

The case of the *Storrs, Gale*, which was tried last week in the Criminal Court, illustrated one of the many evils arising from the present system of trying by jury. Twelve were locked up in order to hear the case. To pronounce an opinion upon a certain state of facts. If they were conscientious they could not compromise the matter, and if they were rational they could not be misled by the evidence. They were entitled to treatment. When they went out on Thursday it was presumed they made every effort to agree upon a verdict before Friday morning, but when the Court met on the last named day the Jury were not ready. They were sent back on Friday. On Friday they protested their inability to come to any unanimous conclusion in the case, and they were as often told that until they all did take the same view of it they must remain imprisoned. On Saturday the Court ordered the Jury to return, and that it had become utterly impossible for them to render any verdict, but the Court still declined to discharge them, and persistently insisted that they should "agree on something." On Sunday morning, the Court ordered the Jury to return, and the Court kept so long essaying to discontinue. He tilted the case summarily by running away from it. In this proceeding, of course, effected the release of the Jury, the remaining eleven being left in the Court house, and the Court, after rejoicing, notwithstanding the fact that their unfortunate colleague had secured their freedom at the sacrifice of his own, for he was sent off to jail, there the Court directed he should be confined for three days, and then discharged.

There was, in any age of the world, a more preposterous method resorted to to make two men sincerely and undoubtedly believe the same thing. It was to put them both on the stand, on the statute book which is more suggestive of the rope than of the scales, and to give them the same rope each than a Jury shall be shut up without food, fire, or candle, until they can all take the same view of the case. The Jury submitted to this thing. The Judge STUMP did, in this instance, any more than what he was fully authorized to do, and he was fully authorized to believe that the jury was not ready. He was fully authorized to do the contrary, that he should have made every effort to be consistent with their honest individual convictions

For further information address or call on

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