

TRIAL

(BEFORE THE MUNICIPAL COURT)

OF

CHARLES L. COOK,

LATE PREACHER OF THE GOSPEL OF THE ORTHODOX
AND RESTORATIONIST DENOMINATIONS,

FOR

RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS.

BOSTON:

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1835.

TRIAL

OF

CHARLES L. COOK.

THIS is a case which has excited much interest both in consequence of the former character and standing of the principal criminal (Cook), and the extensive depredations which have been committed by the youths with whom he was connected. For some time past our citizens have missed property to a large amount from their shop doors. Pieces of cloth, worth from \$130 to \$140 dollars, and other valuable articles, have been repeatedly purloined. Suspicion fell at last upon a boy in the employ of Cook, who then kept a drug and medicine store in Broad-street. The store was consequently watched by the police officers, and eventually searched, when a portion of the stolen property was discovered in the cellar, some on Cook's person, and a large quantity at the house of one of his relatives, where it had been deposited by Baxter and another youthful thief of his acquaintance. The two latter were taken into custody, tried, and sentenced, the one to seven, the other to eight years imprisonment and hard labor; and Cook was then put upon his trial as an accessory, in having received the goods knowing them to have been stolen.

One of the most important features however in this case, and respecting which public curiosity has been most excited, is the disclosures which have been made in relation to Cook's conduct and character, independently of the offence of which he is accused. There can be no doubt in the mind of any unprejudiced man, that this individual, while preaching purity to others, and exhorting to abstinence from sin, was himself perpetrating the vilest and most

unnatural offences with persons of his own sex. The evidence in relation to this part of the trial will be found towards the end of this pamphlet.

The case came on on Friday, the 24th instant. Mr. T. C. Park, was retained for the defence: S. D. Parker, the County Attorney, appeared on behalf of the government. The court, as stated in a daily paper, presented the appearance of a dry goods store—one part of the floor being completely covered with the stolen property which had been recovered by the officers. Upwards of twenty respectable store-keepers attended, to identify the articles. The first witness examined was

Lewis H. Morris—keeps shop 427 Washington Street—identifies a piece of linen which was stolen from him two months ago—shows his private shop marks, in characters—I always mark my own linens—went to D. Eaton's shop [one of the greatest sufferers, and with whom the recovered property was deposited for inspection], and there identified this article—never missed it before—we have many pieces—I have two boys in the store—can't say when the linen was purchased—we keep a book containing sales daily—have no doubt the article was stolen—I am in my store the greater portion of time—one of my boys came the latter part of February, the other the middle of March—we buy linens by the round of five or six pieces.

Samuel G. B. Eaton [who discovered part of the stolen property at Cook's]—I found one piece of this linen in a drawer at Cook's store—some goods were stolen from me, and I was looking for them—one piece of linen was found in the cellar by Coolidge (police officer), the other by me in the drawer—witness describes the piece he found, and selects it—it was rolled up smooth, but had been opened—the drawer was under the counter in Cook's shop—there were socks there, and a stock, which Cook said belonged to Baxter, and some of Baxter's clothing—Dr. Cook was present when it was found—he saw me take it out, and lay it on the counter—the drawer was full of articles—the linen was at the back part of the drawer—I saw no apprentice there, and no one keeping the shop but Dr. C. It was a small shop, and the drawer was behind the counter.

John Wilson (police officer)—There are sixteen yards of linen—I found one piece (ten yards) on the cord, under the

