

Virginia, Rockingham County, to-wit:

Whereas D. W. Earman, Commonwealth's Attorney for Rockingham County, has filed in the Clerk's Office of said County information against a certain Ford touring car, model 1917, carrying a Virginia license tag No. 90696, engine No. being 1550445, which car was taken pos-

session of by W.P. Wine, Deputy Sheriff, and J.R. Logan, a Policeman of the City of Harrisonburg, on the 28th day of February 1920, the said car at the time of seizure was occupied by Isaac Pittington, F.G. Simmons and Tony Hitt who had in their possession in said car at said time about seven quarts of moonshine liquor and whereas the said information prays that the said automobile be forfeited to the Commonwealth and condemned and sold and the proceeds therefrom be disposed of according to law;

Therefore all persons concerned in interest are notified to appear before the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, on the first day of the October term next, being October 18th 1920, to show cause, if any they can, why the prayer of the said information for the condemnation and sale of said car should not be granted;

Witness J.F. Blackburn, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County at the Court House thereof on the 30th day of August 1920 and in the 145th year of the Commonwealth.

**52 ACRES**

**Sale Near Penn Laird**

Virginia, Rockingham County, to-wit:

Whereas D.W. Earman, Commonwealth's Attorney for Rockingham County, has filed in the Clerk's Office of said County information against a certain Ford touring car, model 1917,

license tag No. 90696, engine No. being 1550445, which car was taken possession of by W.P. Wine, Deputy Sheriff, and J.R. Logan, a Policeman of the City of Harrisonburg, on the 28th day of February 1920, the said car at the time of seizure was occupied by Isaac Pittington, F.G. Simmons and Tony Hitt who had in their possession in said car at said time about seven quarts of moonshine liquor and whereas the said information prays that the said automobile be forfeited to the Commonwealth and condemned and sold and the proceeds therefrom be disposed of according to law;

*Isaac Pittington, F.G. Simmons, Tony Hitt and all other*  
Therefore all persons concerned in interest are notified

to appear before the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, on the first day of the October term next, being October 18th 1920, to show cause, if any they can, why the prayer of the said information for the condemnation and sale of said car should not be granted;

Witness J.F. Blackburn, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County at the Court House thereof on the 30th day of August 1920 and in the 145th year of the Commonwealth.

J.F. Blackburn Clerk.

*Case No. 3000*

Executed Sept 1 1920 by Posting a copy at the  
Front Door Court House & by Publishing in the  
Daily News Record a copy of notice 4 times

W. D. Dillard JRC  
County, to-wit:

Whereas D. W. Barman, Commonwealth's Attorney for Rockingham  
County, has filed in the Clerk's Office of said County information  
against a certain Ford touring car, model 1917, carrying a Virginia

license tag no. 50842, engine no. being 138044, which car was taken  
possession of by W. F. Wine, Deputy Sheriff, and J. R. Logan, a policeman

of the City of Harrisonburg, on the 28th day of February 1920, the  
car at the time of seizure was occupied by Isaac Pittman,

and Tony Pitt who had in their possession in said car  
at the time about seven quarts of moonshine liquor and whereas

information prays that the said automobile be forfeited  
to the Commonwealth and condemned and sold and the proceeds there-

of be disposed of according to law;  
Therefore all persons concerned in interest are notified

to appear before the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, on the  
first day of the October term next, being October 18th 1920, to

show cause, if any they can, why the prayer of the said information  
for the condemnation and sale of said car should not be granted;

Witness J. F. Blackburn, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rockingham  
County at the Court House thereof on the 30th day of August

1920 and in the 15th year of the Commonwealth.  
J. F. Blackburn  
Clerk

Done in my presence  
J. D. Loring  
#1550445

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

COMMONWEALTH

VS Indictment for violation of Prohibition Law

TONY HITT

June Term, 1920.

Be it remembered that upon the trial of this cause the Commonwealth, to maintain the issue upon its part introduced one, John R. Logan, who testified in chief:

That he was a policeman in the City of Harrisonburg; that on Saturday night, the 28th day of February, 1920, there was a smash-up of two automobiles on the <sup>North side of</sup> Court Square near the Presbyterian Church in the City of Harrisonburg; that on seeing the crowd he went to the place of collision and saw two men attempting to get out of a car, the one of whom left the car and was lost in the crowd before witness reached the car, and the other, Frank Simmons, who was intoxicated, was arrested; that the man who got out of the car first was apparently not intoxicated and got out of the car in a very short time; that there was a strong odor of intoxicating liquor, like apple brandy, which could be noticed some distance from the car; that there was a broken bottle in the car and that a suit case, was found in the back part of the automobile, which Frank Simmons was driving, and this suit case, on examination, was found to contain about seven quarts of liquor; that this was a five-passenger Ford car; that he took Frank Simmons and the suit case at once to the Harrisonburg jail where Simmons was locked up; that he did not know who the other man was who left the automobile at the same time with Frank Simmons, and that he does not know what became of him. On cross examination witness stated that he did not, at any time, see accused around the car, and that he had no reason to suspect him of engaging in such unlawful transportation of liquor, but that he was on the lookout for a man named Pittington, whose alleged activities along this line had been brought to his attention.

