At the time now under consideration, the Law Society did not, as now, simply furnish to the court a certificate of fitness to be sworn in as an officer of the court for each aspirant to the position of attorney. The officers whom we now call solicitors were in the Common Law Courts called attorneys and in the Court of Chancery were called solicitors. Since the Judicature Act of 1881, the name attorney has not been in use. The Court of King's Bench being a common law court, its officers were attorneys.

One desiring to be sworn in and enrolled as an attorney appeared in court in Term with evidence of his having served the prescribed time as a clerk; his papers had to be regularfor example, July 17th, 1324, before Powell, C.J., Campbell, and Boulton, JJ., Mr. John Lyons was proposed by the Solicitor-General to be sworn in as an attorney. Upon producing his articles of clerkship, the certificate of his master appearing insufficient, the court refused to admit him. The Solicitor-General was Henry John Boulton, and it was he who was "his master," yet the court did not accede to the motion: Ex parte Lyons (1824), Tay. 171; Ex parte Radenhurst (1824), Tay. 138. Next Term, Nov. 13th, before the same court, "Mr. John Lyons, having produced his articles of clerkship to Henry John Boulton, Esquire, for the faithful service of upwards of three years and the additional affidavits from these produced on his last application the court ordered that he be sworn in as an attorney of this Honourable Court." Nov. 7th, 1826, "The treasurer of the Law Society presented A. Wilkinson, Esquire, and John Lyons, Esquire, as being admitted barristers"; and Nov. 18, they were sworn in as barristers accordingly.

Those desiring to be admitted as barristers were, in most instances, presented by the treasurer of the Law Society, and sworn in at once, as is the present practice; but this was not always the case; for example, in Michaelmas Term, 2 Geo. IV., Nov. 7th, 1821 (Pres. Powell, C.J., Campbell, and Boulton, JJ.). "Mr. John Rolph having produced satisfactory evidence of his having been admitted to the English B. —he took the usual