cellar, under Dr. Cook's shop, at corner of Purchase and Broad-streets—you go to the bed room (the cellar), where Baxter and the doctor slept, by means of a trap door on hinges—it is at the further end of the counter—you go down by a ladder—there is some daylight in this cellar—did not notice any fireplace—I am not certain that I saw the linen taken from the drawer—I found in one or two of the drawers some of Baxter's clothes—the linen, the socks, and a black handkerchief, were taken from Dr. Cook's neck—a cloak was taken from him by me on the Tuesday preceding—Cook had on a vest, which was stolen—he took it off, and gave it to me, and restored it to Eaton—the yellow flannel, which lies on the floor of the court, was found in the possession of Baxter and Smith—the witness here states that he has known Baxter since November—observed that he had too much money for a boy in his situation—he frequented the theatre, and was often intoxicated—about the 10th of January Dr. Cook came to the theatre with a Miss Wheeler, to look after her brother, who was a companion of Baxters—both the latter had been engaged in a robbery at Watertown—next day I went to Dr. Cook's, and there Baxter acknowledged he had stolen—this was in Dr. Cook's presence—Baxter proposed to go to Wheeler, and asked if the thing could not be settled—I went with Baxter to Wheeler's, saw Wheeler, and talked with him—when I came out, Baxter had gone away—I saw Dr. Cook coming in, and inquired for Baxter—Dr. Cook said he did not know where he was—both Dr. Cook and Baxter were absent from the store the whole of that day—Cook told me he loved Baxter as his own child, and wanted to get the matter hushed up—I went several times to the store during the day, but could not find either of them—in the evening, at about ten o'clock, I went again, and found them sitting there together—I asked Baxter how he came to run away—Dr. Cook was anxious to have the matter settled, and it was agreed that I should come up at nine o'clock the next morning—I went accordingly—Baxter and Wheeler gave up the goods, and told where they were stolen—Dr. Cook said if the thing could be settled, he would satisfy the owners, and authorized me to say so to them—this was as long ago as the 10th of January—they said they had given up all, but I found it was not all—Dr. Cook agreed to take Baxter, and make a good boy of him—he paid me for my

trouble—after that Baxter went to work in the shop, and said he would be steady—I continued to keep an eye on him, and on his acquaintance Smith—on the 28th of March Eaton came to me, and said that Baxter and Smith had been in his shop that evening, and that he missed things—I went to Dr. Cook’s shop—there saw Smith sitting in the store with Dr. Cook, and the doctor said that Baxter was not in—he asked if anything was the matter—we left, but returned in a few minutes—both Eaton and self went into the shop—Dr. Cook was there, but Smith was not seen—he had not got out of the door—I asked Dr. Cook if Baxter had been in—he said he had not, but in about fifteen minutes he thought that both Smith and he would be there—I said to Dr. Cook, “Ben. Baxter is abed now.” Dr. Cook said, “He is not.”—I started to go down into the cellar, and when I got upon the ladder, Baxter came out, and had only pantaloons and shirt on—I went of my own accord—Baxter came up, and Eaton said he was one of the boys that had been in his shop—Smith came up behind Baxter from the cellar, and Eaton identified both—Mr. Eaton started for Coolidge—As soon as Eaton was gone, Dr. Cook opened the door and ordered me out of the shop—I told him I should not go, that the boys had been stealing, and that if he turned me out, he himself might get into trouble—he was angry at that time, but in a minute or two he calmed down, and said that he should not have ordered me out, but that he wanted to go out of the shop on business. I told him that I would take care of the shop—he did not leave, and the subject was dropped—Eaton and Coolidge came, and the boys were committed to jail. They were never in the store after that time—they said in January that they stole the black handkerchief, vest, and stock, which the doctor had on—I went to the P. Court, got a search warrant for Smith’s house, and went there with Coolidge—Dr. Cook said that we might search his house without a warrant, and we did search it on the 28th in the evening—talked with Dr. Cook—I asked him if he had any goods of any description that the boys had brought there—he said there was none to his knowledge—I then named the cloak, and said, “Doctor, I fear that is stolen property”—he said, “It is not: I know where it came from: I bought it, and paid for it—I stayed to talk with him—he showed me Ben’s clothes—I asked Dr. Cook, if he would let me

