

JUDGES AND THE PEOPLE

Reasons Why They Decide in Favor of Corporations.

THE RICH HAVE ALWAYS RULED

The Poor, and by Precedent Should Continue to Do So—Judges Come Mostly from the Aristocratic Classes.

The recent conduct of the United States judges in the Ann Arbor case was not unexpected. Those who expect the courts of law to interpret the law in favor of the people, rather than in favor of the plutocrats, are greatly mistaken.

Besides, a judge is always on the side of "precedent," and it has always been the precedent so far that the rich have ruled the poor, and in the judicial eye they will always do so, for precedent must be followed.

In the last days of John Adams' administration, when the aristocratic federalists were endeavoring to check the rising power of the party of the people, the "republicans," they found no better assistants than the judges of the courts, especially of the United States circuit.

Let me add a couple of extracts from Schouler's history of the United States concerning Chase's famous circuit in 1800: "Fryes, on a second trial for treason was most severely dealt with by the court, and Chase having so browbeaten the prisoner's counsel that they withdrew from the case, procured a verdict of guilty, which, upon the courts view of treason as distinguished from a riot, was perhaps inevitable."

"Passing from Pennsylvania to Virginia Judge Chase at Richmond procured by harsh means the indictment of Callender, who now resides here, for certain passages which appeared in his electioneering pamphlet, known as the 'Prospect Before Us.' Chase at this trial was as domineering as before, so that Callender's counsel threw over their briefs, as those of Fries' had done, and walked out of court. Callender, being found guilty, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment, a fine of \$200, and to give securities for good behavior."

And so it went on. High carnival of justice on the bench, just as it is today. But it is well to remember that Chase's famous circuit and those of other domineering judges did more to elect Jefferson and place the party of the people in power than anything else. It was an object lesson not to be overlooked. And so it is now. Every judicial outrage in favor of the plutocratic masters of our courts is only another nail in the coffin of the present system. And be sure that when the coffin is done the corpse will be ready.

Wm. Schuyler, St. Louis, Mo.

Queer Kind of Progress.

In 1850 the farmers owned 70 per cent of the wealth of the nation; in 1880 they owned less than 24 per cent of the wealth, and yet pay 80 per cent of the taxes.

In the old days mortgaged homes were almost unknown; now we have 9,000,000 mortgages.

The United States is the largest tenant farming nation in the world, and we are making progress in this direction very fast.

Two hundred families as rich as the Vanderbilts would own every dollar of property now in our great country—progress.

One person in each 25,000 today has more money than all the rest of the 24,999—progress.

About 15,000 farmers' homes are now sold out by the sheriff in a year to make up the balance of the interest account that the entire crops of the mortgaged farms can't pay—progress.

Three-fifths of the entire wealth of the United States is \$6,350,000,000 and this vast sum is owned by one-twentieth of 1 per cent of the population. This is great progress. Let us think on these things—Mortimer Whitehead, Lecturer of National Grange.

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PENNSYLVANIA POPULISTS.

State Convention Called to Meet at Williamsport June 14.

The people's party state convention of Pennsylvania has issued a call for a state convention to meet at Williamsport, June 14. It is signed by R. A. Thompson chairman, and F. R. Agnew secretary. The following is an extract from the call:

"We believe the condition of our country demands prompt and earnest action on the part of the common people. We find permeating every element of society and government the most insidious foe that has worked the destruction of every country that has gone down to the grave-yard of nations. The late actions of the courts as affecting labor organizations, the depressed condition of all industrial pursuits, the aggressive policy of monopoly enthroned behind the Pinkertons and the militia and hidden beneath the gowns of the Judiciary, warn us of the coming conflict which will determine whether we shall possess the inherent right of personal liberty or the bondage of the slave."

Admires Calamity Howlers.

Serator Teller said in a speech in the senate last winter:

"Thank God that the people have the courage to complain. I shall be sorry for the Americans if the time shall ever come that party organizations and party lines shall hold men to principles which they despise and which they detest. When they become satisfied that the policy of any party is inimical to their interest, I glory in their courage when they break away from their old party associations and take a stand which they think will bring credit to them and prosperity to the whole nation."

RANDOM SHOTS.

The debtor is a slave to the extent of his indebtedness.

The republican party has gone into the dry dock for repairs.

If you want to be "skinned" financially, go to the World's Fair.

Katie and the babies constitute the best platform ever constructed.

Private ownership of public utilities means public plunder for personal profit.

There ought to be a home for fallen men. It would save lots of women from "falling."

Cleveland weighs over 300 pounds, but it's not all brains. Most of it is Grover.

Grover Cleveland is certainly the "sacred white elephant" of the democratic party.