*Witness said Simmons was very drunk.  
One bottle was broken in the smash up.*

COMMONWEALTH

Indictment for violation of Prohibition Law

vs

June Term, 1920.

TONY NITT

It is remembered that upon the trial of this case the Commonwealth to maintain the same upon the facts and circumstances as follows:

That he was a policeman in the City of Harrisonburg; that on Saturday night, the 28th day of February, 1920, there was a meeting of two automobiles on the Court Square near the Court House in the City of Harrisonburg; that on seeing the crowd he went to the place of collision and saw two men attempting to get out of a car, the one of whom left the car and was lost in the crowd before witness reached the car, and the other, Frank Simmons, who was intoxicated, was arrested; that the man who got out of the car first was intoxicated and got out of the car in a very short time; that there was a strong odor of intoxicating liquor, like apple brandy, which could be noticed some distance from the car; that there was a broken bottle in the car and that a salt case was found in the back part of the automobile, which Frank Simmons was driving, and this salt case, on examination, was found to contain about seven ounces of liquor; that this was a five-passenger Ford car; that he took Frank Simmons and the salt case at once to the Harrisonburg Jail where Simmons was locked up; that he did not know who the other man was who left the automobile at the same time with Frank Simmons, and that he does not know what became of him. On cross examination witness stated that he did not at any time, and crossed around the car, and that he had no reason to suspect him of engaging in such unlawful transportation of liquor, but that he was on the lookout for a man named Pittman, whose alleged activities along this line had been brought to his attention.

*Witness said Simmons was not drunk  
and that he was not in the car at the time*

W. P. Wine, another witness introduced on behalf of the Commonwealth, testified in effect as follows:

*Rockingham* That he was the deputy sheriff and jailor for the <sup>County</sup> ~~City~~ of ~~Harrisonburg~~, and that on the 28th day of February, 1920, between nine and ten o'clock at night, Policeman Logan brought to the jail and delivered to his custody one Frank Simmons, who was intoxicated; that at the same time Logan turned over to him a certain suit case which he stated contained liquor; that Simmons was locked up and the suit case was put away under lock; that he did not open the suit case at the time, but that several days later noticing a strong odor of liquor about the suit case, he opened it and found that the stopper had come out of one of the bottles which it contained, and the contents of the bottle had leaked out; that the suit case contained when opened seven pint and four quart bottles of liquor, the said bottles being packed securely with excelsior on one side and a pillow on the other and it appeared that one bottle had been removed from the suit case after it had been packed. Witness then exhibited a suit case and a number of bottles of liquor to the jury testifying that it was the same suit case and contents which had been brought to him by Policeman Logan on the 28th of February. Witness further testified that several weeks later the accused was brought to jail and remained there several days before he was released on bond; that during the time he was in jail he had told witness that he had come up to town on February 28th with Simmons and Pittington, and that along the road this side of the bridge crossing the Shenandoah River near Elkton, he had been offered a drink by the other occupants of the car in which they were riding; that he took the drink from a bottle which the others had on the front seat of the car, ~~but which, up to that time,~~ ~~accused had no knowledge of.~~

*That Simmons was very drunk & was afterwards released on bail.*

*Asked what kind of liquor it was, witness said it was apple brandy.*

*The bottles were produced in Court & exhibited to the jury who smell of them. The pieces of the broken pint bottle were also produced before the jury.*

*Taken out. One pint bottle had been broken in the drink case - the fragments of the bottle was there.*

W. F. Wine, another witness introduced on behalf of the

Government, testified in effect as follows:

That he was the deputy sheriff and jailer for the city of

Harrisburg, and that on the 28th day of February, 1930, between

nine and ten o'clock at night, Policeman Logan brought to the jail

and delivered to his custody one Frank Simmons, who was intoxicated;

that at the same time Logan handed over to him a certain suit case

which he stated contained liquor; that Simmons was locked up and

the suit case was put away under lock; that he did not open the

suit case at the time, but that several days later, notwithstanding

order of liquor about the suit case, he opened it and found that the

liquor had come out of one of the bottles which it contained, and

the contents of the bottle had leaked out; that the suit case con-

tained seven opened seven pint and four quart bottles of liquor,

the said bottles being packed seaward with excelsior on one side

and a pillow on the other, and it was stated that one bottle had

leaked from the suit case at the time it was opened, and that

Simmons exhibited a suit case and a number of bottles of liquor to

the jury, testifying that it was the same suit case and contents

which had been brought to him by Policeman Logan on the 28th of

February. Witness further testified that several weeks later the

accused was brought to jail and remained there several days before

he was released on bond; that during the time he was in jail he

had told witness that he had come up to town on February 28th

with Simmons and Pistington, and that along the road this side of

the bridge crossing the Shenandoah River near Elkins, he had seen

orderly a drink of the order contents of the suit case which they

were riding; that he took the drink from a bottle which the orderly

had on the front seat of the car, and that he had seen the orderly

account for the contents of the suit case.

Witness further testified that he had seen the orderly

at the time he was riding with Simmons and Pistington.

Witness further testified that he had seen the orderly

at the time he was riding with Simmons and Pistington.

Witness further testified that he had seen the orderly

at the time he was riding with Simmons and Pistington.

