

No. 46, A.]

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CHAPTER 8.

AN ACT to amend chapter 129 of the laws of Wisconsin for the year 1897, entitled, "An act to confer and impose criminal jurisdiction upon the county court of La Crosse county."

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 2, of chapter 129, of the laws of Wisconsin, for the year 1897 is hereby amended by inserting after the word court in the thirty-first line of said section as published, the words "and except further that all justices of the peace of said county, except justices in incorporated cities and villages, may issue warrants of arrest returnable to said county court in all criminal cases and cases of misdemeanors, except in prosecutions for vagrancy" so that said section when amended shall read as follows:

Jurisdiction of court defined, exclusive jurisdiction in certain cases.

SECTION 2. The county court of the county of La Crosse shall have and exercise all the jurisdiction, authority, powers and rights given by law to justices of the peace in criminal actions. Said court shall have exclusive jurisdiction to try all cases of misdemeanor, and all prosecutions under the police regulations of the state (bastardy excepted) arising within said county, and shall have power to sentence and commit all persons convicted of any such offenses. Said court shall have authority and jurisdiction throughout said county to issue warrants for the apprehension of persons charged with the commission of any felony or bastardy within said county, and to examine such alleged offenders and commit or hold them to bail the same as a justice of the peace might otherwise do. On the plea of guilty by one accused of crime, the said court shall have jurisdiction and power to

sentence the accused for any offense for which the highest penalty provided by law does not exceed five years' imprisonment in the state prison. On and after the first Monday in May, A. D. 1897, no justice of the peace, police justice or court commissioner within said county shall have or exercise any jurisdiction in criminal cases, or prosecutions under the police regulations of the state, except that in cases of felony and bastardy, such justices and court commissioners may issue warrants of arrest returnable to said county court; and except further that all justices of the peace of said county, except justices in incorporated cities and villages, may issue warrants of arrest returnable to said county court in all criminal cases and cases of misdemeanor, except in prosecutions for vagrancy; and when so doing they shall cause the complaint in any such case to be forthwith filed in said county court. Nothing in this section, or in this act, shall be construed as conferring upon said county court jurisdiction in cases arising under any city or village ordinance, or as interfering with the jurisdiction of justices in cases arising under such ordinances.

Power to sentence on plea of guilty.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 3, 1899.