

interest. A reputation for successes like these made Byles a formidable adversary.

On one occasion at Norwich he had for an opponent a counsel whose strong point was advocacy rather than law. Byles, who was for the defendant, went into the court before the Judge sat, and in presence of his opponent he called to his clerk, 'What time does the midday train leave for London?' 'Half-past twelve, sir.' 'Then mind you have everything ready; and meet me in good time at my lodgings.' 'But, Serjeant,' said the plaintiff's counsel, 'this is a long case; it will last at least all day.' 'A long case!' said Byles; 'it will not last long; you are going to be non-suited.' The advocate, who stood much in awe of his opponent's legal skill and knowledge, spoke to his client. The result was that the case was settled for a moderate sum, and Mr. Byles caught his train.

Mr. Justice Byles was a strong Tory, and had a horror of Judicature Acts, the fusion of law and equity, and other modern innovations which were floating in the air in 1873. He declared that he would not remain an hour longer on the bench than his fifteen years.

On the first day of Hilary Term, 1858, he took his seat on the bench of the Court of Common Pleas, and on the first day of Hilary, 1873, his resignation arrived. The moment was inconvenient for the appointment of a new judge, but the judge could not resign before, and he would not wait a moment. Of his career on the bench it is enough to say that he was acute, courteous, and upright, as he was kindly in private life. His name is not connected with many great decisions, but he took part in the case of *Chorlton v. Lings*, in which it was decided that women did not obtain Parliamentary votes by the representation of the people act, 1867, in virtue of the new franchise conferred on 'every man.' His judgment is an example of his rather quaint and old-fashioned judicial style. 'No doubt,' he says, 'the word man in a scientific treatise on zoology or fossil organic remains would include men, women and children as constituting the highest order of vertebrate animals. It is also