*Handwritten notes in the left margin, including the name "W. F. Wine" and other illegible text.*

*Large handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including the name "W. F. Wine" and other illegible text.*

Ed. Carrier, another witness introduced in the same behalf, testified that he was at his work at his place of business on the <sup>West side of</sup> Court Square in the City of Harrisonburg on the night of the 28th of February, and that Pittington and ~~Frank Simmons~~ <sup>another man whom he did not know,</sup> who were pretty drunk, came to him and asked him if he wished to buy some liquor; that he replied, "No" and if they had liquor they had better get out of town. Witness further testified that the car in which ~~Pittington and Simmons came to town~~ <sup>when he was talking to the men</sup> was about ten feet away and that the curtains were on the back part of the car. On cross

examination witness stated that he did not see the defendant, Tony Hitt, at any time. <sup>I was not acquainted with him.</sup> ~~The two men then got into the car and went off the West side of Court Square into the street on the West side, and the collision occurred very shortly after they left him.~~

And this being all of the evidence introduced by the Commonwealth in chief to maintain her case, the defendant to maintain issue on his part introduced the following witnesses who testified as follows:

Tony Hitt testified that he lived at <sup>Rockingham Co,</sup> Elkton, Virginia; that he was a married man with three children, and that he had worked steadily and stayed closely at home and that up until the night of the 28th of February he had not been to the City of Harrisonburg for five or six years; that he was not well acquainted with the various streets in the City of Harrisonburg; that he was at that time, and had been for some months past, employed by William Simmons, a brother of Frank Simmons, but that Frank Simmons was in no manner connected with the business, which business was a butcher shop in the Town of Elkton; that on Saturday afternoon, February 28th, after he had finished work, he took a package of meat to Leebrick's store, and while near the railroad track in the Town of Elkton he met Pittington who asked him if he wanted to come to Harrisonburg that night and that if he did he should come to Pittington's house after supper and they would go up together. Witness further testified that he had some business to transact with the Coiner Furniture people in Harrisonburg, and that he accepted the offer to bring him

A little later the collision occurred.

Mr. Gardner, another witness introduced in the same behalf.

Testified that he was at his work at his place of business on the night of the 28th of February in the City of Harrisonburg on the night of the 28th of February, and that Pittington and Frank Simmons, who were pretty

drunk, came to him and asked him if he wished to buy some liquor; that he replied, "No" and that they had liquor they had gotten for

us of some. Witness further testified that the car contained

that the curtains were on the back part of the car. On cross

examination witness stated that he did not see the defendant, Tony

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

And this being all of the evidence introduced by the

Commonwealth in order to maintain her case, the defendant to main-

tain issue on his part introduced the following witnesses who testi-

fied as follows:

Witness testified that he lived at \_\_\_\_\_

that he was a married man with three children, and that he had

worked steadily and stayed closely at home and that up until the

night of the 28th of February he had not been to the City of Harrison-

burg for five or six years; that he was not well acquainted with the

various streets in the City of Harrisonburg; that he was at that time

and had been for some months past, employed by William Simmons, a

brother of Frank Simmons, but that Frank Simmons was in no way

connected with the business, which business was a butcher shop in

the Town of Elkton; that on Saturday afternoon, February 28th, after

he had finished work, he took a package of meat to Leonard's store,

and while near the railroad track in the Town of Elkton he met

Pittington who asked him if he wanted to come to Harrisonburg that

night and that if he did he should come to Pittington's house after

supper and they would go up together. Witness further testified

that he had some business to transact with the Corner Furniture

City of Harrisonburg



to the city that evening; that later in the evening he went to the Home of Pittington, where he found Pittington and Simmons with the car; that he noticed on entering the car a suit case in the rear of the same, but he did not know what it contained; that he did not inquire about it and had no reason to think that it contained anything in the nature of intoxicating liquor, nor did he know that there was any liquor whatever either in the car or on the occupants. Witness further testified that they left Elkton and after going a little distance beyond the bridge outside of the Town of Elkton, Frank Simmons stopped the car and they offered him a drink out of a bottle which they had on the front seat; that Simmons and Pittington were on the front seat and witness on the rear seat. Witness testified that he took a drink at that time and returned the bottle to them on the front seat, but that he did not even then know that there was any other liquor in the car; that on reaching the Cross Keys road they turned up to the right toward Keezeltown, which is about a half or three quarters of a mile longer than by the customary route along the pike, but which road was better at this time of the year, and which road from Keezeltown comes back on the pike about a half or three quarters of a mile outside the limits of the City of Harrisonburg; that on reaching Keezeltown Pittington got out for two or three minutes and talked to a tall man, but that he did not hear what was said and that no liquor was exhibited <sup>that he saw</sup> here, nor was the suit case taken out or opened; that they then came to the City of Harrisonburg and stopped ~~along~~ <sup>on</sup> the side of one of the streets because the radiator was very hot; that they got out on the side walk for probably five minutes when Simmons suggested they go to a garage and get some oil; that Pittington went to some other place in town; <sup>to get oil;</sup> that Simmons and defendant got into the car and went around the Court Square when they ran into another car; that Simmons then said, "What have I done"; that witness said, "You have run into a car". Seeing the crowd gathering and the policeman coming, witness got out of the car

