

## A DESPICABLE VILLAIN.

The Record of Sylvester F. Wilson Revealed by His Trial in a New York Court.

Special to The Republic.

NEW YORK, Oct. 8.—Sylvester F. Wilson, the manager of the female base-ball team, was placed on trial in Judge Martine's court this morning for abducting Agnes Sunderland, a pretty little 15-year-old girl, from her home in Binghamton, N. Y., for immoral purposes. Agnes is very small for her age. The prosecution was conducted by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, whose officers rescued the girl from a house in which she was living as Wilson's daughter.

In the Assistant District Attorney's opening statement of the case he said that Wilson's career was full of shocking depravity. "He is a villain of the deepest dye, an outrager of babes," said Assistant District Attorney McIntyre, "and altogether the greatest villain outside of the gates of hell."

Wilson, who had previously not moved a muscle, jumped to his feet and shouted to Mr. McIntyre: "You are a monstrous liar—a ——— liar," at the same time bringing his fist down upon the desk with great force. Judge Martine threatened to prosecute Wilson for contempt of court. Lawyer Howe, who was retained by the prisoner, threw up his hands and threatened to leave his client in a pinch if such remarks were repeated. Wilson apologized to the Court and his counsellor, after which the trial was allowed to proceed.

George Francis Train was an attentive listener to the proceedings. He sat by the side of his protegee, Wilson, and conferred with him from time to time.

Agnes Sunderland was the first witness. She told how she had been accosted on the street in Binghamton by Wilson, who addressed her by an endearing name. At the time she was in the company of a girl named Moynahan. He told her he was organizing a theatrical troupe to play a comedy called the "Little Countess." He wanted her to be the Countess. She told him her father would not allow her to go, but he finally persuaded her to run away. He kept her under his care until she was rescued. She was sometimes known as his daughter and sometimes as his niece. She never did any work.

The girl's father was the last witness examined to-day. His testimony went to show how poor a parent he had been. He admitted that he had not exercised the best judgment in choosing his daughter's companions and seemed to be deeply penitent.

The trial will be resumed to-morrow.