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**CHRISTIAN JOHNSON, - Editor.**

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**THE IVES CASE.**

Our readers are aware that there has been a great racket in the legislature this winter in the attempt to impeach Judge Ives of the 14th Judicial district. Judge Ives is the only Populist judge in the State, and the feeling has prevailed that there was partisan animosity back of the move against him. Early in the session Hon. Henry Feig introduced a resolution to have a committee investigate the charges against him. The committee appointed reported in favor of impeachment. But when the matter came before the House the minority report of the committee was adopted and the majority report rejected by a vote of 80 to 17. It is of course with great pleasure that we notice this result.

The Penny Press reports the proceedings of the House as follows:

**THE HOUSE.**

What has become called the persecution of Judge Ives, instead of the prosecution, fell to the ground with a dull and sickening thud, in the final session of the house last evening, consideration of the impeachment proceedings. The session lasted from 7:30 till past midnight. At the close of the speeches the vote was taken on a motion to adopt the minority report which found that there was no ground for impeachment. One hour was, however, consumed in call of the house to compel the attendance of absent members who had gone home not expecting a vote to be reached. At last 97 members were found and compelled to vote, and the result was that but 17 voted against the minority vote. These were as follows:

Messrs. Barto, Cross, Dahl, Feig, Gerlach, Gunn, Gutterson, Jones, J. D., Littleton, Lovejoy, Mullen, McKamey, Reeves, Robbins, Smith, E. E., Underleak, Underwood, Olds.

Messrs. Johns and P. H. Kelly were paired. Seventeen members were absent.

In the evening's discussion Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Cant and Mr. Scofield spoke for the victorious side, and Messrs. Jones, J. D., Littleton and Feig for the side of the impeachers. This emphatic result is still more emphatic than the most hopeful of Judge Ives' friends had hoped. All who were fair in their estimate of the case, did not expect any other result than that there would be no impeachment ordered but the overwhelming vote was a surprise to most. The "Penny Press" has from the first forecast the failure of impeachment, at the first, when the charges were presented, again when the evidence was being presented, and there had been opportunity to get at the animus of the case, and finally when the two reports were presented to the house. The only thing to be regretted is that so much serious attention has been given to the foundationless case, at the expense of the other business of the legislature.

It also has the following editorial in the same issue:

**JUDGE IVES ACQUITTED.**

The attempt on the part of a few political enemies to punish a Judge of the District Court of Minnesota, because of his zeal in prosecuting criminals in East Grand Forks, by attempting the impeachment of the Judge, fell flat last night when at about midnight the House of Representatives, by a vote of 80 to 17, adopted the minority report of the Judiciary Committee, which practically exonerates Judge Ives from improper conduct and any criminal intent, in the case presented against him before the legislature.

It happens that Judge Ives was elected through the influence of the People's party, and thus has incurred the condemnation of both the old parties at this particular point in the Fourteenth Judicial District. The fight grew out of an effort on the part of Judge Ives to have the saloonmen and gamblers of East Grand Forks obey the laws of the state, and to accomplish his purpose expressed the willingness to exer-

cise his judicial authority in a lenient manner towards certain other persons of the criminal classes in East Grand Forks.

While perhaps these proceedings on the part of Judge Ives were extraordinary and unusual, nevertheless the minority of the Judiciary Committee were able to find ample precedents and justification for the conduct of Judge Ives in these particular instances.

It is a common custom on the part of the state, when prosecuting criminals, to use one class for the conviction of another. If this be permissible on the part of county prosecuting officers, by and with the consent of the presiding judge, in whom the ultimate power resides, and whose approval must first be obtained, why is it not entirely justifiable for the court alone to exercise such power and authority?

Some of the most sensible things which the Legislature has done since it assembled, and some of the most practical savings which have occurred in the House during the winter, occurred and were said on the occasion of last evening's debate.

One member remarked that he was not willing to put the State of Minnesota to the expense of \$40,000 in a speculative case of this sort, where the chances were very largely in favor of the defendant for the mere purpose of besmirching a man's character and gratifying personal or political spite. The point was well taken. So long as the State of Minnesota cannot afford to appropriate more than one-half the sums of money for educational purposes, which the officials in charge of the various public institutions of learning demand, we are inclined to think that it would be equivalent to highway robbery to take from the taxes of the people \$40,000 to expend on a political trial.

Representative Gibbs from Freeborn county may rest assured that he has lost no friends in the stand he has taken in this attempted persecution of Judge Ives, and that the people of the state will not forget his declaration that "he would rather be right than to be Governor."

The Gold men of Chicago got President Cleveland to write a letter on the money question. We presume most of our readers have read it.

Schoolmaster Coin writes him a letter in answer which we present below.

Chicago, April 16.—W. H. Harvey, chairman of the executive committee of the Bimetallic League, whose headquarters are in Chicago, prepared yesterday the following reply to President Cleveland's letter to the Chicago committee of business men:

"To His Excellency, Grover Cleveland: In reply to your letter addressed to a committee of business men of this city we wish to say that the committee that waited on you and the persons who attached their names to the petition such committee presented, did not represent a majority of the business men and citizens of this city who take a deep interest in the welfare of this republic. They represented that class that owns money and securities payable in money—fixed incomes.