to the City that evening; that later in the evening he went to  
the home of Pittington, where he found Pittington and Simpson  
with the car; that he noticed on entering the car a suit case in  
the rear of the seat, but he did not know what it contained; that  
he did not inquire about it and had no reason to think that it  
contained anything in the nature of intoxicating liquor, nor did  
he know that there was any liquor whatever either in the car or  
on the persons. Witness further testified that they left Elton  
and after going a little distance beyond the bridge outside of the  
town of Elton, Frank Simpson stopped the car and they offered him  
a drink out of a bottle which they had on the front seat; that  
Simpson and Pittington were on the front seat and witness on the  
rear seat. Witness testified that he took a drink at that time  
and returned the bottle to them on the front seat, but that he did  
not even then know that there was any other liquor in the car; that  
on reaching the Cross Keys road they turned up to the right toward  
Kesselton, which is about a half or three quarters of a mile  
further than the highway route along the river, but which road  
was better at this time of the year, and which road from Kessel-  
town comes back on the pike about a half or three quarters of a  
mile outside the limits of the City of Harrisburg; that on reach-  
ing Kesselton Pittington got out for two or three minutes and  
talked to a tall man, but that he did not hear what was said and  
that no liquor was exhibited here, nor was the suit case taken out  
or opened; that they then came to the City of Harrisburg and  
stopped about the side of one of the streets because the radiator  
was very hot; that they got out on the sidewalk for probably five  
minutes when Simpson suggested they go to a tavern and get some oil;  
that Pittington went to some other place in town; that Simpson and  
defendant got into the car and went around the Court Square when  
they ran into another car; that Simpson then said, "What have I  
done"; that witness said, "You have run into a car". Seeing the  
crowd gathering and the policeman coming, witness got out of the car

The Elkton bridge was the only drink he took, that he later took another drink before they reached  
 Harrisonburg, and that Pittington and Simmons drank repeatedly and were drunk  
 when they got to town.

*without making himself known,*  
 and mingled with the crowd, although he stayed for some minutes  
 nearby; that realizing that Simmons would probably be arrested  
 because of the accident, he (witness) walked away; that he then  
 walked down the street and met Pittington and told him about the  
 accident; that Pittington then said, "What became of the suit case"  
 and asked the defendant why he did not bring it as there was  
 liquor in it, to which defendant replied that he had not known that;  
 that this statement of Pittington's was the first knowledge witness  
 had of the contents of the suit case, which had not been touched  
 or referred to on the trip. Witness further testified that Pitting-  
 ton then hired a car and together they went back to Elkton; that  
 on the Monday following Pittington came to the home of the defend-  
 ant, and, saying he had been advised by Deputy Sheriff Lucas to  
 leave, urged defendant to go with him; that together they went to  
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; that after staying here several days  
 defendant left Pittington and went to the home of his brother at  
 Baltimore where he learned that warrants had been issued for Simmons,  
 Pittington and himself; on receipt of a letter from his father to  
 that effect, left Baltimore, returned to the Town of Elkton and  
 gave himself up voluntarily to Mr. W. E. Lucas, the deputy sheriff; *that*  
*he was gone about 3 weeks.*

On cross examination witness said that he did not know at any time  
 until the accident, that there was liquor in the suit case, and  
 that he did not know at the time he entered the car that there was  
 any intoxicating liquor either in the car or in the possession of  
 any of the occupants; that he had been promised nothing whatever  
 from the sale of the same, and that he had come to Harrisonburg  
 for the purpose of going to the Coiner Furniture Company, and there-  
 fore accepted their offer to bring him here.

Witness Hill, the accused, further stated in answer to the direct  
 question, that the car stopped only once in Harrisonburg before the  
 collision, but he was unfamiliar with the streets and did not know what  
 W.E. Lucas, another witness introduced in the same behalf,

then testified that he was deputy sheriff of Rockingham County,  
 Virginia, and that about two weeks after this collision, or smash-  
 up, in Harrisonburg, warrants were issued for Pittington, Simmons

when it stopped + Pittington went up to get it - witness also said it  
 answer to a question by the Court as to whether the drink he took  
 before it was on when it  
 stopped; and that also  
 three of them got out

and mingled with the crowd, although he stayed for some minutes  
nearby; that realizing that Simmons would probably be arrested  
because of the accident, he (Simmons) walked away; that he then  
walked down the street and met Pittston and told him about the  
accident; that Pittston then said, "What became of the suit case?"  
and asked the defendant why he did not bring it as there was  
finger in it, to which defendant replied that he had not known that  
that was the statement of Pittston's was the first knowledge witness  
had of the contents of the suit case, which had not been touched  
or referred to on the trip. Witness further testified that Pittston  
for them hired a car and together they went back to Milton; that  
on the Monday following Pittston came to the home of the defendant  
and, and, saying he had been advised by Deputy Sheriff Lucas to  
leave, urged defendant to go with him; that together they went to  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; that after staying here several days  
defendant left Pittston and went to the home of his brother at  
Baltimore where he learned that warrants had been issued for Simmons,  
Pittston and himself; on receipt of a letter from his father to  
that effect, left Baltimore, returned to the town of Milton and  
gave himself up voluntarily to Mr. W. E. Lucas, the deputy sheriff.  
On cross examination witness said that he did not know at any time  
until the accident, that there was finger in the suit case, and  
that he did not know at the time he entered the car that there was  
any identification other in the car or in the possession of  
any of the occupants; that he had been promised nothing whatever  
from the time of the same, and that he had come to Harrisburg  
for the purpose of going to the Corner Furniture Company, and there-

fore suggested that other to him here.  
Witness that he was introduced to the same party.  
W. E. Lucas, another witness introduced in the same party.  
then testified that he was deputy sheriff of Rockingham County,  
Virginia, and that about two weeks after this collision, or search-  
up, in Harrisburg, warrants were issued for Pittston, Simmons

