

It soon became a crime to be a Liberal, and the greatest pains were taken to degrade the leaders of the Liberal party. An Act was passed changing the names of McKenzie, Cartwright, Huntington and Blake, by whomsoever borne, into Smith, so that the former patronymics should merge into one that was largely disseminated, and of itself, except with reference to a few instances, not offensively distinguished. For the same reason, parents, sponsors and ministers of religion were absolutely prohibited from baptizing or permitting any infant or person to be baptized by the name of Alexander, Richard, Lucius, Seth, or Edward. The Parliamentary enactments however were not many, for Parliament met only at intervals of five and seven years, and its functions indeed were largely abated by the system pursued of initiating and even absolutely allowing money grants in the Lords, who were sometimes summoned without the Commons.

I have stated that the French Conservative influence gradually increased, and I may here properly report a few of the results of this.

In the first place, the Divorce Court was abolished, and Bills presented to Parliament for divorce *a vinculo* were so persistently thrown out that very soon no person had the temerity to attempt to dissolve the marriage tie by this method. I am not entirely prepared to condemn the views of those who succeeded in preventing husbands and wives from absolutely separating from each other, because I know that much may be urged in their favor.

But I am unable to express any approval of the introduction of Ecclesiastical into the Courts, a system which has been generally and properly condemned for many reasons which are so obvious that they need scarcely be discussed. The most striking instance of the influence of the party will however be found in the Act for regulating and establishing religion. It must indeed be stated that the French Conservatives cannot claim this measure entirely as their own, for a certain Professor was probably responsible for an important part of its composition. This gentleman, although a Liberal Free Trader in England, was