

other as treasurer's remembrancer. One of their principal tasks seems to have been the making up into bundles the records, or, as they were more commonly called, the memoranda, or remembrances, of the Exchequer. A remembrance was wont to be made every year in each of their offices. The work was divided between the two functionaries, the treasurer's remembrancer making up his bundle under the heads of "Communia," which were the common or ordinary business; "Compota," or accounts; "Visus," views; "Adventus," the advents of accountants to the Exchequer, and so on. In the same way, too, the "Memoranda" of the king's remembrancer had like heads and titles. Among the "Memoranda" of the Exchequer in those days were the king's writs, and precepts of many kinds relating to revenue and tenures; commissions of bailiwicks, custodies, presentations and admissions of officers of the Exchequer and others; pleadings and allegations of parties; judgments and awards of the justicier, the treasurer and barons, and of the King's Council; recognitions of debts and conventions of divers kinds; accounts and views of account; inquisitions and advents of sheriffs, escheators, and so on through all the routine business which then belonged to the Exchequer.

Then many "Memorandums," as Madox quaintly, if loosely, puts it, were entered in these rolls *pro commodo regis* by way of "Memorandum pro Rege" or "Loquendum cum Rege." Thus a "Loquendum" was entered for King Henry III., "touching certain money imprested to the Archbishop of York." Others concerned such matters as debts due to the king in Richmondshire; the town of Bedford not being tallaged; while even such a fact as that Peter de Chacepork, the keeper of the wardrobe, had not charged himself with cloths and furs is made a note of, but it is explained, for Peter had already exceeded his allowance. Then an entry is made of a "Loquendum" anent the claim of a certain bishop to "have the chattels of his men who were fugitives or hanged," a quaint instance of episcopal ways and means. The case of the knights of Wiltshire owing ward to the Castle of Devi-

zes; the dispute as to the right of distress for the king's debts within the bishopric of Carlisle, and the claim of the executors of William de Vaux concerning the issues of the honor of Knaresborough, furnish other instances of the curious details recorded in the "Remembrances."

The Chancery was, as every one knows, originally holden in the Exchequer. At the time of the separation, the writs and charters came to be entered by themselves in the "Rotuli Cancellariæ," and then arose the custom of sending estreats of these into the Exchequer. These were called "Originalia" and "Extracta Cancellariæ." They were copied out of the Fine Rolls, Patent Rolls, and other rolls of the Chancery, and out of them fines, &c., were taken and put in charge for the king's profit. So, although the Remembrancers had duties on both the fiscal and the Chancery sides of the Exchequer, the former greatly predominated. In fact, the King's Remembrancer kept the royal accounts. One record shows that on occasion they were sent into the country to collect the King's debts. A detailed examination of these little known "memoranda" could hardly fail to throw light upon constitutional history in the times of the Plantagenets, and much of this ground has yet to be explored. But we have shown that the office is a link between the old world and the new, and that its functions still possess a curious interest, whether or no those of them that still survive can be regarded as having much practical value.—*Law Journal*, (London.)

#### STATEMENTS BY THE ACCUSED.

To the Editor of The Legal News :

SIR,—I would feel extremely obliged if you could give me some information in your valuable LEGAL NEWS on the following matter :

I see that in vol. 9th Leg. News, p. 62, *et seq.*, you publish Mr. Justice Stephen's opinion in favour of the right of the accused to make a *statement* of his case, even when he is defended by counsel. Is there any doubt under *our* laws on this point? I see by 32 & 33 Vic. ch. 29, sec. 45, that "All persons tried