take the cloak, and carry it to Mr. Eaton's, and expose it with the rest of the goods, and see if it was stolen—he repeated, he knew better: he bought, and paid for the cloak—I put it to him several times, “Doctor, will you let me take it?” He said, “No, I will not”—I offered to be responsible for it, and bring it back if there was no owner—I then told him, that if he would not consent, I would go to the P. Court and complain—he asked me why I would do that—I said I was satisfied it was stolen property, and was determined to ascertain if it was not—he said, “Don’t do that, for I will go and show you where it came from”—I tied the cloak and coat in a handkerchief, and went to Ross the tailor, and asked him—Cook said the blue coat came from Ross—Ross told me the coat did come from him—we then went to Milton’s—he examined the cloak, and said it was made in his shop—“Did you ever sell it?” He said, he never did—he and Dr. Cook had some talk—Dr. Cook said that he bought the cloak of Baxter—Milton asked him what he gave for it—Dr. Cook said he did not know: he had a bill of it: he took a receipt in full, and did not know what he paid—I went to Dr. Cook on Wednesday or Thursday—a piece of kersymere cloth was brought there—this excited some suspicion, and we went (Coolidge, Eaton and myself) to Dr. Cook’s store on Friday, A. M.—Dr. Cook was there—we commenced searching—Coolidge went down first, and I followed—Dr. Cook and Mr. Eaton remained above—there was some little light in the cellar at this time—the piece of linen was pulled out from under the bed—we afterwards found a large patent foot brush (stolen from the store of a Mr. McMurray)—we then came up, and I told Dr. Cook, that I thought the black handkerchief he had round his neck had been stolen from Mr. Eaton—he then took it off, and gave it up—we found several new vests and stockings in a drawer—some of the latter were claimed by Mr. Eaton—Dr. Cook said he had a pair on, which he thought came from the same drawer in which the others were found—in the course of the day Dr. Cook brought to Eaton’s store, two vests and a handkerchief, which he said he found in the cellar—I arrested Dr. Cook the same afternoon in his shop—all the goods found were carried to Eaton’s shop.

Nathaniel Coolidge—I first went to Dr. Cook’s shop on the 28th of March—Dr. Cook and the two boys were there

—the boys were committed—no examination of the premises—we got a search warrant for stolen goods—searched Smith's place, and found a piece of linen there, in Smith's trunk.

Mr. Morris—deposes, that the piece of linen found in Dr. Cook's cellar, is part of the piece found in Smith's trunk, which measures ten yards—the ends do not correspond, but the fabric does.

Nathaniel Coolidge—Dr. Cook said on Sunday, that he wished to screen Baxter as much as possible—he spoke of the boys, but said he was Baxter's guardian—Baxter was often with him—I turned up the bed, and found the linen on the bed-cord—I handed it to Wilson, who was on the top of the stairs, and called for a light, which Dr. Cook lighted; but he was not with me when I pulled the linen out—I searched further, and found the brush—after searching further, I returned to the shop—Dr. Cook said, that he did not know the linen was there: if he had, he would have put it out of the way, so that we should not have found it—I do not recollect seeing any other linen at the time—I can't recollect that Dr. Cook was in the cellar—I do not recollect seeing Eaton take any linen from the drawer—the long piece of linen was carried to the P. Court on Monday—one piece of striped kersymere was found in Smith's room—one in Baxter's trunk, at Moody Cook's, in Essex-street—and Dr. Cook brought the other back.

Capt. Charles Robbins.—The boys are in the House of Correction. Soon after they were first committed, Dr. C. came, with a permit from George Darracott to see Baxter. I was in the yard, and sent for Dr. C. to come to me. I called Baxter out. Dr. C. shook hands, and said he was sorry to see him there. Dr. C. said that it gave him a great deal of trouble and worry of mind, that he had not eaten more than one or two meals of victuals since Baxter was arrested. Dr. C. asked if he could talk with him—I said he might in my presence and hearing. Dr. C. said that he should try to get him out, and send him to sea, if possible—that he would always be a friend to him, and he must consider him a father—that if they never met on earth, they might hereafter. He then said, they are around to find more goods, and I know you would tell me if you had any more. You have not any more, have you? B. said, no. Dr. C. replied, "if any one comes and asks you, tell them the same." He then told B. to behave well, and

I said, "If he don't, he won't get pardoned out." Dr. C. then asked to see Smith, but I refused, as his name was not in the permit. Eaton Smith's sister came over to ask Smith and Baxter if they had any more goods.

