

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

law reform in our times advanced by the great body of lawyers! Every such reform has been carried by the people with the aid of a minority of lawyers. Take heed in time. You of a majority opposed the abolition of imprisonment for debt. You opposed giving woman her rights. You have opposed every attempt at codification, and it will be so always until you arrive at a better sense of the dignity and the duty of the profession. Profession, I call it, and not a craft. We belong to a learned and noble profession, which has held in its ranks some of the greatest men of all time from Cicero to Bacon, from Bacon to Mansfield, from Marshall and Story to the great judges and lawyers of our day. Let us show ourselves worthy of them! Let us act as becomes their brethren, and do all we can to elevate this profession, which is our pride and boast, and make it a means of beneficence to all the people of the land."

"A GENERATION of Judges, by their Reporter," is the title of a little book of biographical sketches of Cockburn, Lush, Quain, Archibald, Kelly, Cleasby, Willes, Byles, Martin, James, Mellish, Theiger, Holker, Amphlett, Hal', Hatherley, Malins, Cairns, Jessel, Phillimore, Wain Williams; and of Karlake and Benjamin, who were not judges. This is a very entertaining book, written in a light, rapid, vivid style, evincing strong powers of discrimination, and the greatest boldness and independence. The author's favourites are Cockburn, James, Cairns and Jessel. The sketches are enlivened by many amusing and interesting reminiscences. We are told how Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, being audaciously called on for a song at a bar dinner, sang "The Somersetshire Poacher"—

"It is my delight on a shiny night,"

"in a broad west country dialect, with great gusto and in good style;" how Lush was, "as a judge, guilty of the eccentricity" of preaching on Sundays, "and instead of saying to capital convicts, 'and may God have mercy on your soul,' would say, 'and may you be led to seek and find salvation!'" how he was fond of wine, and once, on a cry of "Lush and Shee!" some one said, "that is the old toast of wine and woman;" how Kelly, being attacked at night on the street by two ruffians, although a very aged man, backed against a railing and beat them off with his cane; how on the trial of Tawell, the Quaker, for poisoning, he suggested in the defence that the victim was poisoned by eating too many apples, whence he got the name of "Applepip Kelly;" how the kind-hearted Cleasby said to a prisoner, "you are one of the worst men I ever tried," and then gave him a month; how Byles used to ride a horse which the

wags named "Bills," in order to realize "Byles on Bills," but which he and his clerks called "Business," so clients could be told he was "out on 'Business';" how he "amused his last days with theology, wrote a religious book," and left more than a million of dollars; how Martin was rumoured to have an interest in racing-horses, and how he sentenced an offender, "you are an old villain, and you'll just take ten years' penal servitude;" how on a summer circuit, his cushioned seat getting hot, he ordered a soap-box to sit on; how James and Mellish were familiarly known as "Flames and Hellish;" how Hatherley went to church every morning before breakfast; how Malins "gloried in his bad law," and "his personal virtues were judicial vices," and how "his death was accelerated by that falling of most lawyers, bad riding;" how Cairns was fond of a posy in his button-hole, taught in the Sunday School, and "to hear Moody and Sankey was, he declared, the richest feast he could have;" how Jessel, when overruled by the House of Lords, would exclaim when the decision was quoted, "don't cite to me the decisions of remote judges;" how he had trouble with his h's; how Karlake was a bit of a dandy, and on a wet day went to take a "view" in elaborate boots and gaiters, and how he left a million dollars; how Benjamin tied up his papers, dropped his argument, and left the House because Selborne said "nonsense!" and how he drew his own will, and it "held water." The following of Kelly is too good to be cut short: "'My good woman,' he would say to a witness, 'you must give an answer in the fewest possible words of which you are capable, to the plain and simple question, whether, when you were crossing the street with the baby in your arm, and the omnibus was coming down on the right side, and the cab on the left side, and the brougham was trying to pass the omnibus, you saw the plaintiff between the brougham and the omnibus, or between the brougham and the cab, or between the omnibus and the cab, or whether, and when you saw him at all, and whether or not near the brougham, cab or omnibus, or either or any two, and which of them respectively.'" This reminds us of a college president, who, addressing a Sunday School, said, "children, I am about to give you an analysis of the character of Moses. By an analysis you will understand the converse of synthesis." We are not informed of the name of the author of this very clever little book. The *London Law Times* does not approve the book, but we are just ignorant enough to like it.—*Albany Law Journal*.