

change too may take place in the relative value of property which will in some measure defeat the testator's intention, unless provided for by a new will.—In some cases, the same effects may follow from changes in his circumstances, which are unknown to him, and which he could not therefore adapt his arrangements to, such as succession to property on the death of some members of his family. It appears to me, therefore, that the present law which suits no case ought to be repealed, and that there is a real necessity for its alteration. A law must be unjust and is certainly unjust which requires to be guarded against in every case by testamentary provisions. To make a will is difficult, troublesome and expensive.—How foolish it is, as well as oppressive, to retain a law, which is unjust in its operation, and so repugnant to natural affection, and the general sentiments of the country, that every honest man is compelled to make a will to defeat it, when you might just as well have one that would be so adapted to the condition of the country and the general wishes of its inhabitants as to render wills in most cases unnecessary. I recollect, sir, that on a former occasion, my honourable and learned friend, the Solicitor General, denounced the bill as a legislative attempt to make wills for every body. Now, although I am not so sanguine as to suppose that this bill, or any other measure, on this or any other subject, can be adapted exactly to the circumstances of every case, yet I would support it for this reason, if there were no other in its favour, that it will in so many cases, “make people's wills,” to use the language of the learned gentleman.

You will observe, Sir, that in these remarks, I have assumed the injustice of the present law; for I have confined my attention to the argument, that however, unjust the law of primogeniture might be in its operation, its injustice was obviated by the power of making a will, which, it is said, (though, as I have shewn, in some measure erroneously said,) every man