Witness that he was introduced to the same party.  
W. E. Lucas, another witness introduced in the same party.

Witness that he was introduced to the same party.  
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Witness that he was introduced to the same party.  
W. E. Lucas, another witness introduced in the same party.

2. 5  
3. 7  
*Seminons having also<sup>6.</sup> run away;*  
and Hitt, that he had twice searched the home of Tony Hitt but had on neither occasion found him there; that about a week after the warrants were issued, the accused, who had been out of the state, returned and voluntarily gave himself up, and that he then brought him to Harrisonburg and put him in confinement in the county jail. On cross examination witness testified that he had not advised Pittington to leave.

And this being all the evidence introduced, or offered to be introduced by the Commonwealth or by the defendant, ~~the Commonwealth having elected to proceed on the charge of transportation of intoxicating liquor as charged in the indictment,~~ the *the* defendant, by counsel, thereupon prayed the Court to grant the following instructions to the jury:

(1)

"The Court instructs the jury that the accused is presumed to be innocent and the duty devolves upon the Commonwealth to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The Court further instructs the jury that the presence of the accused in the car with the liquor is not sufficient to convict him unless the jury is satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused also knew of the presence of the liquor in the car when he got into the car."

(2)

"The Court instructs the jury that if they believe from the evidence that the accused exercised no ownership or control over the car or its contents, that he was not the owner, hirer or driver of the car, but only a passenger at the invitation of others, he is not guilty of transporting liquor as charged in the indictment."

and that he had twice entered the home of Tony Pitt but had  
on neither occasion found him there; that about a week after the  
witness were issued, the accused, who had been out of the State,  
returned and voluntarily gave himself up, and that he then brought  
him to Harrisonburg and put him in confinement in the county jail.  
On cross examination witness testified that he had not advised  
Pittman to leave.

And this being all the evidence introduced, or offered  
to be introduced by the Commonwealth or by the defendant, the  
Court advised the jury to proceed on the basis of the  
evidence introduced in the indictment, the  
defendant, by counsel, thereupon prayed the Court to read the  
following instructions to the jury:

(1)

"The Court instructs the jury that the accused  
is presumed to be innocent and the duty devolves upon  
the Commonwealth to prove his guilt beyond a reason-  
able doubt.  
The Court further instructs the jury that the  
presence of the accused in the car with the liquor  
is not sufficient to convict him unless the jury is  
satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused  
also knew of the presence of the liquor in the car  
when he got into the car."

(2)

"The Court instructs the jury that if they  
believe from the evidence that the accused exercised  
no ownership or control over the car or its contents,  
that he was not the owner, hirer or driver of the car,  
but only a passenger at the invitation of others, he  
is not guilty of transporting liquor as charged in the  
indictment."

Whereupon the Court refused to give the said instructions, or either of them, as prayed for by defendant, to which action of the Court in refusing to give the said instructions, or either of them, the defendant, by counsel, excepted.

*on the request of the attorney for the Commonwealth to instruct the jury orally upon the law governing this case*  
 Whereupon the Court ~~ex mero motu~~ gave to the jury the following instruction *in writing*:

"The Court instructs the jury that the transportation of even one quart of intoxicating liquor, or less, from Elkton to Harrisonburg, is an unlawful act under the Prohibition law, and that if the defendant accompanied Pittington and Simmons on the trip from Elkton to Harrisonburg, knowing there was liquor in the car, and drank with them from a bottle, then he is guilty under the law whether he knew the suit case contained liquor or not."

To the granting of which instruction the defendant, by counsel, objected, which objection the Court overruled, to which action of the Court in overruling said objection of the defendant, defendant, by counsel, excepted.

Whereupon the case was submitted to the jury, which, after considering of its verdict, returned into Court and rendered the following verdict:

"We, the jury, find the accused, Tony Hitt, guilty as charged in the indictment and fix his punishment at a fine of \$50 and confinement in jail for 1 month.

John F. Miller, Foreman"

Whereupon the defendant by counsel, moved the Court to set aside the verdict as contrary to the law and evidence <sup>for</sup> and misdirection of the jury and to grant the defendant a new trial, <sup>for reasons expressed in writing and hereto appended,</sup> but the Court <sup>^</sup> overruled the said motion of the defendant, and to the action of the Court in so overruling the motion of said defendant and to set aside said verdict to grant him a new trial, the defendant, by counsel, excepted. And the said defendant prays that this, his bill of exceptions ~~be~~, may be signed, sealed and enrolled,

Whereupon the Court refused to give the said instructions  
 or either of them, as prayed for by defendant, to which action of  
 the Court in refusing to give the said instructions, or either of  
 them, the defendant, by counsel, excepted.

