OBJECTIONS ARE ANSWERED

SMALL COUNTIES RENDER THE LAW CHEAPER.

In Georgia, Where the Counties Are About 400 Miles Square, the People Cherish Their Small Counties.

It is said small counties increace litigation by rendering law too cheap and easy for the people.

This is a mere pretext, not urged opposing small counties.

It is natural for all men to pursue their own interest, and it is to the conducting litigation. Therefore, if small counties increase litigation, the members of the bar would favor rather than oppose the establishment of small counties. The idea of an attorney objecting to have business made for him by a small county increasing litigation sounds as incredible as that a docter objects to increased sickness or a miller to get more grist to grind.

If small counties do increase litigation, the people in Georgia, where the counties of the whole state average only four hundred and twenty three square miles each, ought to be terribly impoverished and anxious to where the counties are as small as in Georgia, or smaller, no complaint is heard of excessive litigation, and the people cherish their small counties in lieu of wishing to abolish them.

If costly and difficult law be advisable, it is best to have law so expensive and difficult as to place it entirely beyond the reach of the masses and remand them to the code of might. However the doctrine that law should be dear and difficult to the people has unfortunately been put into practice too often by legislators body of the law in cheap, simple and Carolina that she has published fewer | to try a case in court. proper codes of her laws than any state in the Union. The more the people are kept away from a court nouse by distance, or by any other means, the less opportunity they have to learn their legal rights. duties and remedies, and so the more must they pay an attorney to teach them these things.

Admit that small counties do encourage litigation, what right have these disinterested and public spir-Hed members of the bar who profesto deprecate clients furnishing them business-what right has the legislature-what right has any person or | ower to set up as the guardian of a full grown man of sound mind: This is the old doctrine that the people are unfit to govern themselves. If true ought not guardians to be appointed for those who live near the court houses of our present large counties. If a party is disposed to go to law without sufficient reason. and just for the fun of the thing, bebut his own. No government is free attend to his own business it his owd way as long as he does him ought also to want strangers to cannot have its offices properly ada resident lawyer in a large county in very way. to combat any proposal to curtail his cite a case in point which occured will take sides warmly, but as the tion of a large county needs more Carolina. I have previously related them, whether actuated by a sense ought not to be permitted to form a Clarenden was formed out of an elec- dishonest motives, can produce a assist the other section in keeping up Sumter in 1855. At that time three exists for compromising on some verabout fifty lawyers in the house, the juror vote for a just vedict. three Sumter attorneys made the only speeches delivered in the house of venue" to have cases tried by a protective tariff to levy unjust tribmatter of public legislation.

almost desperate and struggled on even after he had ascertained that the senate was three to one in favor of the bill. At that time he was also the leading member of the Sumter bar.

I have no disposition to attack

sions have their faults as well their state. A few individuals, such as should regulate the number of Candor compels me to express the dates for county offices of profit, or the rates of toll to be charged. belief that the prevailing clamor friends of the lobby and of mammoth In South Carolina a huge octavo of over large counties and the absence of proper codes among us. In states whose subdivisions are small, such clamor does not exist to any great extent.

that the sort of practice which munity. mostly supports pettifoggers is the the people are ignorant, mostly be-

the pestiferous tribe of pettifoggers, and if they would efface the unrestore large counties, but nothing founded prejudice against all the rising generation by example to of the kind exists. In other states | lawyers, let them give us small coun- | shun idleness. ties as called for, and a new "code" as soon as we can get rid of Corbin's cumbersome and expensive consti-

bers of the bar have the law and its calling beside for a livelihood. authorities and illustrations at their tongue's end, while drowsy local practitioners have them chiefly at their fingers' end in a facility of ref- keep their offices open in person or in South Carolina as well as elsewhere. | erence to books. In every respect | by deputy more than two days in the This is the doctrine which prevents | the circuit is the most eligible school | week, except at court time. It the frequent publication of the whole in which to prepare for "the oc- comes within my observation that casion sudden and practice danger systematic codes. The more law is ous." A second objection to small in Georgia and a number of other confused and scattered through num- | counties is, that they render jurors | states do not reside at their several erous volumes, the better for the bar. such partisans that an impartial court houses, but are planting, farm-It is a deserved reproach to South jury cannot be found in the country ing, milling, merchandizing, etc.,