Thomas Holden.—I attend the Warren Theatre. Have seen Dr. C. there once or twice, I think in January. He came for Baxter and for Wheeler. I called Baxter, and saw him slip something into Wheeler's hands. Dr. C. scolded at him. I said that he had been there very often. I started to carry Baxter to jail. Dr. C. followed, and persuaded me to let him go. I told Dr. C. that Ben was a thief, and if he did not steal from him, he did from some one else. That he had bought a box ticket for the second row, and used to drink very freely.

Dr. James Kidder, Jr.—lives at Watertown, and knows Baxter, Wheeler, and Dr. Cook. I was at Cook's, and saw Baxter several times. And not liking his conduct in the store, I spoke of it to Dr. C., said that I did not think he was a suitable boy to be in the store. Dr. C. said he had not always conducted well, but had promised to behave better; I therefore let him remain. This was as long ago as last summer—July or August.

[The history of Dr. Kidder's conversation with Dr. Cook, is this. He (Dr. K.) wanted a boy, and took one upon Cook's recommendation. (The boy Wheeler.) This Wheeler had not been long with him, before he was visited by Baxter and Smith. On the evening when they arrived in Watertown, Dr. K. had occasion to leave his store. Wheeler, immediately after the Doctor's departure, was seen to come out of the store—whistle—and was joined by Baxter and Smith. All three then entered the store, and pillaged it, subsequently leaving for Boston.]

Dr. Kidder continues his testimony.—My money and goods were taken on a Sunday night that I had gone into Boston. The boys were afterwards arrested at the Theatre. I came to Boston on Tuesday. I received a letter from Dr. Cook respecting the boy Wheeler, requesting me to come in. I told Dr. Cook that both Baxter and Wheeler were bad boys, and that they ought to be taken care of. He said that Baxter was no worse than Wheeler. [Dr. Kidder subsequently, influenced by the expected trouble of having to come into Boston at an inclement season, relinquished his intention to prosecute the boy.]

Wm. H. Milton.—[in relation to the stolen cloak, found in Dr. C's possession.]—Dr. C. came to my store with it. I know the cloak. Dr. C. said that he bought it of Benjamin Baxter; but if it was mine, I might keep it. I asked what he gave for it; he said he did not know what he gave for it—he had a receipt in full—he said that he hoped that I would not do any thing with him (Dr. C.) about the cloak.

Nathaniel Coolidge.—Dr. C. said that if he had known that we were about to do any thing to arrest him, he should have gone away. This was since he was committed.

Charles Brett, Court-street, No. 11.—The two boys were in my store one evening, and we lost something.—[The prisoners stole two stocks from Mr. Brett.]

H. P. Bartlett, 99, Hanover-street—has lost piece of cloth, which he shews to Jury. It is now in three pieces; but was in one piece when it was lost, in February last. Found it at Eaton's store.

S. G. B. Eaton.—I found one piece in Baxter's possession, and one in Smith's; and the other was brought to the store by Dr. Cook.

N. Coolidge.—Dr. Cook told me that he carried one piece to Eaton's shop.

J. G. McMurray.—I am the patentee and sole manufacturer of this kind of brushes. [The brush found in Cook's cellar.] We missed it from No. 30, Congress-street, and I found it at Eaton's store.

N. Coolidge.—I found this brush in Dr. Cook's cellar.

Cornelius Driscoll—selects two vests; they belong to Mr. Brooks and self, they were stolen from me. Can't say at what time; first saw them in Eaton's store—have no doubt—I did not know that they were stolen.

Frederick A. Henderson—Identifies a pair of pantaloons. First saw them at Eaton's store. I lost them from No. 2, Court-street. They were suspended at the door at 2 o'clock, afternoon—at 5 o'clock, the pantaloons were missing.

John Shelton—Claims carpet bags, stolen by the boys.

Norton Newcomb, 93, Hanover-street—Claims a pair of Kersimeres. They were hung out at the door, and were missing.

