman's bond?"

"No, sir, it is not."

"You've known Bowman for some time, have you?"

"Yes."

"Did you agree to go on his bond?"

"Yes."

"Before or after the contract was awarded?"

"Before, I think."

"Did you make this agreement in writing?"

"I thought I made it in writing."

"Where did you sign that paper?"

"Signed it at Ellerbeck's store."

"Was any one present?"

"No one but Bowman."

"Was that the only paper you signed pertaining to this matter?"

"Yes."

"You were willing to sign this paper on September 21, 1891, were you?"

"Yes."

"Did you ever instruct anyone, or give anyone permission to sign this paper for you?"

"No, nor any other paper."

"Have you not always been under the impression that you appeared as one of the Bowman quartette?"

"Yes—no—I never thought anything about it until Schroeder called my attention to it."

"What did Mr. Schroeder say to you?"

"He came to my office and asked me if I signed Bowman's bond, and said he had just been down to the court and had seen a signature purporting to be mine which he thought was a forgery, and it is."

"Don't you know who wrote this signature?"

"No, I do not."

Cross-examined by Hiles:

"Now, Mr. Dyer, when did you become cognizant of the fact that your name was signed to this bond?"

"When Schroeder informed me of it."

"What did you suppose the paper was that you had signed at Ellerbeck's store?"

"That it was an agreement of certain men to go on Bowman's bond if he got the contract."

"You never saw Bowman's bond published in the papers?"

"No, sir."

"No, sir; you saw the list of names published you said, did you not?"

"Yes. I think that was the paper I signed. My memory is rather defective in this particular. I think I said to Bowman at the time, who was very anxious to have me go on his bond, that I advised him to get more responsible parties on it."

"Were you not, up to the time that Schroeder spoke to you, under the impression that you were on Bowman's bond?"

"I had never given it a thought before."

"Do you say here that you were not under the impression that you were on Bowman's bond?"

"I tell you frankly I don't know. I will say this much, that I never signed that bond."

"Weren't you surprised when Schroeder told you you were on this bond?"

"Yes, I was. I told him that I had signed some paper for Bowman, but did not remember whether it was the bond or the petition."

"That is all."

Murphy—"Do you adopt one signature all the time?"

"On all private matters I sign Frank H. Dyer, on all company matters I sign F. H. Dyer. The signature on the bond is not like mine. I never, for instance, made such an F as that in my life. If any one can find one of my F's like that, I will be willing to concede that I have been drunk for twelve months."

Arthur Brown was sworn and took the stand.

Murphy—"I'll ask you if you have any cognizance of a bond of J. H. Bowman to the city and county prior to September 21, 1891?"

"I have not."

"You were counsel for Mr. Bowman, were you not?"

"No. I was acting for the county in your absence. Mr. Bowman talked to me about the contract, and at one time asked me to sign the bond."

"Did he produce the bond?"

"No."

"He never requested you to draw up a bond, did he?"

"No, sir, never."

William Roberts was called. He was asked to sign his name. He said he did not object to doing so, but that he signed the original bond.

"Do you remember where you signed this bond?"

"I think it was on Second South street, and that there was no one else near."

"If your honor please," said Roberts, "I want to say, so as to have things

understood, that I didn't expect I was on the bond, as I asked Bowman to take my name from it before the Council accepted it."

Mr. Hiles—"Was Mr. Olson with you when Mr. Bowman gave you the bond to sign?"

"No, sir."

"Do you remember having seen George Olson, and his asking you if that was your signature?"

"Yes, come to think of it."

Murphy—"Have you ever denied signing this bond?"

"Never denied that bond."

"This is not the paper, then, that Bowman and Olson presented to you?"

"No, it is not, and that is why I asked them to take my name off."

"When was it that Bowman and Olson produced this paper?"

"The latter part of the week before the city and county accepted the bond."

"You mean to say that your signature on this paper is genuine and on the other not genuine?"

"No, sir; it was not."

"Do you remember if the other paper was an agreement to sign a bond?"

"Something like that. And I told them to scratch my name off the papers."

"You never gave the city and county any notice of that?"

"No, sir."

"You never signed but one paper?"

"No, sir."

"And this is your signature?"

"It may be and it may not be."

"You swear it is?"

"Yes, I swear."

"And you never signed but one paper?"

"That was all."

The Court—"Was there a witness to your signature?"

"There was not."

Hiles—"You acknowledged the signature in Bowman's presence?"

"Yes, and asked that my name be stricken off."

The other bondsmen present were Messrs. Heath, Mullett, Fenton, Cummings, Williams and Yeardon. The last named,

MR. YEARDON,

was put through a course of sprouts on admitting that he signed not only his own name, but the names of several others to the agreement.

"Didn't that document purport to be an agreement?"

"I can't say."

"Were there any signatures on it before you signed the names?"

"Oh, yes."

"Had Mr. Mullett authorized you to sign his name?"

"No."

"How did you come to sign these names?"

"Bowman said he was going around to see them all."

"What did you sign with?"

"A lead pencil."

"Was the body of the document written in lead pencil?"

"Couldn't say."

"Do you know where this document is?"

"No."

"Did you say Olson was present when you signed these names?"

"Yes."

"How many papers did you sign?"

"Two."