

A PROVINCIAL SCOT:—How little the change that has come over the legal profession in Scotland may be divined from the following characterization of Lord Cockburn, from an article by W. G. Scott-Moncrief in the *Judicial Review*:—"Cockburn was a Scotsman of a type which no longer exists. In his rank of life, through constant intercourse with the greater world of England, not to speak of the Continent, men have necessarily become much more cosmopolitan than they were in days when the only link between the Edinburgh Courts and parliamentary life in London was the Lord Advocate for the time being, who travelled between the two cities in coaches, public or private, and made the weary journey, we may well suppose, as seldom as possible. Cockburn could hardly have conceived the day when quite a body of advocates would spend their nights in sleeping carriages, and divide their business hours between Edinburgh and Westminster; nor could he have imagined that the time would come when a greater judicial prize than the Lord Presidentship would attract the ambition of Scottish legal talent. He does not seem to have had that educational connection with the Continent which our older generation of lawyers enjoyed. There is no evidence that he ever crossed the Channel.

THE HABIT OF WORDY ARGUMENT:—More than one judge of late has attributed the increasing length of trials to the growing habit of repetition at the Bar. It is not a new complaint. "He was careful to keep down repetition to which the counsel, one after another are very propense; and, in speaking to the jury on the same matter over and over again the waste of time would be so great that, if the judge gave way to it, there would scarce be an end, for most of the talk was not so much for the causes as for their own sakes, to get credit in the county for notable talkers"—thus it is written in the biography of Lord Chief Justice North. A certain amount of repetition (says the *Globe*) is, of course, necessary for emphasis, to say nothing of comprehension. Lord Parker, in a humorous speech he made at a law students' dinner a day or two before his elevation to the House of Lords, remarked that when he was at the Bar he made it a practice to repeat each argument at least twice. And the new Lord of Appeal's practice never required him to address a jury! —*The Law Journal*.