

The Escanaba Tribune

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
BY J. A. CROZIER,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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132 Squares.	\$1.75	264 Squares.	\$3.50	384 Squares.	\$5.00	504 Squares.	\$6.50	624 Squares.	\$8.00	744 Squares.	\$9.50	864 Squares.	\$11.00	984 Squares.	\$12.50	1104 Squares.	\$14.00	1224 Squares.	\$15.50
1320 Squares.	\$2.00	2640 Squares.	\$4.00	3840 Squares.	\$5.50	5040 Squares.	\$7.00	6240 Squares.	\$8.50	7440 Squares.	\$10.00	8640 Squares.	\$11.50	9840 Squares.	\$13.00	11040 Squares.	\$14.50	12240 Squares.	\$16.00
13200 Squares.	\$2.25	26400 Squares.	\$4.50	38400 Squares.	\$6.00	50400 Squares.	\$7.50	62400 Squares.	\$9.00	74400 Squares.	\$10.50	86400 Squares.	\$12.00	98400 Squares.	\$13.50	110400 Squares.	\$15.00	122400 Squares.	\$16.50

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The Mason Will Case.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, DELTA COUNTY, S. S.—In the Probate Court of Delta County of the August Term 1870.

In the matter of the Probate of a paper purporting to be the last Will and Testament of Richard Mason deceased, late of said County.

And now comes Richard Mason, and first being duly sworn in open Court saith he is of the Age of 28 years, is the eldest son of the said Richard Mason deceased and one of the Heirs at Law of said Deceased, with his brother James Mason, Mrs. George A. Lowell and Charles Mason, who are legatees and devisees under the pretended Will now offered for Probate, and the said Richard Mason in his proper person and by his Attorney George C. Bates and F. O. Clark, comes and says that the said paper, now propounded as the last Will and Testament of Richard Mason by Amanda O. Mason and George A. Lowell is not the last Will and Testament of the said Richard Mason deceased, and insists that the same ought not to be admitted to Probate by this Court because:

I the said Defendant, if he ever executed the said paper as his last Will and Testament was at the time of making thereof, laboring under such delusion of mind as to the conduct of this contestant who would naturally have been one of the objects of his testamentary bounty; that the dispository provisions of the said pretended Will or paper, were c. might have been affected or caused by such delusion.

II That said pretended Will was made by him, (if at all,) under an insane delusion, as to the conduct of this contestant, testator persistently believing supposed facts to his conduct, which had no real existence; and that in making the same Deceased conducted himself upon the assumption of the evidence of such facts.

III That said paper was obtained from the said Deceased by undue influence and persuasion of other parties who are made Legatees and Devisees under the said pretended Will.

IV That said Deceased was as to this contestant, at the time of signing the said paper and long anterior thereto, laboring under such a morbid delusion as to the acts and doings of the contestant as that he was entirely mad or insane on that subject; though reasonable and sensible on other subjects; and that the conduct and designs which he imputed to contestant were such as upon the assumption of their existence should justly exclude contestant from all share in the succession to his estate.

V Because it is not and was not his last Will and Testament.

RICHARD MASON.

Richard Mason, the above named contestant, being duly sworn in open Court saith, that he has read the foregoing answer and know the contents thereof of this own knowledge, to be true except as to the matters and things therein stated to be on information and belief, and as to those, he believes it to be true.

RICHARD MASON.

Richard Mason, the above named contestant, being duly sworn in open Court saith, that he has read the foregoing answer and know the contents thereof of this own knowledge, to be true except as to the matters and things therein stated to be on information and belief, and as to those, he believes it to be true.