When the people begin to think, plutocrats, tyrants and political bosses begin to tremble.

One vote is better than a thousand resolutions and a bushel of talk.—National Reformer.

A crank is a man with a new idea. It may be good or bad, but we should be willing to know.

The reformer that looks behind him ought to be turned into a pillar of salt—that is, saited.

"Should the farmer meddle in politics?" "Yes; unless he prefers to flounder in the soup."

The leaders of the democratic and republican parties can easily sleep in the same political bed.

Every attempt to control the railroads has been a failure. The railroads are doing the controlling.

Yes, the people of this country owe the bankers a great debt—but it is in money and not gratitude.

If the old party papers told the truth there would be nothing left of the parties but the office hunters.

The day of sentimental politics is passed. Honest government and justice to all is the politics of the future.

Those fellows who talked reform and voted for Cleveland ought to form a partnership with sheep-killing dogs.

The best way to combat sin is to attack and remove the cause. Poverty is the most prolific breeder of crime.

Why don't the church fight usury and extortion—the great sins of the age? Is it, too, muzzled by the money power?

Talk is the cheapest kind of patriotism and devotion. Don't measure a man by his talk. The question is, what is he doing?

A cloak which sells for \$30 in London shops is sewed by women who receive 3 cents per cloak for their labor. The facts came out in a police court, where a woman who had sewed 127 cloaks sued the cloakmaker for her wages, amounting to \$2.54. The cloakmaker wanted a reduction in the price, to which she refused to consent.

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General Labor Notes.

Cambridge, Mass., voted for a municipal lighting plant.

Socialists hold a national convention in Chicago July 4th.

Minneapolis woodcarvers have a flourishing co operative shop.

Women now vote for minor offices in 20 states and 3 territories.

Lansing, Mich., socialized lighting and reduced rates ten per cent.

The average wages of workmen in sunny Spain is 40 cents a day.

Government labor department is going to investigate New York slums.

Revolutionary rumblings are being heard in Holland, due to destitution.

Buffalo citizens of all classes organized a big Municipal Ownership Reform League.

There are said to be ten men to one job in San Francisco and destitution is appalling.

Chicago ballet girls won a strike for \$2 a week increase in wages. Talk about kickers!

It is the almost universal practice in Pennsylvania collieries to discharge men for notifying the authorities of violations of the mining laws.

For distributing labor literature among the soldiers of his company, Sergeant Lutet of the Imperial Guards, in Berlin has been sentenced to six years' imprisonment in a German fortress.

One of the youngest editors in the world is F. J. Fox of the Australian (Sydney) Workman. He is only eighteen years of age, and is said to be a swift and incisive writer, with genuine literary talent.

Of 104 strikes in Austria in 1891, ten were successful, twenty-nine were partly successful, and fifty-six were failures. About 14,000 people involved in these strikes have lost 247,000 workdays. During the same year there were 1,145 strikes in England and 1,131 in Germany.

Boodling the Almighty.

Carnegie cut the pay of his wage slaves in his Braddock mills, and then quieted the lips of those who should testify to the world against him by presenting the Braddock church with a magnificent organ.—Mankato Advocate.

Calamity Howlers.

The cause of every depression is money famine and nothing else.—John A. Logan.

Whoever controls the volume of money in any country is absolute master of all industry and commerce.—James A. Garfield.

Liberty cannot long endure in any country where the tendency of legislation is to concentrate wealth in the hands of a few.—Daniel Webster.

That prices will fall or rise as the volume of money be increased or diminished is a law that is as unalterable as any law of nature.—Professor Walker.

If the whole volume of money in circulation was doubled prices would double. If it was increased one-fourth prices would rise one-fourth.—John Stuart Mill.

A decreasing volume of money and falling prices have been and are now more fruitful of human misery than war, pestilence and famine. They have wrought more injustice than all the bad laws ever enacted.—United States Money Commission.

If a government contracted a debt with a certain amount of money in circulation and then contracted the money volume before the debt was paid, it is the most heinous crime a government could commit against the people.—Abraham Lincoln.

I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. Already they have raised up a money aristocracy that has set the government at defiance. The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the government and the people to whom it properly belongs. Let the banks exist, but let them bank on coin or treasury notes.—Thomas Jefferson.

The government ought not to delegate this power of issuing money if it could. It is too great a power to be trusted to any banking business whatever. The people are not safe when such a company has such a power. The temptation is too great, the opportunity too easy, to put up and put down prices, to bring the whole community on its knees to these Neptunes, who preside over the flux and reflux of paper money. Stocks are their playthings with which they gamble with as little secrecy and less morality than common gamblers.—Thomas H. Benton.

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