

A JUDGE PUT OUT OF OFFICE.

COUNTY JUDGE THORNTON'S OFFER TO VOTERS—A DEMOCRAT DISAPPOINTED.

NEWBURG, N. Y., Jan. 5.—Supreme Court Judge Osborne, of Catskill, has just rendered a decision in the Sullivan County quo warranto suit, brought against County Judge William L. Thornton, of that county. Mr. Thornton, who ran on the Greenback ticket, was elected as County Judge of Sullivan in the Fall of 1878, for a term of six years, defeating County Judge Bush, who was a candidate for re-election on the Democratic ticket. During the canvass Thornton announced that he would serve the county, if elected, for \$1,200 a year, though the salary was \$2,500. Mr. Thornton was elected, and has served as County Judge since January, 1879, and, true to his promise to the people, has only taken \$1,200 a year, though the Board of Supervisors raised the usual salary. The unsuccessful Democratic candidate did not take his defeat kindly, but brought a quo warranto suit, setting up that Thornton's agreement to serve for \$1,200 per annum, if elected, was in the nature of a bribe, made to influence the voters of the county, and he prayed that Thornton should be declared ineligible, and that he (Bush) should be installed in the office as the one who had received the highest number of legal votes. The case was tried last Summer, but the decision has just been rendered.

Judge Osborne holds that Thornton's promise to take \$1,200 was in the nature of a bribe, and removes him as ineligible for service on that account, but the Judge refuses to place Bush on the County Bench, only going so far as to declare the office vacant. The result is that Gov. Cornell will find it necessary to fill the vacancy for this year, and another election will be held next Fall. Much feeling has grown out of the suit, which must result in disadvantage to the Democrats. They are regarded among the voters of Sullivan as having caused a reversal of the will of the people, and as having taken a stand against the people's interest in preventing a man serving as County Judge for the reduced compensation. As there has also been a loss of Greenback strength, it is not improbable that the affair will result next Fall in the election of a Republican County Judge.

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