

It is to the honor of Clarence S. Darrow, Joseph S. Martin, William A. Bowles and others that they have undertaken to raise a fund to secure an appeal for Lewis S. Thombs, now confined in the Chicago jail under conviction of murder and sentenced to be hanged. Thombs may be guilty, and if he is his crime was brutal in the extreme. But he did not have a fair trial (p. 101). One jury disagreed, two of its members, reputable men, being for acquittal because they did not believe the story of the prosecuting witness. The prosecuting attorney thereupon outrageously denounced these jurors in the newspapers as unfit to be in a jury box, and at once brought the case to trial before another jury. This placed the prisoner at a disadvantage to which no one accused of crime should be subjected. Not a man on that jury would have been for acquittal, though he had a reasonable doubt, unless he had been made of the stuff of which heroes are made, and that is not common. This method of forcing convictions should be denounced by the whole bar. It is something to have it repudiated by one or two members who are serious enough in the matter to raise a defense fund.

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