

THE advantages derived from this admirable institution, are satisfactorily attested by the following extract from a speech of the Lord Justice Clerk, one of the first legal characters in that country, delivered at the conclusion of the Circuit Court in Glasgow, in April eighteen hundred and eight. After some observations relative to the business that had come before the Court, his Lordship said :

" I must, in justice, say, that the number of criminals in custody for trial, was comparatively small, in reference to the immense population of this district of the country. But, if reference be made to the list of criminals in other countries, even in our sister kingdom of England, we shall see just reason to be proud and thankful, that our lot has been cast in a land, whose inhabitants are so distinguished for the virtuous simplicity of their lives.

" A few days before I left home, there was transmitted to me, officially, by the Secretary of State, a printed list of all the commitments and prosecutions for criminal offences, in England and Wales, for the last three years, and, horrible to tell, the least number of commitments in any one of these years, was considerably above four thousand, and above three thousand five hundred were actually brought to trial.

" THIS is a fact, Gentlemen, which I see fills you with astonishment, and I confess that I could not have believed it myself, if I had not read it in an official document.

" I had not time, and indeed it would be a work of great labour, to make an accurate en-