

## United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

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### NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 1849.

(Given pursuant to section 4 of the Food and Drugs Act.)

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#### ADULTERATION AND MISBRANDING OF SO-CALLED CIDER VINEGAR.

On April 24, 1912, the United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against the Price & Lucas Cider & Vinegar Co., a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Kentucky, doing business at Allegheny, Pa., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on or about August 1, 1911, from the State of Pennsylvania into the State of New York, of a quantity of so-called cider vinegar which was adulterated and misbranded. The product was labeled: "Price & Lucas Liberty Bell Pure Cider Vinegar Guaranteed. Scranton, Pa."

Analysis of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this Department showed the following results: Glycerol (grams per 100 cc), 0.15; solids (grams per 100 cc), 1.91; nonsugar solids (grams per 100 cc), 1.17; reducing sugar as invert after evaporation (grams per 100 cc), 0.74; per cent sugar in solids, 38.75; polarization direct,  $-1.8^{\circ}$  V.; ash (grams per 100 cc), 0.36; alkalinity of soluble ash (cc 10/N acid per 100 cc), 42.0; total phosphoric acids (grams per 100 cc), 21.3; acid as acetic (grams per 100 cc), 4.44; volatile acid (grams per 100 cc), 4.43; fixed acid (grams per 100 cc), 0.01; lead precipitate, slight; color, 5.0; color removed by fuller's earth, 62 per cent; ratio ash to nonsugar solids, 1:3.3. Adulteration was alleged in the information for the reason that the product was labeled as set forth above and alleged and purported to be pure cider vinegar, whereas it was not pure cider vinegar but was adulterated in that certain substances, to wit, a dilute solution of acetic acid, or distilled vinegar, and a product high in reducing sugars and foreign

mineral matter, prepared in imitation of cider vinegar, had been mixed and packed with it so as to reduce, lower, and injuriously affect its quality and strength, and further adulterated in that a product consisting of a dilute solution of acetic acid or distilled vinegar and a foreign substance high in reducing sugars and foreign mineral matter had been substituted wholly or in part for pure cider vinegar, and that the product was misbranded in that it was labeled as set forth above and offered for sale as pure cider vinegar, when in truth and in fact it was not pure cider vinegar but a product prepared in imitation thereof and consisting of a dilute solution of acetic acid or distilled vinegar and a product high in reducing sugars and foreign mineral matter prepared in imitation of cider vinegar, the said label being false and misleading and intended to deceive and mislead the purchaser thereof.

On May 29, 1912, the defendant company entered a plea of nolo contendere and the court imposed a fine of \$100 and costs.

W. M. HAYS,  
*Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 25, 1912.*

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