

LAWYERS IN PARLIAMENT.

imental changes, unless the existing system renders a change imperative.—*Law Journal*.

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The great influence which the Legal Profession possesses in the Legislature may be best gathered from a statement as to the creation of law peers within the last 250 years, the number of law Lords having at present seats in the House of Peers, and the constituencies which members of the Profession (chiefly barristers) represent in the House of Commons. The law lords at present sitting in the House of Peers are ten (with their ages); Lord St. Leonards, 92; Lord Westbury, 73; Lord Chelmsford, 79; Lord Cairns, 54; Lord Hatherley, 72 (ex-Lord Chancellors); Lord Selborne (present Chancellor), 61; Lord O'Hagan, 71; Lord Colonsay, 80; Lord Romilly, 72; and Lord Penzance, 57. Their united ages are 711 years, the average being 71 years, 1 month and 6 days. In the year 1860 the aggregate years of life of the whole 450 Peers of Parliament were 25,403, the average being 61 years, 7 months and 20 days.

In the House of Commons, as nearly as can be ascertained, there are forty lawyers (chiefly barristers) representing various constituencies.

The roll of Lord Chancellors of Great Britain (including two Irish Lord Chancellors), having Peerages, since the union of England and Scotland in 1603, includes the following distinguished persons:—Lords Ellesmere, Lyttleton, Bacon, Ley, Coventry, St. John, Portland, Clarendon, Shaftesbury, Nottingham, Guildford, Jeffreys, Somers, Raymond, Macclesfield, Cowper, Harcourt, King, Talbot, Hardwick, Henley, Camden, Lord C. Yorke (he only survived his appointment three days, his patent of nobility being made out, but it did not descend to his heirs), Bathurst, Thurlowe, Loughborough, Erskine, Eldon, Plunket, Lyndhurst, Brougham, Cottenham, Truro, St. Leonards, Cranworth, Campbell, Westbury, Chelmsford, Cairns, Hatherley, O'Hagan, and Selborne. Out of the above number of Peers, forty-two, the peerages of thirty-one still remain.

Other Law-Lords (judges and their descendants) have been created in the same period, (1603 to 1873), namely,

Lords Cramond, Mansfield, Stowell, Kenyon, Harrowby, Grantley, Rolle, Crewe, Wynford, Gifford, Ellenborough, Abinger, Tenterden, Denman, Kingsdown, Wensleydale, Langdale, Romilly, Penzance, Colonsay.

In the case of Lord Wensleydale, it will be recollected that the first patent granted to his Lordship by Queen Victoria was for a life peerage only; but a Committee of Privileges of the House of Lords decided that such a limited creation was not within the prerogative of the Crown, and therefore a fresh patent for a hereditary barony was issued to Mr. Baron Parke.

Out of the Law-Lords last named (numbering twenty), the peerages of fourteen still remain.

Thus in both Houses of Parliament the Legal Profession is, directly and indirectly, represented by eighty-five persons, namely, forty-five peers and forty commoners.

Appended is the roll of Lords Chief Justices of England (presiding in the Courts of King's and Queen's Bench) since the union of England and Scotland, 1603 to the present day. It includes the following names: Lords Chief Justices Popham, Fleming, Coke, Montague (created Lord Kimbolton and Mandeville 1620), Ley (Lord Speaker 1621, and created a peer, and Lord Treasurer as Lord Ley), Sir Randolph Crewe, 1625, (his grandson was created a peer 1706 as Baron Crewe); Lord Chief Justice Tresilian (he was hanged for laying down law distasteful to the Crown), Lord Chief Justice Hyde, Richardson (died 1635, Lord Cramond, a peer of Scotland), Brampton, Sir J. Rolle (from whom descended Lord Rolle, an English peer), Glyn, Newdegate, Oliver, St. John, (created Lord St. John by Cromwell, to whom he was related, in 1757), Lord President Bradshaw, the chief judge at the trial of King Charles I.; Lord Chief Justice Foster, Sir R. Hyde, Kelynge, Sir M. Hale, Raynsford, Scroggs, Pemberton, the president at the trial of Lord W. Russell; Saunders, Lord Jeffreys, Herbert, Lord Chancellor 1689, created Lord Portland by James II., and died in exile; Lord Chief Justice Wright (became Lord Keeper, and presided at the trial of the seven bishops; he died in Newgate 1689); Lord Chief Justice Holt,