> compromise, as opposed to force. hardihood to assert that justice is whether in the legislature to make not administered in the small counties law or in the jury box to apply the of Georgia and Virginia as efficiently law. Where jurors know each other, know the parties to a civil suit, Carolina? It is exceedingly rare know the defendant in a criminal that any county office worth so little ease, and know the witnesses testify. as \$100 per annum in any state of meted out than when jurors, parties occupant capable both of executing and witnesses are strangers to each the office and of giving a solvent other, because neighbors, relatives | bond for the faithful discharge of its and friends can make a better out duties. at compromising than strangers can. To love one's kinsfolk is an instinct, and to love thy neigebor as lina, the county offices in Lancaster

cause he happens to dwell close to a government deserves the name of ate judicial organization with uncourt house, it is nobody's business local self government, and that is the | yielding tenacity. The experiment which does not permit every man to man. The individual man who on trial for a long time in many of not interfere with other people's vote for him, hold office over him, ministered, or if it is objectionable in business. It is almost as natural for make laws for him and govern him other respects, would not the ex-

county as it is for a land owner to any judicial county, large or small, ago? resent an attempt to deprive him of a sometimes an exciting case will arise portion of his broad acres. I will in which all the jurors of the county | consituted people that where one secunder my own observation in South whole jury must agee - as only one of public bridges than another section the fact that our present county of of right, by blind partiality, or by new county, but should be held to tion parish of the judical county of mistrial-as an imperious necessity its bridges. distinguished members of the Sumter | dict, in order to have any self govbar represented her in the house of ernment at all-as every juror feels trine I cannot solve, but I do know representatives. They were Messrs, a consciousness that he himself may many sinners who would be ashamed Blanding, Spain and Green, all rank- shortly have a case in conrt to be to advance it. This sort of objection is ing high in the profession and as leg- passed upon by his fellow citizens- identical in morals with that which istators. Although there were then all these things ordinarily make the made the North prevent the Sonth

against constituting Clarendon a strangers in other counties were ute from the South. The principle judicial county. Each of the three common events during the radical involved smacks of selfishness put forth an earnest, labored and tyranny in South Carolina, and I be- tyranny and robbery, akin to the ingenious effort, more as if it was his lieve more changes of venue from magnanimous proposition of selfpersonal cause he was arguing than a large to small counties were asked government which demands that a for than from small to large counties. majority of all the voters in the Under the same circumstances I Why was this, if small counties whole of a large county shall consent believe the representative attorneys engender more partisanship? It is before its area can be reduced to HULL and form a new county.

POLISH state would have acted just as the three Sumter gentlemen did, and I trials and "change of venue," which pay the fiddler, and those who own intend no disrespect to them. The are evidences of bad organization of the fertile lowlands on large water late Chief Justice Moses, who was a corrupt society or decaying govern-then State senator from Sumter, ment, shall be less frequent hereafter. only better able to pay taxes to confought the bill to create Clar- From the very nature of the struct bridges over those water endon county with as much impas- organization of a jury, the law courses, but should be willing to sioned pertinucity as if it had been a contemplates that considerable build the bridges which they themcase of life and death. He seemed pressure shall be brought to bear by selves mostly use, and should not the court to compel a vedict and seek to compel strangers to do it for prevent a mistrial and such pressure | them. The expense or the difficulty

of old. the counties are so small that every be used to cross every mill pond or man in a county generally knows factory pond, on a highway, over a lawyers as a class. God forbid that every citizen in it, one would sup- stream that is fordable except in a I should be so unjust or so foolish. pose that, if jurors are such intense freshet. Over water-courses that The bar rightly followed is the partisans as to prevent a fair are unfordable in summer none but highest, most useful and most intellectual occupation of man, and I am would be disgusted with small toll is taken, should be established. proud of being even a retired member | counties and eager for their abolish- But competition, and not an arbitrary of it. But all men and all profes- | ment; but it is not so in a single | monopoly charter of the legislature, | COLUMBIA, -

defects, and the bar has its full share. avaricious incumbents and candi- bridges and ferries to be erected and states, but the body of the people there are content.