John O'Brien—keeps with Eaton. Dr. Cook brought a piece of mulberry cloth there, on Thursday evening. He

came in and asked if Eaton had been in. He took this piece of cloth, and said he had found it at Mrs. Moody Cook's; that he had been charged, he said, with taking these goods—that he would do all he could to get the goods. He asked me, if Eaton, Coolidge or Wilson, had accused him. I said that I had not heard Eaton say any thing; but Coolidge and Wilson thought he was careless, if not guilty. Mr. Cook brought one of these vests to the store, and also a piece of linen or cotton.

Thomas Cristy, 12, Court-street—selects a hat-case, which he claims, and says it was stolen from him. I saw it at Eaton's—I missed it the day it was taken.

James Williams, Brattle-street, dealer in clothing—lost these two vests, and found them at Eaton's. They are my property.

Charles Andrews.—I lost a trunk of this description, and a pair of pantaloons, from shop in Broad-street.

Samuel G. B. Eaton.—I found the hat-case at Moody Cook's, and also the trunk. Dr. Cook returned these two vests and this fancy handkerchief, and said that he found them in Baxter's bed, which he had ripped open. I told him I did not believe this, for I had myself looked in Baxter's bed, and did not see them. Dr. C. then prevaricated, and said he found them in another apartment, and not Baxter's bed.

Sarah Hilton—knows Dr. Cook, and well acquainted with him. I reside No. 8, Le Grange Place, Mr. Farnum's. Dr. Cook brought a piece of cloth to me there—said that he had a piece of cloth, which he wanted to leave in my care—about two yards of yellow flannel also—to be kept by me till he called for it. He assigned no reason; and I kept it a week. I carried it afterwards to Mrs. Cook's, in Essex-street.—I did not care to keep it. He had no reason to leave it with me. I afterwards told Dr. C. that I had carried these articles to Mrs. Cook's; and this was the night before he was taken up. He called after I had carried it away. He said that Baxter was taken up for some articles which he had taken in Court-street. I am a domestic servant. [Dr. Cook had taken the stolen flannel to this girl to make into shirts for him.]

William Jordan—has known Dr. C. since last November—hired house of him. Dr. C. and the boy lived in the house with me. Last January, Dr. C. and Benjamin came

to board in my house—I turned the boy out of my house, because he was a thief. I advised the Doctor to dismiss him. The Doctor said that he was a bad boy, and that he wished to make him better—he loved him ardently as his own son. One day he would threaten to send him off—the next day, he would still be there. [This witness stated privately, that Dr. Cook had often expressed to him his aversion to the female sex, and that he preferred the company of a boy to that of a woman.]

Mr. Eaton.—The piece of linen was carried to the Police Court. I did not speak of it at the examination. Cannot say why. Dr. Cook told me I had not been very friendly to him. He said I might have given him a hint of what was going on, and he could have cleared out. I told him, that was what I feared. He asked me if he could be taken in New-Orleans. I went to see him afterwards in jail. He told me I might have held my tongue. He said if he had known that the linen had been there, he would have put it out of the way, so that we should not have found it.

FOR THE DEFENCE.

Moody V. Cook, brother to Dr. C. L. Cook—resides in Newburyport; Dr. C. is married. Formerly he was a clergyman; was ordained in Hampton—went to Derry, N. H.—then to Plainfield—then to Boothbay, Me. last in Watertown, Mass. He has studied medicine and practice in Watertown. He came to Boston in May, 1826, and set up as an Apothecary, at 135 Broad-st. I saw him ten or twelve times. He had about \$500. He met with some difficulty in business, but was assisted by father—it was a partial failure. It was necessary for him to be in his shop, and he put up the bed and slept there. Can't say how long Baxter was with him. He was a clerk to Dr. C. and was learning the business. He slept there. I saw Baxter there, and nothing out of the way.—He was a smart, active boy, and had a quick discernment of medicines. He was a printer. Dr. C. became acquainted with him at the office of the Independent Messenger, in Mendon, and formed an attach-