*On the motion of the defendant for the Court to set aside the verdict and order a new trial.*

"The Court instructed the jury that the defendant

action of even one quart of intoxicating liquor, or

less, from Eitzen to Harrisonburg, is an unlawful

act under the Prohibition law, and that if the defendant

and accompanied Eitzen and Harrison on the trip

from Eitzen to Harrisonburg, knowing there was liquor

in the car, and drank with them from a bottle, then

he is guilty under the law whether he knew the milk

case contained liquor or not."

To the granting of which instruction the defendant, by

counsel, excepted, whereupon the Court overruled, to which

action of the Court in overruling said objection of the defendant,

defendant, by counsel, excepted.

Whereupon the case was submitted to the jury, which

after deliberation of ten minutes, returned into Court and rendered

the following verdict:

"We, the jury, find the defendant, Tony Miller,  
 guilty as charged in the indictment and his  
 punishment as a fine of \$50 and confinement in  
 jail for 1 month."

John F. Miller, Foreman

Whereupon the defendant, by counsel, moved the Court

to set aside the verdict as contrary to the law and evidence

and an instruction of the jury and to order a new trial.

but the Court overruled the said motion of the defendant, and to

the action of the Court in so overruling the motion of said defendant

and to set aside said verdict to grant him a new trial, the defendant

and, by counsel, excepted. And the said defendant prays that this

his bill of exceptions may be signed, sealed and enrolled.

*On the motion of the defendant for the Court to set aside the verdict and order a new trial.*



8.

and made a part of the record in this case, which is thereupon accordingly done this 7<sup>th</sup> day of ~~June~~<sup>July</sup>, 1920, during the term of Court at which said trial was had -

J. H. Haas, Judge.

Here copy opinion of the Court following -

J. H. H.

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100  
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and made a part of the record in this case, which is thereon  
accordingly done this 7<sup>th</sup> day of ~~Jan~~ <sup>July</sup> 1930, during the term  
of Court at which said trial was had -

J. A. H. H. H.

Wm. C. H. H. H. H.

following -  
J. A. H.



Com  
v  
Jury Hill

Opinion of the Court

The transportation of ardent spirits is forbidden except in those cases where it is expressly allowed under secs.39,39 1-2,and62 of the Prohibition Act. Therefore the transportation of one quart, more or less, from Elkton to Harrisonburg, merely to be drunk by the party on the trip, is unlawful.It is unlawful under sec.3 of the act and also under sec.39.

The accused in this case denies any knowledge of the suit case of bottles that was in the car, and any participation in or knowledge of the purpose to sell the liquor in Harrisonburg, and he declares that at the time he got aboard the car to come to Harrisonburg, by invitation of Pittington, that he did not know that there was any liquor in the car at all.

He admits, however, that about the time he got into the car, or soon after, he saw the quart bottle on the seat in front, he being on the back seat, and that shortly after they passed the Elkton bridge he and Pittington and Simmons all took a drink, and that after traveling some distance, he took another drink, and that Pittington and Simmons drank frequently and were drunk when they reached Harrisonburg.

Under these circumstances, and on the testimony of the accused himself, he must be held guilty of unlawful transportation, both under sec.3 and under sec.39, and also guilty of unlawfully receiving ardent spirits under sec.40-Guilty of unlawful transportation - because of the transportation of the diminishing bottle over the 20 miles from Elkton to Harrisonburg. Granting,for the present purpose, that he got into the car without knowing of the presence of the liquor, when he discovered its presence he not only remained in the car without protest of any sort, which he probably might have done without incurring any guilt, but <sup>he</sup> voluntarily became a participant in the unlawful act by joining in the revel and the drinking, which included in its execution the transportation of the liquor from drink to drink, to say the least of it.

This sort of participation in an act constituting a felony

*Handwritten notes or scribbles at the top right of the page.*

Opinion of the Court

The transportation of ardent spirits is forbidden except in those cases where it is expressly allowed under sec. 39, 1-2, and 3 of the Prohibition Act. Therefore the transportation of one quart, more or less, from Nikton to Harrisonburg, merely to be drunk by the party on the trip, is unlawful. It is unlawful under sec. 3 of the act and also under sec. 39.

The accused in this case denies any knowledge of the sale of bottles that was in the car, and any participation in or knowledge of the purpose to sell the liquor in Harrisonburg, and he declares that at the time he got aboard the car to come to Harrisonburg, by invitation of Pittington, that he did not know that there was any liquor in the car at all.

He admits, however, that about the time he got into the car or soon after, he saw the quart bottle on the seat in front, he being on the back seat, and that shortly after they passed the Nikton bridge he and Pittington and Simmons all took a drink, and that after traveling some distance, he took another drink, and that Pittington and Simmons drank frequently and were drunk when they reached Harrisonburg.