It having been testified to on Probate of the Will of Richard Mason, deceased, that he believed his eldest son had squandered his property, sold property without authority, committed forgery, and was shamming sick, and for these reasons he had cut him off in his Will, Richard Mason Jr. in answer testifies as follows:

Richard Mason, being duly sworn in open Court, saith that he is 28 years old and is the eldest son of Rich'd Mason, deceased came with the family in 1852 at 10 years of age to Masonville and lived there until 1858 or 1859 the latter part of this time working around the Store and Mill. My Mother died in 1846 in giving birth to James. My Father Married again in 1852. My Father's Estate then consisted of Real Estate in Chicago and an interest in the Mill at Masonville. In winter of 1859 I went to Chicago to Commercial School to be fitted to take charge of Father's Yard, went to School six months and then went to work in the yard selling and shipping Lumber, continuing to do so until 1860. During this period my Father and family lived in Chicago in the winter, and at Masonville in summer. In 1860 I took charge of the Books of the business on account of the illness of the former Bookkeeper and while father was at the Mill during the summer I was in charge of all the business. In 1863, 19th February Father sold out his Chicago business and leased his yard to A. B. Ward & Co., a firm composed of Addison, Ballard, Jos. Viles and myself, and went to live at the Mill up to this time. I being a minor, had received no salary. I became of age in May, 1863. Continued in the firm of Ballard & Co., until April 1864, and in addition had charge of fatigued business to do which he gave me a general power of Attorney authorizing me to his name and him to do any and all acts the same as though he were personally present. That paper was among the papers of R. Mason & Son, when I was taken sick. In the winter of 1864 I went to the Mill to arrange a partnership with Father which was consummated on 1st April. I had accumulated in the firm of Ballard & Co. \$6,600 which I put into the partnership. On the 1st April following a new arrangement was made between Father and myself by which he loaned me \$10,000 which added to my capital at that time made \$16,600 which I put into the firm; Father on his part agreeing to put in the firm the use of his Mill, Vessel and Yard and \$2,000 property on hand at the mill the profits to be shared equally between us. This last partnership was never to my knowledge dissolved until the death of my Father. Of this partnership, Father had the sole control and management of the Mill and Vessel and I the sole control and management of the entire business at Chicago, this arrangement being made because he was unfamiliar with business, and had educated me for that particular business, and believed me capable to attend to it. In pursuance of that understanding which was in writing, I devoted my whole time and attention to the business holding it up largely. During this time I had charge of this business I spent three weeks in 1865 in a trip to Washington to visit some friends and for the benefit of my wife's health, after the sudden death of our child. I spent two weeks in the summer of 1866 at the Mill. During Spring of 1867 while business was dull went again on a visit to Washington, and in Summer of 1868 spent a week at the Mill. In 1865 and 1866 spent all my time from 7 A. M. to 6 P. M. at my Office and Yard and in 1867 and 1868 all my time from 8 A. M. until 6 P. M. I never indulged in amusements during business hours with the exception of one afternoon in all that time, never gambled, drank or smoked or drove fast horses and never had any bad or expensive habits, spending all my evenings at home with my family. I never engaged in any business outside of the Lumber business, I never, to my knowledge executed any dissolution of this partnership or release of my interest in the same. The business of the firm resulted in a profit of \$32 to \$34 per M. during 1862 and 1866 no losses being made of any moment and the profits being kept invested in Lumber and in improvements in the Mill and Whitefish River, which improvements at Mill and in River cost some \$15 M. During 1867 the effect of the bankrupt Law became apparent in losses of accounts, always believed good and which we had every reason to believe good. In May 1868 the Books showed a profit of \$7,000 for the year which was largely lost as the effects of the bankrupt Law became more fully developed. During the fall of 1867 we largely increased our capacity for business, Father buying a new Mill at Whitefish River and a large amount of Goods &c., (some \$16,000) was sent to stock up for the purpose of getting out 8 million feet of logs during that winter and at about the same time we gave up our old yard at a rent of \$8,500 taking all our business to the new one in Bridgeport where we paid \$2,500 rent and obtained four times the dockage and the facilities of a R. R. Track which enabled us to ship our lumber at a cost of 50 cents and 100 per M. less, saving an expense, during the year on a business of 8 million feet of \$10, M. and \$15. M.