ment to him. He reposed unlimited confidence in him. Dr. C's. character, for honesty, is unimpeachable. He was never suspected of any act of dishonesty. He owned shares in the Newburyport Bank. He failed in the course of the last winter. He does not live with his wife—left her last fall. Moody Cook lives in this city, and is my uncle. Dr. C. was dismissed from his parish in Boothbay; the Council dismissed him from his pastoral relation.—He afterwards became pastor of a Restoration Society. He left the ministry on account of domestic troubles. I have not heard my father speak against him. I have spoken to Sarah Hilton, in the Clerk's office; I do not know whether it was before or after she had testified, that I spoke to her. She said, "I am faint, I don't wish to go into Court;" and said she had but a few words to say. I don't recollect what I did say to her. I asked her what she had to say, and who she was in favor of. She said, the Government. I remarked that my mother was almost in a state of insanity, and I did not know, but that it might kill her. She said she was very sorry to go into Court. I said I did not know, that I might not be insane, too. I have been to see her, not at my brother's, nor at Moody Cook's—do not know that she had any articles in her possession belonging to Dr. Cook. I supposed, that if Dr. C. should be convicted, it would kill my mother. Mr. Eaton came to me when I had charge of the stock in brother's shop. The stock was made over to my father, when he failed. The drugs and medicines, and shop furniture, were sent to father, at Newburyport. Mr. Park told me to go to Sarah Hilton, and ask her what she was going to say.

Levi Bowers—lives in Boston, and deals in dry goods. Has known Dr. Cook for five or six years. I never heard any thing against his character for honesty, except this case. I heard that he was dismissed from Boothbay—have traded with him from 40 to \$100. I have not known particularly of his course of conduct for some time past.

John D. Rogers—has known Dr. Cook from the age of 14. I was brought up in Newburyport by the side of him. I was particularly acquainted with him, and he was esteemed a pious, good young man. But for the last four years, have not known much of him. Have heard nothing against him till this affair. We have traded together.

James Ryan.—I occupied Dr. C's. store before he did, and let it to him. There were two windows in the cellar—six squares in one, and the other is boarded up, and was when Dr. C. first took possession. The Doctor has been called upon professionally. Have never heard anything said by the neighbors against him.

Dr. Kidder.—While Dr. C. resided at Watertown, his reputation for honesty and truth, was good. There was a difficulty between him and his wife, about a pocket-book. He came to Boston without it, and on his return went to a justice to complain against his wife. The justice advised to carry her to the Insane Hospital. I advised him to do something with her. This was about June last.

The quarrel between Dr. C. and his wife, was about a young man, who hired with me; and who used to go and stay in C's. room till 10 and 11 o'clock at night. [Cook used to be locked up with this boy in his bed room, till 10 and 12 at night, utterly neglecting his wife. She made statements in relation to this matter, but afterwards recanted them to save Cook from the State Prison.]

Geo. P. Bigelow—came from Watertown, and knew Dr. C. there. I never heard any impeachments against Dr. C's. honesty. The affair of the young man was the cause of the difficulty, and of his leaving Watertown. His wife gave a paper to this young man, recanting the charge of an unnatural connexion, but the Trustees preferred that he should be removed from the parish.

Thomas Lewis—has resided in Broad-street, for several years, and known Dr. C. in store 135. Have never heard any thing imputed against his character.

George Reed—(officer)—has known Baxter. He was prosecuted for an assault upon Mrs. Cook—I had the complaint which was issued at her instance. Dr. Cook told me, that Baxter had cleared out.

Cook is at present under trial for receiving stolen goods only; but his character having been put in issue in the case, facts have come out that prove him to be a wretch addicted to the vilest propensities, and for whom the state prison would long since have been the fittest place. There is little doubt that his connection with the boy Baxter has been of an improper nature. Previously to his commencing practice as a physician in this city, he officiated as a clergy-

man in different parts of New Hampshire and Maine, and was considered one of the most popular preachers in that part of the country. He finally settled at Boothbay (Me.), as pastor of the Congregational Church in that place. Here he for a time gave great satisfaction, but his conduct subsequently became a matter of animadversion and inquiry. This state of things resulted in a desire, on the part of his parishioners, that he should discontinue his pastoral duties, and in their convoking a council of the churches to deliberate upon, and examine into, the subject. An account of the proceedings of the council was put in by the County Attorney, S. D. Parker, and is as follows :