Under these circumstances, and on the testimony of the accused himself, he must be held guilty of unlawful transportation, both under sec. 3 and under sec. 39, and also guilty of unlawfully receiving ardent spirits under sec. 40. Guilty of unlawful transportation - because of the transportation of the diminishing bottle over the 30 miles from Nikton to Harrisonburg. Granting, for the present purpose, that he got into the car without knowing of the presence of the liquor, when he discovered its presence he not only remained in the car without protest of any sort, which he probably might have done without incurring any guilt, but voluntarily became a participant in the unlawful act by joining in the revel and the drinking, which included in its execution the transportation of the liquor from drink to drink to say the least of it.

This sort of participation is an act constituting a felony

would make the participant a principal in the first degree. But whether a principal in the first or second degree or an accessory, the result is the same in the case of a misdemeanor at common law and under the provisions of sec. 3-a of the Prohibition Act.

Under sec.3, the transportation of liquor, except as provided by the act, is unlawful. It has been suggested that transportation, as used <sup>in sec. 3,</sup> ~~here,~~ is qualified by the words "for sale", used later in the same sentence of the law. But I have never so understood it. Those words qualify the word "store", which immediately precedes <sup>them.</sup> The word "sell" immediately follows the word "transport" in sec.3, ~~in sec. 3,~~ and if we construe the words "for sale" as qualifying the word "transport", we must also hold that they qualify the words "sell", and the statute would read:

It shall be unlawful for any person in this state to manufacture, transport or sell for sale ardent spirits etc.-

which would make the reading absurd.

Besides, the purpose to forbid transportation except as otherwise provided in the act (without respect to any purpose to sell) is again declared and made plain in sec. 39.

The accused is also guilty under sec.40 for it is as much forbidden to receive a gill or a drink as it is to receive a gallon, and no one can receive ardent spirits except as provided by the statute.

(and, by the way, the word drastic only means effective, - not anything evil or bad.)  
If it is claimed that this is a drastic interpretation of the statute, the answer is that the statute is a drastic law, and must needs be such to accomplish its object; and that the interpretation given by the court is in accordance both with the language of the law and with its spirit <sup>and</sup> purpose; and that while it is not to be expected that men will be prosecuted for a trivial or a mere technical violation of the law, and as a matter of experience they are not, when a man found with two others in the possession of liquor which is evidently designed to be the subject of a commercial enterprise, as shown in this case by the testimony of the witness <sup>Carrier</sup> and the character and number of the bottle containers, ~~as taken~~ <sup>with</sup> the other circumstances, <sup>and brought to trial,</sup> seeks to evade responsibility on the claim that he (the only one of the three to be caught, and he

would make the participant a principal in the first degree. But whether a principal in the first or second degree or an accessory, the result is the same in the case of a misdemeanour at common law and under the provisions of sec. 3-a of the Prohibition Act. Under sec. 3, the transportation of liquor, except as provided by the act, is unlawful. It has been suggested that transportation, as used here, is qualified by the words "for sale"; read later in the same sentence of the law. But I have never so understood it. Those words qualify the word "store", which immediately precedes. The word "sell" immediately follows the word "transport" in sec. 3, and if we construe the words "for sale" as qualifying the word "transport", we must also hold that they

qualify the words "sell", and the statute would read: "It shall be unlawful for any person in this state to manufacture, transport or sell for sale ardent spirits etc."

which would make the reading absurd. Besides, the purpose to forbid transportation except as otherwise provided in the act (without respect to any purpose to sell) is again declared and made plain in sec. 39. The accused is also guilty under sec. 40 for it is as much forbidden to receive a gift or a drink as it is to receive a gallon, and no one can receive ardent spirits except as provided by the statute.

If it is claimed that this is a drastic interpretation of the statute, the answer is that the statute is a drastic law, and must needs be such to accomplish its object; and that the interpretation given by the court is in accordance both with the language of the law and with its spirit and purpose; and that while it is not to be expected that men will be prosecuted for a trivial or a mere technical violation of the law, and as a matter of experience they are not, when a man found with two others in the possession of liquor which is evidently designed to be the subject of a commercial enterprise, as shown in this case by the testimony of the witness carrier and the character and number of the bottle containers, as taken with the other circumstances, seeks to evade responsibility on the claim that he (the only one of the three to be caught, and he

*Filed*

himself having at first ~~felt~~ as a fugitive from the law to another state) was not a party to the commercial object of the trip, and did not know of the presence of the bottles in the suit case- a claim which in most cases it would be impossible to refute as to almost any one of a group taken in a blockading automobile- it is a proper case for applying and enforcing the drastic features of the law, and for holding the accused amenable to the penalties of the statute for the minor or technical guilt that is proven, ~~and admit-~~

~~ted~~ After all this law is not more drastic than many others. A mere unwarranted touching of another is a battery - a technical battery. The law is not often abused, however, for this cause, either by public prosecution or private action, but the technical offense is sometimes laid hold of to inflict punishment or damages where justly due, when without the technical battery there would be no law for the case. A case occurred in this Circuit a few years ago where a negro was indicted for attempted rape upon a white woman. The evidence wholly failed to show an attempt to use force, but did show a gentle laying on of ~~the~~ hands in an attempt to win consent. The jury properly found the negro guilty of assault and battery and gave him a term of two or three years in jail.

