

this, in early times, was the principal road east of what is now the great City of Glasgow. I, therefore, cannot see a reason why we should not confirm the uniform decisions of all the Courts below, in favour of the respondents, with all expenses."

There was a cheer in the galleries, which his Lordship rebuked, then turning to the House, he begged if there were any dissentients, they would state their reasons. There were none, and we got a unanimous decision.

Till the pleading was ended, I did not like to renew my old acquaintance with Mr. Brougham, whom I knew when he lived in Edinburgh, as he was the leading counsel for Harvey. When all was over, I went up to him, and without any introduction he held out his hand and named me. In the course of our conversation, I remarked that in his speeches in this case, he had not displayed his usual eloquence and fire. He replied, "No wonder, from the very first I considered it a bad cause in every respect." He then told me they were waiting for him to speak in a most important case in the Court below. I followed him, and heard him in his very best style. When he got warmed up to his argument, every muscle in his face moved, and the sarcastic irony which he poured forth on that occasion, far surpassed anything of the kind I ever heard.

When I returned to Glasgow, we set to work and made out our account of expenses, omitting nothing. In all, it amounted to more than £2,000. Harvey's must have been £3,000, for he was fleeced and cheated by all hands. Our surprise and mortification was great when he publicly stopped payment, and declared himself a bankrupt. He called a meeting of his creditors, and submitted a statement of his affairs. By this it appeared that both the Estate of Westthom and his immense distillery at Pt. Dundas were mortgaged for nearly as much as they would net. It was evident little could be got out of the whole estate if put into the hands of trustees, although his books showed 13 to 14 shillings per pound. He was asked to make an offer of composition. He wanted to make a job of it, but after much higgling, they screwed him up to, I think, 6/8 per pound. The creditors generally agreed to accept this, but we being a committee acting for the public, could not. I called a public meeting to lay everything before them, and try to bring the matter to a close. Shortly, I gave a statement of what we had raised, paid, and what was still to pay, and the amount of our claim against Harvey, and that I had looked forward to this sum being vested in the hands of trustees. This proposal gave satisfaction. I then stated, I had called them thus early together, for the purpose of consulting them as to whether we should accept the offer of composition. Many cried out "no," for he had used the public infamously. The greater number was for leaving it to the committee. This we declined. Some of the leading men came forward, and coolly asked me what I would do if I were the individual creditor. I replied that nobody had more cause to dislike the man than I, but as this was a mere matter of money, and as I had never refused to accept a reasonable offer, I would not make this the exception. The cry then