

Whether this remission of sentence was due to cowardly dread of violence or to the desire to court popularity amongst a certain class, the result is equally disastrous. It is a matter of serious concern that in these days when anarchy is in the air, and riotous proceedings are of daily occurrence, the authority of the courts has been seriously weakened, and the administration of justice is brought into contempt. The disastrous lesson has been taught to those of the populous only too willing to learn it, that agitation carried on with sufficient violence and persistence is in time sure to gain its end.

This is not a question of politics, but appertains to the domain of law, the administration of justice and the enforcement of the court's decree. For a government to interfere with the action of the courts of law must always be an exceptional proceeding and more or less a danger to the state. Such interference under the circumstances connected with this trial and conviction cannot but weaken that which should be kept strong and firm. It will be fortunate if this incident, trifling as it may seem to some, does not lead to results of a most serious character.

A SUPREME APPELLATE COURT.

Whilst there will be divergent opinions as to the wisdom and practicability of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council going on circuit to the over-seas Dominions, there will be few to differ from the views expressed by the *Law Times* in reference to the suggestion of Lord Haldane regarding the formation of our Supreme Appellate Court for the Empire. The writer believes that such a Court would prove very acceptable to all lawyers throughout the King's dominions. He continues as follows:—

“It is an idea to which we have already adverted in these columns, for, as we have pointed out, although in theory appeals from the United Kingdom go to the King in Parliament and appeals from beyond the seas to the King in Council, the personnel of those tribunals is more or less identical. We have