

cuting attorney to berate not only men but also women, and children of tender age, who appeared in that capacity, summoned to testify against their brothers, husbands and fathers. If witnesses failed in their memory regarding points the government prosecutor desired they should give testimony upon, insults were directed towards them, and charges that they were guilty of wholesale perjury were freely indulged in, to the great distress of those to whom the insinuations were addressed. The court, instead of protecting innocent people from insults and indignities of this character, to some extent participated in their use, the averments or statements of the district attorney being sustained, and receiving moral support from the judge. It was not admitted to be an excuse in those times for a witness to claim that he possessed a defective memory. He was denounced as a perjurer unless he could supply the facts desired by the government officer.

If the hose of this system of logic should be turned upon Judge Zane, the question might be asked whether he was not, in his testimony given before the examiner in this investigation, guilty of perjury himself. If so, then according to the logic so often employed during his judicial administration, is not this a strong proof that the class to which he belongs are given to bearing false witness, or at least to declining to tell the truth and the whole truth, when under oath so to do?

Of course we do not believe in the perjury theory, but attribute Judge Zane's nervous reticence and the paucity of the information given during the time he testified before the Examiner to lack of knowledge and a really non-retentive memory.

The spectacle he presented on Monday was the antithesis of that which he exhibited when he undertook, according to his ostensible expressions, to defend the fund involved in the suit of the Government against the Church from being seized with a galloping consumption brought on by attacks of alleged unprofessional attorneys and a rapacious receiver.

It looks as if Judge Zane's mental powers had suddenly become impaired from some cause or other. It is difficult to account for the sudden change in the character of the exhibitions of his intellect upon any other hypothesis. It is to be hoped, however, that the experience through which he is passing will

cause him to reflect upon his course during the last few years. He has acquitted himself in many respects honorably and creditably, but in our view he has inflicted wrongs upon innocent people that are beyond the pale of excuse. It will be difficult for him to wipe out portions of his record.

One of the most conspicuous of his operations to which we refer was the sending of a large number of men to prison for terms far in excess of that which the law authorized or justified, the estoppel placed upon his doings in that regard by the Supreme Court of the United States being an incontrovertible proof of what is now stated.

If his present humiliating position will cause him not only to reflect upon some of his extra-judicial acts in the past but to feel deeply penitent for having acted with such injustice towards his fellow-creatures, the lesson he is now being taught may be beneficial to him. Repentance is the method by which improper conduct can be atoned for, that being a process of rectification; and if any disposition of that kind should ever be evinced by Judge Zane, the men, women, and innocent children upon whom he has heaped inexpressible sorrow and suffering by his excesses in the exercise of authority are of that nature that will cause them to extend to him the forgiveness which he so much needs. Even they do not rejoice over his present misfortunes, although satisfied that, through a course of remarkable circumstances, he has brought himself into such a position that it will be no easy matter for him to retain or ever again possess any great degree of public esteem. Those who formerly professed to be his friends are now denouncing him, for, as a rule, they belong to that class who respect nothing except it be success, and this quondam Judge has certainly succeeded in nothing of late, except it be in making himself conspicuously absurd.

### TREMENDOUS WHOPPERS

WE ARE presenting a very full report of the inquiry into the conduct of Receiver Dyer and his counsel, Messrs. Peters and Williams, before Examiner Harkness. For reasons that will be apparent, it will be found to be very interesting reading.

The first instalment of the report appeared February 4. The morning session was devoted to hearing the testimony of experts in

the valuation of real estate. A perusal of the evidence will convince many reasonable people that some of the witnesses are more expert in other directions than in estimating real values. They would, perhaps, make efficient members of a Sazerac Club, being specialists in the matter of economizing facts. In some instances a disposition in that direction bordering on the miserly was evinced. That any individual belonging to that immaculate class so frequently designated in some of our local journals as "prominent real estate men" should display so great an inclination to refrain from the use of facts in combination with his figures is much to be regretted. If this thing goes on in the direction it has taken, real estate dealers will have to come down from the exalted pinnacle upon which they have been placed by those who have been endeavoring to make them believe there was nobody else in this part of the country.

In this respect the picture is not all black. Mr. Wickersham made what appeared to be an honest and truthful statement. True he was yesterday, to all appearance, a small minority among his class, but one man and the truth come pretty near being equal to very large numerical odds. In this instance the gentleman named can comfort himself with the assurance that his statement regarding the jump in the price of real property from what it was in 1887 to its market value in July, 1888, is and must be believed by the community to be nearer the mark than the estimates of the other witnesses who testified to the same point. If there was anything incorrect in Mr. Wickersham's statement it was in the direction of under-estimating the jump in the comparative values of realty. The statements made by him, and those of the other witnesses, did not hang together, probably because he did not agree to make it so.

If, as some of the gentlemanly real estate men stated, values of realty increased only from 15 to 20 per cent from 1887 to July, 1888, being as high then as at any time since, then the tax assessor is a misguided villain, levies ranging all the way from a moderate increase up to about double what they were previously.

The facts are easily obtainable. Take the transactions in real estate during 1887 up to the close of that year; learn at what prices property was sold, and find out what the same realty would have brought in