

against the pardon granted to one Quirk, a rioter during the Wilkes' contest, contains the most elaborate satire written by Junius on Blackstone. The innuendo in the letter seems to lie in imputing to Blackstone that he never gave advice consistent with his statement of the law in the Commentaries. But, so far from denouncing his Commentaries on this occasion as 'a snare for the unwary,' Junius said: 'The respect due to his (Blackstone's) writings will probably increase with the contempt due to his character, and his works will be quoted when he himself is forgotten or despised.'

"In 1731 Parliament enacted that thereafter all proceedings in the courts should be in the English language, written in common legible hand, and in words at length. 'Such eminent personages, however, as Mr. Justice Blackstone and Lord Chief Justice Ellenborough,' says the *Daily Telegraph*, "frankly confessed that they regretted the halcyon days when Norman-French and Latin were the legal tongues. Norman-French, though fairly copious as to vocabulary, was not always equal to demands made upon it by legal gentlemen. Occasionally they found themselves compelled to eke out their Norman-French with English. An address to a grand jury is preserved, in which that body was being at once cautioned against the dangers of Popery, and reminded of the enormity of the offence of those who received stolen goods. "Car jeo dye," remarks the draftsman, "pur leur amendement, ils sont semblable als vipers labouring to eat out the bowells del terre, which brings them forth. De Jesuits leur positions sont damnable. La Pape a deposyer Royes ceo est le badge et token del Antichrist. Doyes etre careful to discover aux. Receivers of stolen goods are semblable a les horse-leeches which still cry, 'Bring, bring.' " This was the jargon which Cromwell abolished and King Charles II. restored to the courts, and which Mr. Justice Blackstone lamented.

"In 1770 Blackstone was raised to the bench as a judge of the Common Pleas, and continued to sit until his death, nine years later. But the great commentator on the laws of England was not destined to develop into the great judge—the rival of Mans-