

to others, Causes came in Time to be multiplied, and the King's Court had so much Business, that at the general Desire of the Kingdom, as appears by *Magna Carta*, a particular Court was assigned for *Common Pleas* to sit at *Westminster*; and soon after the *King's Bench* was made sedentary too, and all our Courts of Law established by *Edward I.* in the like Form as they are at present. These, out of a Desire to enlarge their Jurisdiction, and by some Pretence and Means or other, have now engrossed in a manner all Law Business to themselves, the Courts of the Constable and Marshal being almost antiquated, that of the Admiralty impaired in its Jurisdiction, and those of the Hundred and County being grown in a manner useless, through the great Plenty of Money brought in the last 200 Years into *Europe*, which has made 40 s. (to Suits of which Value their Jurisdiction is generally confined,) a meer Trifle, though it was worth more formerly than 20 l. is now; so that at present all the Justice distributed in the Kingdom is vested in the King's Courts.

The High Sheriff, the Coroners, and the Conservators of the Peace continued for some Time after the Conquest to be elected by the Freeholders of each County; and because these were eligible, Sir *Edw. Coke* says, *Inst.* 2. p. 176, the first Statute of *Westminster* provided, *that Elections should be freely made.* "The Coroner (says the same Author, *Inst.* " 4. cap. 59. p. 271.) is eligible by the Freeholders " of the County, and so continues to this Day; as " of ancient Time the Sheriff and the Conservators " of the Peace were, because the People had a " great Interest and Safety in the due Execution of " their Offices; and so long as they were eligible, " they continued notwithstanding the Demise of " the King, as the Coroner doth to this Day". Sir *Henry Spelman*, in his Glossary under the Word *Vice-*