

L. G. Wheeler.

Mr. Lloyd G. Wheeler, who succeeded the late John Jones, his father-in-law, in the clothes-renovating line, and has since acted as agent for the Jones estate, of the building No. 119 Dearborn street, was found early in the afternoon ensconced behind the counter in the basement, where contracts for the rehabilitation of gentlemen's garments are wont to be taken, fat, round, smiling, and serene as ever.

"I don't know that I've been indicted," said he, "but from reading the morning papers I may say that I rather expect to be."

"You don't seem to be disturbed," observed the reporter.

"Well, no. I guess it won't be much more than a joke, and I don't see why I should worry over it."

"You have rented rooms overhead to one Hynes, one Sheedy, and others, haven't you?"

"Yes."

"Gamblers, eh?"

"I don't inquire into my tenants' business. So long as they are respectable, as the world goes, I don't care to know anything further. As Judge Lawrence would say, I don't propose to ride my high moral horse and go around prying into other people's business. I am very glad to see, if I am really to be indicted, that I'm in such excellent company—such perfectly irreproachable gentlemen—as Potter Palmer, J. O. Rutter, W. D. Kerfoot, John M. Durand, and others. I couldn't have picked out a better set of companions if I had had the management of the affair myself."

"You have no apprehensions, then, that the joke may prove a serious one?"

"It's my impression, my dear fellow, that the grand jury has woke up more snakes than it can kill. It's easy enough to indict folks, but not so easy to convict. Several County Commissioners were indicted once upon a time, and the procession came up smiling, and in the end everything was lovely. Oh, no. I don't bother myself at all about it, and don't intend to."

And Mr. Wheeler's visage broke into a smile, while his generous rotundity was violently agitated by a chuckle which seemed to travel around to the back of his neck, down his spinal column, and out at his toes.