During the year 1868 in consequence of the increased quantity of Lumber which I was assured by the parties at the Mill was actually got out amounting to 8 million feet, I made arrangements on my part to extend the facilities for carrying, handling and disposing of the same. For that purpose I bought a Propeller which cost us \$2,000 cash, and opened a new yard on North side for retail business. The total outlay in cash in this enlargement amounted to \$10 or \$15,000 all of which received my Father's consent either before or a tward. After the Moths of July and August still relying on the estimate from the Mill, of a large supply of Lumber, I bought on the market 20 or \$25,000 worth of a better quality borrowing money to do so calculating and intending to sell all or nearly all of the Mill lumber as it arrived. Only about \$1 Million feet had come forward and I fully believed that I could make \$1 Million feet, and some very good was still to come the net proceeds of which would have amounted to about \$90,000 had to come forward. After making these purchases I went to the Mill full of life and hope believing they we were getting rich and all was going on well. On arriving at the Mill I found out for the first time that the logs were nearly all cut up and that I should only receive \$4 Million feet more. This knowledge was like a death blow to me and about made me crazy for days at once that I should have trouble to pay my notes. Up to the time I was taken sick less than 4,000,000 feet of lumber had arrived from the Mill and there was not much more there. On going back to Chicago I arranged to renew my notes and ordered the lumber on hand to be sold out as fast as possible and to facilitate the sale lowered the price \$1 per M. feet all round.

Up to the date of my sickness there had been no actual losses of capital but the profits of 1867 were wiped out by bad debts lost in bankruptcy.

I was taken sick on the 21st of October of inflammation of the brain and was totally incapacitated from doing business during 7 months following and at the time to which my testimony first enables me to remember, the rooms of the house in which I lived were all darkened blinds drawn and curtains drawn for the benefit of my eyes and to enable me to go about the house with nothing over them but a pair of Goggles. Being obliged if the light was strong to wear a cap over the glasses. Became well again about July 29th 1869, have no recollection after I was taken sick until about 1st April 1869 all is a blank before that date.

The books of the firm were kept in

1867 and 1868 by Miles G. Newbury and in those Books were recorded all the business of the firm excepting, as I have since seen, the renewal of one or two notes which were overlooked.

This following is a memorandum of the state of the firm on Oct. 1st 1870, from the books and my own knowledge.

ASSETS.	
Land, &c.	\$1,100
Bank, &c.	1,100
Accounts due (good) at North Yard.	8,415
Prop. Trade, cost.	75,000
Mason, Sons & Co. (Mills)	75,000
Capital in National Bank.	3,528
Capital in the National Bank.	1,000
Land-Carts, horses, &c. in South Yard.	1,000
Improvements in yard.	1,000
Stock.	1,000
Banking Stock.	2,000
Accounts due the firm good.	22,178
Total.	109,549

LIABILITIES.	
Notes owing to Banks.	27,100
Notes owing for purchase of Whiteside.	27,299
Notes owing for Families.	30,416
Accounts due (bad) for Land.	9,023
Accounts due (bad) for Mason, Sons & Co.	2,000
Total Debts.	105,635
Total Assets.	109,549
Net Assets.	4,914

During the time I had charge of the business, our firm stood very high among business houses and at the banks, and its paper never had gone to protest. Had I received the amount of lumber from the Mill, that I was assured and fully believed would be gotten out, we could easily have paid our liabilities that were due and coming due, and in consequence of its not being sent me, I was short \$60,000 in immediate available assets. Only \$21,000 of debt, however, was due and pressing. After I was taken sick losses were made as I am informed and believe to the amount of \$60,000, more or less.