And so, under the old internal revenue statutes of the federal government, and under the state liquor laws, in the prosecution of a notorious offender, it was necessary often to inflict substantial punishment when, on the ~~trial~~ trial of the particular case, it was only shown that a single half pint or pint had been sold, and that little, according to the testimony for the defense, for the accommodation of a sick neighbor who wanted it for strictly medicinal use. -  
Laws, <sup>of this sort</sup> must ~~not~~ be drastic ~~that is effective~~ if they are to accomplish anything.

J. N. H.

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C

himself having at first... as a fugitive from the law to another  
(state) was not a party to the commercial object of the trip, and did  
not know of the presence of the bottles in the suit case - a claim  
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any one of a group taken in a blocking automobile - it is a proper  
case for applying and enforcing the drastic features of the law  
and for holding the accused amenable to the penalties of the  
statute for the minor or technical guilt that is proven, and admit-

After all this law is not more drastic than  
any other. It more unmercifully punishes  
a better, a technical offender, than the law is in other  
cases; however, for this reason, when by better  
provision or former action, but the technical  
offense is sometimes laid hold of to inflict pun-  
ishment without the technical holding that would be so  
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Confronted a few years ago when a woman  
was indicted for attempted rape upon a white woman.  
The evidence clearly failed to show an attempt  
to use force, but did show a gentle tapping on  
the hands in an attempt to win consent.  
The jury, perhaps finding the rape guilty of assault  
and battery and gave him a term of two or three  
years in jail.

And so, under the old technical provisions  
of the Federal Government, and under the  
state laws, in the prosecution of a  
felony offender, it was necessary often to in-  
flict substantial punishment when, on the  
trial of the defendant, it was only shown  
that a single half pint or pint had been sold, and  
that little, according to the testimony for the defense,  
for the occasion of a sick neighbor who needed  
it for a special medicinal use.  
if they are to accomplish anything.

Commissioner



Arrest Warrant

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, } TO WIT:  
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, }

To The Sheriff or \_\_\_\_\_, a Constable of said County:

Whereas, W. P. Ware \_\_\_\_\_ of the said County, has this day made

complaint and information on oath before me, F. J. Argenbight a Justice of the said County, that

Tom Hill Isaac Pittington and Frank Simmons

of the said County, on the 28th day of February 1920, in the said County, did

unlawfully transport and send spirits from a point near Elkton Virginia to Harrisonburg Virginia in a Ford Touring Car Motor No. 1558443, License No. 90186 of 1919 License for the purpose of selling said ardent spirits against the dignity and peace of the Commonwealth of Virginia

These are therefore, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to command you forthwith to appre-

hend and bring before me, or some other Justice of the said County, the <sup>body</sup> ~~body~~ of the said Tom Hill

Isaac Pittington and Frank Simmons

to answer the said complaint and to be further dealt with according to law. And you are required to sum-

mon John Logan

*also to seize said car and ardent spirits*

to appear and give evidence in behalf of the Commonwealth, on the examination touching the said offence.

Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of March, in the year 1920

F. J. Argenbight

J. P. (Seal)

April 3 - 1920

Commonwealth

vs.

Arrest Warrant

*Toney Hill*

Executed the within warrant by arresting  
and delivering the body of

*Toney Hill*

~~before~~ *Abner L. The Jailer*

a ~~Justice~~ of Rockingham County, and by sum-  
moning the within named witnesses in person,

this 22 day of March 1920

*W. E. Lucas* Deputy *Jos.*

Constable of Rockingham County.

*W. D. Willard* J. R. S.

Sheriff's Cost \$2.30

Justice fee 1.00

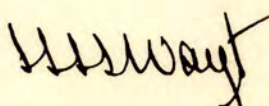
\$3.30

Commonwealth of Virginia  
County of Rockingham  
Toney Hill appearing before me and was bailed to appear before me at  
the Sheriff's Office in this County on Saturday the 27th day of March 1920  
with J. R. Lucas as his surety J. R. Lucas was kept in the sum of \$500.00  
Sum under my hand this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 1920  
W. E. Lucas Deputy J. R. S.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
**Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia,**  
HAMPTON H. WAYT, CLERK.  
Staunton, Va.

This is to certify that on the petition of Toney Hitt, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia has allowed a writ of error and supersedeas to a judgment of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, pronounced on the 24th day of June, 1920, in a prosecution by The Commonwealth against said Toney Hitt, for a misdemeanor, but said supersedeas is not to discharge the petitioner from jail, if in jail, nor to release the Surety, if out on bale. Bale may be allowed, if applied for. Bond of \$100.00 with good security, conditioned as the law directs.

Teste:

 Clerk

To the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia  
HAMPTON H. WAYT, CLERK  
Richmond, Va.

This is to certify that on the petition of Toney  
Hitt, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals of  
Virginia has allowed a writ of error and superseas to  
a judgment of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, pro-  
nounced on the 24th day of June, 1920, in a prosecution by  
The Commonwealth against said Toney Hitt, for a misdemeanor,  
but said superseas is not to discharge the petitioner from  
jail, if in jail, nor to release the surety, if out on bail.  
Bail may be allowed, if applied for. Bond of \$100.00 with  
good security, conditioned as the law directs.

Teste:

*Hampton H. Wayt*  
Clerk

To the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County.

TONY HITT

ADS

COMMONWEALTH



20-4446