

Summit Point

March 18th - 1871

Jefferson County, W. Va

Lysander Spooner Esq.

My dr Sir, I rec'd yours of the 18th inst. & wish to say that since your previous facro, I have reread your system of "paper currency" & also your "Trial by jury".

I think your "paper currency" based on the "invested dollar" infinitely superior to any existing system. I like it so well, that I would carry out the principle on a more extensive scale. I would with Kellog, ___ all money all the people, this government, the issue to be based on double the guaranty of laws to the money borrowed, so that peoples could do their exchanged at the lowest rate possible. Have you examined his safety-___ system :to be found in his work styled the new "monetary system"? If you have not, I think before you write your coming pamphlet on currency, you should examine it; I should like to have your criticism on it, &, especially as you see, my own ideas rean in that direction. I certainly hold the "theory" that without - a dollar of money, or currency, there would be as much wealth as with it; & that money is only a convenience to exchange the wealth & should be as cheap as possible. I know where this theory points: It raises the question between city & country; but never mind that; "fiat justicia, suat caelum"! I send you my last-article on money in the county paper, along with this letter. I expect to keep them up, "current _____" & as I write them will send them to you.

Your "Trial by jury" I have no doubt gives the true _____ of jury trial - a trial bu the country, & all you say on that subject is supported by history from "magna carta" down to the first convictions by government & governors to get clean of its original design: & not only be the history of our non ancestors, but you will see that in Grecian & Roman history, there was in their administration, the same ideas of an appeal to the people in the _____ & against the government & its tribunals.

Your letter to Mr Adams deserves to be printed in character of good & wise go down to _____.

I gave one copy of it to the _____ statesman with my own hand, & or will soon appear in that paper. I have the other to our _____-paper which will, also, soon publish it. It is strange that any paper - not republican - should not repeat it from one end of the land to the other. I congratulate you as the author, of so much truth no nervously[?], & succinctly, & beautifully expressed. I said

I handed one of the letters to our own paper: I did it in _____ the hands of D.B. Lucas - our poet[?] - & a man of very fine _____, who handed it to the press; & who to me _____ to the highest notes of praise.

There is any _____ of numbers _____ in this _____ in both Church & state, & there is no new thing under the sun. All is repetition! As german to ideas, I see, we hold in common I wish you would read, if you have not done so lately, the Ormithes of Aristophanes. It is applicable to the humbugs of our day in state & church. If you will come to see me I should like to read it with you - & will in the original 0 verse _____. You have a longer letter than you bargained for; but never mind, go pick up, if there is anything worth picking up - "cusu fluent _____" yours respectfully & truly

John A Thomson