From 1869 to the day I was taken sick in 1868, I did all my Father's private business including the sale of his outside property and in 1868 he gave me a Power of Attorney to do all acts for him and in his name, the same as though he were personally present, and in pursuance of the authority granted thereby, I signed, in probably 500 cases, "Rich'd' Mason, by R. Mason Jr., his Attorney in fact." I executed in two instances, leases of the old yard in that way, my authority for which has never been to my knowledge, been disputed. In the winter of 1867 or 1868 a customer, Mr. Crawford, wanted to buy some of Father's Iowa Land, and I gave him a price telling him I had a general power of Attorney, and authority to sell those Lands, which Father particularly gave me in October 1867, saying "Now Richard, you must sell this outside property." I had had another Power of Attorney drawn up and sent to Father, which as I had ordered it so, I supposed contained the descriptions of all the outside property and different pieces, and so informed Mr. Crawford, who then wrote me enclosing deeds, saying I could sign the same, and he would send me a special form of Power, which I could send to Father for execution. I sent him the Deed, signed "R. Mason and A. A. Mason by R. M. Jr.", and he sent me the money, which was credited to Father on the books, and the form of which I afterwards d showed Father at the Mill in March 1868. He was lame at the time and said, when I asked him to execute it, "You see how I am fixed, Richard, let it go till the opening of Navigation, then Mother and I will go out to Chicago. Mr. Crawford afterwards getting impatient, I sent him this word, and again in the summer excused myself, because Father was then suffering from Cholera Morbus. I had no question, and have none now, but that I had full authority to sell the land, as I had without question sold other lands.

Father made a will in 1849, which was in existence and in my custody for seven years previous to my sickness. This Will divided the property equally between my sister Eliza, brother James and myself. It's never proposed to change this Will but once, when he was so angry at my sister that he threatened to kill himself and then hr only proposed to add a Codicil giving Mrs. Mason \$10,000 for herself and Charles, which she consented to, never even speaking of cutting Eliza off, because of his anger.

In regard to the Hiller check, the facts are these. I had had some \$3,100 of drafts belonging to him for collection, part of them our own, and all Tax drafts, I think. The money on these was finally collected and while he was in Chicago, deposited in 1st National Bank to his credit. Being with him in Convention, when Grant was nominated, he said to me, "Dick, if you want to use any of that money of mine, you can do so," and I answered that I had plenty, and didn't want it. He went away to Iowa, and seeing an opportunity to use some \$3,000 to advantage, and finding one of Mr. Hiller's black checks in my drawer where he had put his papers after writing some letters and checks, and this check being signed by him, I at once filled it up and handed it to my Clerk for deposit. He credited it on the books. Soon Mr. Hiller came back and I at once told him of it, and he said it was all right and that he had told the Bankers that it was all right. This was said while going with me to my home where he and wife staid with us several days at that time and before. Some of this

money was handed to him the next day, the balance since, and the whole transaction is shown on the Books. Mr. Hiller was then, has been ever since and is now one of my warmest friends, and has expressed himself so to me since this suit began.

I have never had a single cent of my Father's property for my own use since I came of age. My living expenses since 1865, have been from \$1,500 to \$3,000 per annum. I never squandered any money in any way. As a general thing the family stayed at my house when in Chicago, and almost all the time some of them were there, Charles staying nearly a year at one time, and James six months at another. In 1866 I bought some pine land on Grand River and logged from it, borrowing the money to do so, and from the profit of this operation bought a lot and built my house which cost totally \$10,000. This has since been sold for \$16,000 and proceeds turned into the firm.

When I was beginning to recover from my sickness my Doctor advise an ocean trip and acting on that advice, I went to Europe, the trip costing me \$400.

I have in the firm of R. Mason & Son my capital in 1865, \$8,600, my share of profits of business in 1865, '66 and '67, \$19,500 and proceeds of house and lot, \$16,000, total \$44,100, less my actual living expenses.</p

About Getting Married.

Can I marry? This is a question which my young friends, working for a moderate salary, have often asked me. Having passed the nervous point of "proposing," they were worrying over the supposed-to-be necessary delay in calling the minister's services into requisition, for a fear lest their income was insufficient for supporting a home. From a knowledge of the doubts entertained by many of my young friends, and that there are hundreds similarly situated, I write this for their encouragement.

