

THE TRIAL OF W. J. COOK FOR BLACKMAIL, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, 1918.

THE NARRATIVE.

Asa G. Candler,* Mayor of the City of Atlanta, Georgia, a man of large wealth and a philanthropist of note, was applied to one day in the summer of 1917, by a couple of females for a license to permit the raffling of an automobile for the benefit of the Red Cross. One of them, whom he had known before, introduced the other to him as Mrs. Hirsch. Some time after, at a luncheon given by the Rotary Club, to General Swift and his staff, he met Mrs. Hirsch again, who, with other ladies, was selling tickets for the raffle, and when the luncheon was over, a photographer took a group picture of the General, the Mayor, the prominent members of the club, and the ladies. In January, she called again at the Mayor's office to ask an-

* ASA G. CANDLER was born in 1851, in Varroll County, Georgia. Received a common school education. Moved to Atlanta in 1873, and has resided there ever since. He was at first engaged in the drug business, and afterwards became the proprietor of valuable formulas—among them the soda-fount beverage known as Coca Cola; and has engaged actively in the manufacture and sale thereof. He is perhaps the wealthiest man in the Southern States, and owns large real estate interests and other interests in Atlanta, Baltimore, New York, Boston, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and many other places. He is noted for his public spirit. He gave \$1,000,000 to Emory University and donated the site on which the present great University stands, near Atlanta. He erected the building and endowed Wesley Memorial Church and Hospital in Atlanta, and has contributed to many other notable charities. The only political office he has ever held is that of Mayor of Atlanta, to which he was elected in December, 1916, and which he now holds. He belongs to a distinguished Georgia family, one of his brothers, Warren Candler, being Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Chancellor of Emory University. Another brother, Milton Candler, now dead, was a leading member of the Georgia Bar and some time a member of Congress. Another brother, John S. Candler, was some time a Judge of the Superior Court of Georgia, which position he resigned. Mr. Candler has been prominently identified with every great movement for the upbuilding of Atlanta in the last twenty years. He is usually referred to as Atlanta's first citizen.