

the Central Criminal Court of Buncher and others who had been engaged in extensive forgeries of Bank of England notes, and passed sentences of varying degrees of severity, from penal servitude for life to penal servitude for four years. In 1865 he sentenced to death Ferdinand Kohl, a German, who had been convicted of the murder of a fellow-countryman, Fuhrkop, in the Plaistow marshes. At his own request the prisoner was tried by a mixed jury of foreigners and Englishmen. The most famous trial, however, in which he was engaged was the special commission, of which the late Mr. Justice Mellor was also a member, sent to Manchester for the trial of the so-called "Manchester Martyrs." Allen, Larkin, Gould, Maguire, and Shore were charged with the attempted rescue of Colonel Kelly and Captain Deasey from the prison van, and with the murder of Sergeant James Brett on September 18, 1867. Twenty-six men in all were arraigned, but only five were convicted, and only three were hanged, Mr. Justice Blackburn pronouncing sentence. The learned judge had to decide in the Queen's Bench, early in 1868, whether an information by the Attorney-General or an indictment would lie against Governor Eyre on account of his proceedings in the suppression of a riot among the black population of the island of Jamaica. He held that 11 & 12 Wm. III. c. 12, and 42 Geo. III. c. 85, by the provisions of which a governor of a colony, or other person in the public employment out of Great Britain, who has been guilty of any crime or misdemeanor in the exercise of his office, may be prosecuted in the Court of King's Bench in England, were applicable, and that an indictment would lie. When the case came before the grand jury the learned judge reviewed all the circumstances, and pointed out the difficulties of the Governor's position, and in the result the bill was thrown out. Among the civil cases brought before him was an action by a Mr. Wason against various Parliamentary leaders, in which Mr. Justice Blackburn, in conjunction with Lord Chief Justice Cockburn and Mr. Justice Lush, decided that members of either House of Parliament are not liable for civil or criminal proceedings for statements made in Parliament. A question of privilege of a different character was also settled by the late judge in 1873 in the case of *Dawkins v. Lord Rokeby*. He held that the privilege which exists with respect to statements made before one of the ordinary tribunals of the land also extends to a court of inquiry appointed by the commander-in-