

MARY ELLEN WILSON.

FURTHER TESTIMONY AS TO THE CHILD'S ILL TREATMENT BY HER GUARDIANS.

Testimony as to the alleged inhuman treatment of the child Mary Ellen Wilson, by her guardians, Francis and Mary Connolly, was continued yesterday before Judge Lawrence in Supreme Court, Chambers. All the parties immediately interested in the proceedings were present, together with a number of humane ladies and gentlemen, whom the already-published accounts of the proceedings had interested in the fate of the child. It was stated, also, in the course of the proceedings, by Messrs. Elbridge T. Gerry and Ambrose Monell, counsel for Mr. Bergh, that a merchant of prominence had called upon them and offered to adopt the little girl as his own, and that a number of ladies had called at Police Head-quarters, each making a similar offer. Among the additional testimony offered, the most interesting and important was that of the sick lady, Mrs. Mary Smith, who first communicated the fact of the child's cruel treatment to the charitable visitor, Mrs. Charles G. Wheeler, and whose testimony had to be taken in her sick room. Her evidence was read in court, and is to the effect that four months ago the Connollys came to live in the same house with her, bringing the child with them; that she heard Mrs. Connolly whip the child every day, mostly in the morning before breakfast, some times before her (Connolly's) husband went to work, but generally after it. If she did not whip her in the morning, she did so during the day, and sometimes twice a day. When Mrs. Connolly went out, she left the child locked in, and not a sound was ever heard, so that it could hardly be believed a child was there at all. Once the child came to the door during Mrs. Connolly's absence, and, on seeing Mrs. Smith, ran back frightened and locked the door. During the first week after the Connollys came there witness saw a cow-hide about two and a half feet long, and such as is used for driving horses, lying on the table in their rooms. The whip had lashes—she knew not how many—about as thick as her finger. Used to hear Mrs. Connolly whipping the child every morning "up and down." "up and down" the rooms, the child crying all the while, "Oh! mamma, mamma!" In conversation with Mrs. Connolly, witness remarked that she never knew such a child—that no one would ever know there was a child in that room; to which Mrs. Connolly replied that it was a little devil; that it knew more than a child of ten or eleven years, and that she (Mrs. Connolly) could not have a "bit or a sup" unknown to her husband, as the child told him everything. Witness had seen the child lying in a corner of the room, under the window, and believes that was where she slept and passed most of her time. At this point the further hearing was adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow, Mr. Gerry stating to the court that, in the mean time, as he had been assured by the Commissioners of Charities and Superintendent Kellock, diligent search would be made among the records of the Department of Charities for any documents tending to throw light on the child's antecedents.

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