

*The Law Journal*, (Eng.,) for an account of the proceedings:—

“At the Guildhall, the learned judge having taken his seat on the bench, the Clerk of Assize (Mr. Edward Bromley), in lieu of reading the commission and the proclamation against vice and immorality, simply said: ‘I produce in Court the Commission of Assize, Nisi Prius, Association, Oyer and Terminer, and general gaol delivery for the county and city of Newcastle; and the Hon. Sir Henry Manisty, Knt., one of the judges of the High Court of Justice, and others of his fellows, are appointed, under this commission, to hold this assize.’

The learned judge asked what was to be done next.

The Clerk suggested that it was for his lordship to direct what should be done. That was all he (the clerk) had to do.

The learned judge was understood to say that he did not know whether such a duty did devolve upon him. He had not the slightest notion of his duty at that moment. He thought the best thing to do was to ask the sheriff to return the precepts.

The grand jury was then sworn.

The Clerk having called the jury and sworn them,

His lordship said: You don't think it necessary to go through the form of counting them?

The Clerk: There is no one to count them. My duty is simply to call them, and there is now no person to count them.

The learned judge, in charging the grand jury, said that we lived in a time of change. So far as he could judge there was scarcely anything that was what it ought to be in the opinion of those whose duty it was to regulate the affairs of this country. They had witnessed that day the abandonment of certain forms. He was addressing them,