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#### THE MOEN-WILSON CASE.

The Principal Parties to a Famous Law-suit.

At present dates the Wilson-Moen case stands as the great mystery. The water-eyed young man who yet has a square jaw



LEVI P. WILSON.

when he was a boy. He never went to school. He has never given any evidence of being a poor boy who worked his way up till providence blessed his labors and made him a millionaire. On the contrary, the only marked ability he seems to have manifested was a talent for spending money. That talent he cultivated assiduously and joyously, till he fairly rivaled Cow Oil Johnny in capacity to run through with wealth.

The defendant in the case is Philip L. Moen, of Worcester, Mass. The farmers of America will immediately be in sympathy in a lump with Wilson, when it is mentioned that Moen made his millions out of the barbed wire fence patents, of which he is owner. They will say they hope Wilson will gouge him well, as he has gouged them with barbed wire for the past twenty years. However, the barbed wire fence patent has run out, and Wilson plainly has gouged him well.



PHILIP L. MOEN.

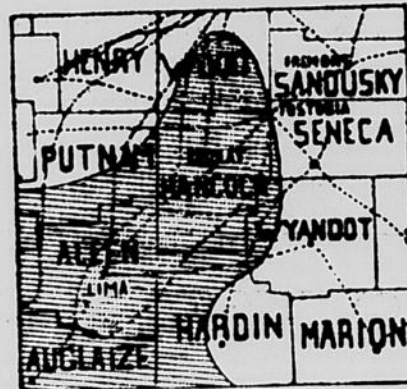
Moen owns a beautiful residence in Worcester, and is a highly respected citizen. He refused to pay the \$100,000, hence the law suit, which he has won at the first trial. But the law, instead of clearing up the matter, has only deepened the mystery. What did Moen pay Wilson so much money for? However weak Mr. Levi Wilson's whiskers are, his power of keeping a secret is sufficiently strong. Moen denies there was any secret at all worth speaking of, and declares it was a case of pure blackmail. But why, then, did he pay this shrewd young man \$50,000?

So far, the affair shows that secrets can be kept, even in our age of the world, in spite of newspapers and detectives. One surmise is that there was a woman story in the respectable Mr. Moen's case, and that he wouldn't have had it got out for all the world. Innocent citizens of the first water have been trapped by atrociously wicked women before now, even when the citizen was 60 years old and no handsomer than Mr. Moen.

But on the other hand, Wilson says, in the statement made to his lawyer, that Moen "told me to dress the other man well, and give him everything he wanted, at his expense." According to this, it was a man who was in the case. Wilson claimed only to be the agent for this other man, and says the sums of money were got for him. Moen again vowed that there was no other man, and that Wilson spent the money "his own self."

#### OIL AND GAS FIELDS IN OHIO.

These Minerals Found in Limestone for the First Time.



#### OHIO OIL AND GAS FIELD.

Next to the utilization of electricity the discovery of oil and gas in the earth will have more influence on the industrial progress of the latter half of the nineteenth century than any other agency. These oil and gas reservoirs are now bubbling up in all manner of unexpected places. They have at length been found in limestone deposits, where geologists have agreed they never would be found. The latest instance of this is in northwestern Ohio, in the region formerly known as the Black Swamp.

It is an interesting question whether this vast quantity of oil and gas has been recently formed in the bosom of the earth for the use of man, or whether it has existed all these ages since the world began, and man has only just stumbled upon it. The probable answer is that these mysterious fluids are recent formations.

The Ohio gas and oil fields include all or part of the counties Auglaize, Allen, Hardin, Hancock, Putnam, Wood and Wyandot. The oil field is essentially centered in the region named above, but in Allen county, though gas is found there too. The heart of the gas region is at Findlay, in Hancock county. Here flows a gas well so tremendous that its light has been seen sixty miles away. This town has been seen for twenty-four hours in the yield of the monster. The gas is of quality superior to that around Pittsburgh. A druggist said he could no longer give away his empty boxes for kindling wood in Findlay.

Gigantic manufacturing interests are placing establishments in the favored new regions; there is work for everybody and laborers are flocking thither by the thousand. An unprecedented era of prosperity is predicted for Ohio. Nine thousand barrels of oil and over 50,000,000 cubic feet of gas are already produced daily, with new wells being bored every day.

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