

THE TEST OATH. DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT.

It is Pronounced Unconstitutional by Associate Justices Wayne, Nelson, Grier, Clifford and Field.

THE DISSIDENT OPINION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—In the Supreme Court of the United States, today, Associate Justice Fields said he had been instructed to deliver the opinion in the case of Cummins vs. Atwater, plaintiff in error, against the State of Missouri, involving the constitutionality of the test oath of that State.

deprived of right to preach or teach in the institutions of the land, there is no question but that would be a very serious matter in view of the Constitution.

offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment. This extends to every member of the executive, legislative and judicial departments.

The benign prerogative of mercy cannot be asserted by legislative restrictions. A pardon granted by the executive is not subject to the will of the legislature.

It is always delicate to say Congress exercised the prerogative of pardon. The act of Congress members are as much bound by the Constitution as are the judges of the court.

It is believed that there is no civilized society in the world where there are not attorneys or lawyers, and the profession is a necessary and good moral character.

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