and whose laws are regularly codified | ties is, that they do not yield suffiand published at suitable intervals, cient fees to secure the services of and wherever an individual owns the competent and faithful sheriffs, clerk and other administrative officers. Although the tendency of the age, It is very pleasant for the incum- establish a bridge or ferry and charge with rapidly accumulating force, is bent of an office that it shall be a whatever toll he pleases, so it be unito level and equalize all knowlede. lucrative one, but the fact should form. If South Carolina, like Geortechnical or otherwise, yet there is never be overlooked that every gia and other states, would permit not the slightest danger of the profes- office in a free government is created free competition in bridge and ferry sion of law ever being superseded, for the good of the people-not for building, it would vastly diminish the because civil law is both a science the good of the officer. To have expense of crossing water-courses to in good faith, but simply because and an art, which include within efficient administrative officers it is get to a county seat, and it would some excuse must be given for their scope everything on earth, sea not requisite that any judicial also benefit the public travel imand skies. So that with the newest | county should possess much terri- mensely. and best codes, and with the smallest tory, population and wealth as to judicial counties, expert lawyers will produce litigation and criminal always find abundant demand for prosecutions enough to enable interest of all lawyers to be paid for their services. It is only pettifog- county officials to be content with gers who cannot thrive in Georgia | the fees of their respective offices and in other states where convenient | and not engage in any other business. court houses and suitable editions of Every fat office is a prize for which the laws diffuse a general knowledge | men will scramble so as to engender of law among the masses. It is well intrigue, demagogism, strife, demoraknown among respectable attorneys lization and corruption in the com-

Moreover, many fat offices always "little learning" necessary to ad-vise on simple points about which chief occupation is to seek or hold office, and in time such men from cause of their great distance from the | habit become unfitted for any other county seat, or on account of having | useful occupation. Honest labor is no good code to read or refer to on the paramount law of man's healthy existence, and every member of so-Therefore, if the real attorneys of ciety should be engaged, or capable South Carolina would exterminate of engaging, at all times, in producing something useful or beautiful, if for no other reason than to teach

Public spirit and the honor attached to office alone induce many county officers in Georgia, Virginia, Kentucky, etc., to discharge their It is not the weakest argument in official functions. The fees are behalf of small counties that they altogether a secondary consideration, impart a revivifying and fertilizing and where the fees are the primary impulse to the lawyer's mind. It is object with county functionaries, notorious that circuit riding mem- they should be made so few other

It is not indispensable that the county officials should actually have their residence at the court house, or perhaps a majority of county officials often six or more miles from the All free government is the result of county seat. Now who will have the as in the large counties of South ing, justice is much more apt to be the union long goes begging for an

At all events while the same fee bill prevails throughout South Carothyself' is a scriptural injunction. Marlboro, and our few other small "Magna Charta," that pole star of | counties, are always filled by just as constitutional law for all English | honest and intelligent incumbents as speaking people, says that the jur- those of Edgefield, Abbeville, Baraors shall come from the "vicinage" | well, and the other large counties.

where the civil and criminal cases By some means or other, the they are to try occur. This, of county offices in all the states in the course, means that neighbors and union are executed by somebody, and acquaintances shall act as jurors for the inhabitants of each of these ne another. No other kind of small counties adhere to their separonly free government vouchsafed of small judicial counties has been wants a stranger to sit on a jury for the states, and if a small county periment have been adandoned and Every one must-cencede that in large counties restored a great while

It is objected by some peculiarly

How an honest man or professing christian can advocate such a docfrom seceding, which has always "Mistrials" by juries and "changes prompted the North to contend for

ought to be applied now as in days of crossing water-courses to reach a court-house should not be much in In the many other states, where any case. A cheap public flat can

against the profession is in a great corporations, may grumble at the volume will not contain the charters degree attributable to the presence small counties of Georgia and other of bridges and ferries and their renewals established by our legislature. In Georgia an act of about ten lines A third objections to small coun- charters every bridge and ferry in the state, to the effect that whenever land on both banks of a stream, he shall have the right and power to

Contagious

Mr. Frank B. Martin, who is engaged in the jewelry business at 926 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington City, where he is well and favorably known, was a victim of that worst form of disease-contagious blood poison. He realized that his life was about to be blasted, for this terrible disease has baffled the skill of the physicians for ages, and they have never yet been able to effect a cure. His mental despair can better be imagined than described.

In a recent letter he says: "About four years ago I contracted a severe case of contagious blood poison, and it was not long before I was in a terrible condition. I immediately placed myself under treatment of two of the best physicians in Washington city, Their treatment, which I took faithfully for six months, cost me just three hundred dollars, and left me worse than when I began it. My condition can



best be appreciated, when I state that my throat and mouth were full of sores and my tongue was almost eaten away; I had not taken solid food for three months. My entire body was covered with red blotches, my hands and feet were sore and my hair was falling out rapidly. I was in a truly pitiable

condition. "I felt that I was incurable, and was in great despair, when a friend recommended S. S. S., stating that it would certainly cure me. I began its use, and when I had finished the fourth bottle, I began to improve, and by the time I had finished eighteen bottles, I was thoroughly rid of the disease; of course, I was not sure that I was cured, but am now convinced, as no sign of the disease has ever returned for four years. S. S. S. is the best blood remedy in the world, and my cure was due solely and alone to it."

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