

who had been conducting the prosecution, "I ask that a truss of hay be voted for that donkey." The remark startled the members of the court to such a degree that it took them some moments to recover their equanimity, whereupon they sentenced the prisoner to six months' imprisonment for theft and to ten years' detention, with hard labor, for insulting a member of the court.

A similar incident took place a few days previously at the Palais de Justice. A poor fellow, having just heard himself condemned to five months' imprisonment for an offence described as vagrancy, but which merely consisted in pursuing his calling as a street musician, was wrought up to such a pitch by the severity of his punishment, and by the prospect of his wife and children being left without support for so long a time, that he vociferated just as he was being led away: "You are nothing but executioners: it is abominable. The big judge has had his eyes closed during the whole trial." By order of the court the prisoner was brought back to the dock, and five minutes later the poor wretch heard himself sentenced to five years' penal servitude for having insulted the court.

This recalls to mind an incident in the career of Gambetta prior to the overthrow of the empire. He was in the act of addressing the court in behalf of a prisoner, when suddenly he perceived that the presiding judge was visibly dozing. He paused for a moment, and then bringing down his fist with a terrible thump on the desk in front of him, he shouted in his most resonant and clarion-like voice: "As I was saying before the awakening of the court." This apostrophe was immediately punished by the indignant judge suspending the young lawyer from practising his profession for a period of two months.

Less energetic, yet equally effective, was the well-known and popular academician and lawyer, Maitre Rousse, who, having likewise observed that the presiding magistrate was indulging in a nap, suddenly stopped talking. The prolonged silence, which lasted for four minutes, had the effect of awakening the judge, and as soon as he opened his eyes Maitre Rousse made a profound bow and resumed his speech, as follows: "As I was saying, mes-sieurs de la cour, at your last audience," laying special stress on the word "last." The reproof was so delicate that everybody smiled, even including the judge himself.—*Boston Journal*.