First, have you a good share o' p'nt? Next, is your "gentle Annie" all willing to make the best of present circumstances? "Yes." Then it is safe for you to marry on even a small salary. Many times you will have to figure some time, to know that you have come to look on as necessary; but you will be surprised to find how little you really need if you boldly set about living economically. The best of advice is here to be received, perhaps, than a practical example; therefore let me give you some figures that I have at hand from a friend who got married on a salary of \$800.

Boarding had already had enough of, and besides, he wanted to feel free to invite a friend to take a meal with himself and wife occasionally and spend the evening.

Rents were high, but he took four rooms on the second floor of a cottage in an adjoining city, as it was cheaper than in New York. He paid \$200 a year, and used one for parlor, one for kitchen, one for regular bedroom, and one for "guest chamber."

In the parlor was a "tele-a-tete," costing \$15; six rush seat cottage chairs, \$13; table, \$6; clock, \$3.50; washstand, \$5. In the bedrooms, two washstands, \$5 and \$3; four walnut chairs, \$8; two bedsteads, \$6.50 and \$9; crockery, \$4. In the kitchen, one rocking chair, \$2.50; four oak chairs, \$7.25; table, \$6; stove and fixtures, \$19; carving set, \$2.50; dinner and table knives, \$4.50; wooden boxes, \$2.50; crockery, \$25; the carpet costs \$100.44; thermometers and shades, \$14.50. Making a total cost for furnishing complete, in comfort too, \$200.04. He had saved up only \$300; so you see his capital was most gone; but instead of taking a "set" during this time, he made the money that he had lost in laying in a small stock of groceries. Markets being handy, he bought in small quantities, for it is better for a young couple to buy them, even though you pay a little more, than run the risk of fool growing stale or spoiling on your hands. Never get trusted and you will find the dealer will serve you well. He gave his wife \$4 a week to supply the table, and she managed it admirably. And here let me whisper a thing for you to remember: A wife that is inclined to be a helpmate will always do better for you if you give her a regular sum every week. She then has a chance to plan ahead, and can exercise her best power of management. Ten chances to one, when Christmas comes, sons longed for convenience deferred on the score of economy, will show itself, bearing the handwriting of that dear little wife, and bought with money she had long been laying aside out of her allowance, a cent here, a dime there, until she had treasured her reward in your lap surprise.

My dear fellow, you spend more money in that unsatisfactory boarding house for board, and in little expenses with those "pay boys" there, that it would cost you to "keep house" with that cherished being for whose sake you would sacrifice so much. Save much money by examining the price list of this old established firm before purchasing elsewhere. Their reputation is too valuable to be endangered by any excess in price or inferiority of article supplied to purchasers whose convenience will not permit a personal visit.

The Wholesale Drug Trade.

The immense importance of the drug trade may be seen from the relationship it has to human health, mechanical science and the perfection of almost every useful art. The employment can scarcely be named, the manufacturer noted who does not depend more or less for his supplies upon articles known and obtained from wholesale dealers and importers or manufacturers of such stock in trade. The medical man is entirely at the mercy of the druggist for unless the articles in which he deals be pure, the prescription is valueless or nearly worthless. The manufacturer who does not depend wholly upon the use of inferior materials, while the man who looks to certain results from the combination of appropriate chemicals must meet with disappointment and failure if supplied with adulterated materials.

It is of course important to a housewife to have a drug house when requiring simple chemists or authorized compounds for any purpose, whether medical, mechanical or domestic, and the house which once gains the reputation of dealing in good articles, secures a position which increases with time and which surely leads to heavy assets and corresponding influence.

Such a house is that of Hurley & Edsall, 120 Lake street, Chicago, one of the oldest

and most reliable firms in the permanent Northwest, and one of the permanent

holders of that great trading city, and under the management of the present proprie-

tor, has obtained a far and wide popularity among the retailers of the surrounding ter-

ritory in the selection of medicinal

drugs and chemicals, and an extensive

knowledge of the various manufac-

turing, importing and jobbing branches of

this important trade, give them advantages

possessed in their business, enjoyed by but

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