"We respectfully submit that your letter does not present the true merits of this controversy. You call the attention of farmers and wage earners to the fact that rising prices, while enabling them to sell their products and labor at a higher price, will also cause them to pay equal more for what they may purchase, but you neglect to say that your statement is not applicable to debts. With prices coming down regularly and steadily since the demonetization of silver, our merchants, manufacturers and people generally have been doing business on a failing market, so that the time intervening between the purchase of their merchandise or raw material and placing it months after on the market has removed the margin they would have otherwise made. This shrinkage in values added to the ordinary risk and expense of business has led to an ever-increasing volume of debt, until it has increased, all told, public private, and to about \$40,000,000,000, or about two-thirds of the total value of all the property in the United States.

"Money, and these debts payable in money, have been steadily increasing in exchangeable value with the property of the people. A debt for \$1,000 that 1,000 bushels of wheat would have paid 10 years ago, now requires the farmer to give up 2,000 bushels of wheat in exchange for these dollars with which to pay the same debt. The debts now in existence are principally old debts, or renewed or refunded debts, or new debts contracted to pay other debts, or debts the people have been forced to contract by reason of the continued decline in prices. The owners of products must now give up twice as much property to pay their taxes as in 1873. Seventeen thousand bushels of wheat would have paid the president's salary of \$50,000 in 1873, and now it

requires 100,000 bushels of wheat to pay your annual salary of \$50,000.

"Taxes have increased as expressed in dollars and have doubled and quadrupled as measured in the property the people surrendered with which to pay it since 1873. We have constantly pointed the people to the ever-increasing exchangeable value of the creditor's dollar, and to the reason why it was increasing, but the influence of these creditors have dominated your administration and you insist on such a currency as they have established as a sound currency. It means the confiscation of the property of the people by the sale of property under mortgages, judgments and executions. It means that fixed incomes will wipe out the interest of stockholders in our railways and corporations.

"If it is an injustice to restore prices so that people can exchange their property for a sufficient number of dollars to pay their debts and bring happiness and prosperity to our land again, it was a greater injustice to destroy the value of property and enhance the value of money by the demonetization of silver and the establishment of a single gold standard. So that when you call the attention of the farmer and wage earner to the fact that rising prices will make him pay more for what he buys, you should at the same time call his attention to the fact that it would enable him to pay his debts, free himself from bondage in which he has been unjustly placed and again make him the owner of a home and a free and independent citizen.

"We might say further to him that rising prices cause money to seek investment, and would thus open the channels of commerce and trade and give employment to millions now idle. It is not more money that we want to borrow, but to pay off what we already owe. The more we borrow the more we must pay and the annual interest on all our public and private debts is more now than the annual profits of business and production. Where will it end?

"Our forefathers fled from Europe and established a government here that they might be free from the class legislation of those nations where the masses are hewers of wood and drawers of water for the rich and few who control the law-making power countries that we justly term plutocrats; and yet it is now being seriously insisted upon that we must adopt and continue the most pernicious class legislation that the monarchies of Europe have fastened upon their helpless people. By adopting their policy we have increased the demand for gold and its exchangeable value, and all money based thereon, with all other property. We have aided them in the adoption of a single metal for primary money, that they can control and corner—and they have cornered—and forced you to go to them to get it at their own price, to sustain the credit of this great and resourceful nation. We submit that this policy should be abandoned and our mints again thrown open to silver, as they are now to gold, and our stock of primary money increased thereby.

"The gentlemen who visited you and who petitioned you represent only one class of our people; we respectfully submit that it was the intention of the founders of this government that it was safer that all the people should do the thinking for it, than any one class should do it for them. Selfish interests predominate to promote selfish interest when one class does the thinking for all. Broad views to justly promote the common welfare can best be secured by a census of the views of all the people.

"We agree with you that it is time for the people to reason together and to that end we respectfully ask that you make it possible for them to get printed copies of the act of 1792 on which our forefathers based our financial system and all subsequent acts, together with the act of 1873 that reversed the former policy and acts subsequent thereto, as well as statistical and other information of any official nature at Washington bearing thereon. We but express your own opinion as president of the people when they say that all the people should have the opportunity to investigate and intelligently pass upon this question. Respectfully,

"W. H. Harvey, Chairman Bimetallic Executive Committee."

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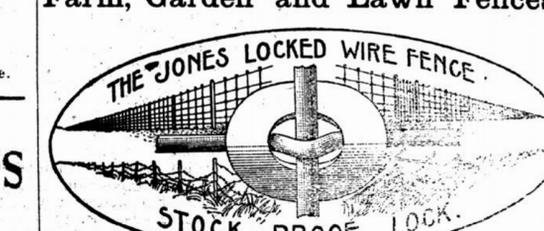
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