“At an Ecclesiastical Council, convened at the house of the Rev. Charles L. Cook, in Boothbay, on Wednesday, the 31st day of Oct. 1832, for the purpose of taking into consideration the difficulties existing between said Rev. C. L. Cook and the Congregational Church of Christians in this place, of which he is the pastor, and the expediency of dismissing him from his pastoral relations to them—

“The said Church presented the following charges, which have been a subject of investigation with them, and which they consider have been fully sustained by competent witnesses, as will appear by the record made of the proceedings had at their meeting on the 18th day of September last past.

“Charge 1st. That the Rev. Charles L. Cook has uttered expressions in relation to his wife, highly criminal in a minister of the gospel.

“Charge 2d. That said Rev. C. L. Cook has been guilty of lewd conduct, of a highly aggravated and unchristian character.

“After an investigation of this subject by the Ecclesiastical Council, it was voted, that in view of the evidence adduced and the Rev. C. L. Cook's own confession, the Council consider the charges brought against him by the church as fully substantiated. Voted, therefore, unanimously, to advise the dismissal of the Rev. C. L. Cook from his pastoral relations. The Council further feel in duty bound to say, by way of explanation, that whereas various reports have been circulated in relation to the lewdness charged against the Rev. Charles L. Cook, no improper conduct with the female sex appeared in evidence; nor yet any

attempt, or disposition to attempt, that baser wickedness which was practised of old by the Cities of the Plain; but other lasciviousness in conduct and conversation with youth of his own sex, highly indecent—extremely injurious to their moral principles, and utterly subversive of proper ministerial and christian influence. Earnestly desirous of the welfare of one whom they have regarded as a minister of the gospel, and specially solicitous for the cause of their Redeemer, the Council would advise the Rev. C. L. Cook, by deep humility and ingenuous confession, to undo, as far as in him lies, the injury he has done. By subsequent circumsppection of life, retrieve his reputation, and endeavor to serve God and his generation in some other calling apart from the ministry. In conclusion, the Council, while they sympathize with the church and people in their present deep affliction, would advise them to the exercise of candor and forbearance towards him who now ceases to be their pastor; and especially of sympathy and kindness towards his distressed family. They recommend to the church to cease from conversation about what has passed; to bury it, as soon as may be, in oblivion; and they express the hope, that both church and people, feeling how unhappy it is to have themselves and families deprived of the preaching and ordinances of the gospel, will use united and immediate efforts to secure to themselves the re-establishment of these important blessings.

(Signed)

DANIEL KENDRICK, *Moderator.*
SENECA WHITE, *Scribe.*

After this dismissal from Boothbay, Cook left the Orthodox Church, went to other towns, got up a controversy in the newspapers representing himself as an ill-used man, and finally, by his appearance and plausibility of manners, succeeded in procuring a license to preach as a Restorationist clergyman, and was appointed pastor of the christians of that denomination in Watertown. Here he had not been long, before improper practices were again charged against him, by his own wife. His license was then revoked, and he came to Boston and commenced business as an apothecary and physician. He has a wife and child, but they have been for some time separated from him, and are now under the care of her father. Previously to their separation, Cook, for a long time, wholly neglected his wife, passing

all his time in the company of the boy Baxter. He at one time suffered the latter to knock her down in his presence, without reproving him by word or deed !!

The fact of the prisoner having received the goods in question, knowing them to have been stolen, was fully made out against him. Judge Thatcher summed up in a lucid and impartial charge, of about half an hour's duration. The jury then retired to their room, but returned almost immediately with a verdict against the boys of *guilty* of stealing the property, and against Cook of receiving the same.

The Court stands adjourned till Wednesday next, when Cook will be placed on trial on a new indictment.

[He will, probably, be sentenced for the term of ten years to the State Prison.]

DANIEL KENDRICK, Moderator.
SENeca WHITE, Secy.