

during his long and brilliant career, rendered in other directions to the British nation; but it is improbable that the verdict of his contemporaries in respect to his conduct of the affairs of the Sudan will ever be reversed. That verdict has been distinctly unfavourable. 'Les fautes de l'homme puissant,' said an eminent Frenchman, 'sont des malheurs publics.' Mr. Gladstone's error of judgment in delaying too long the despatch of the Nile expedition left a stain on the reputation of England which it will be beyond the power of either the impartial historian or the partial apologist to efface."

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As we learn from the *Lau Times* a motion is shortly to be discussed in the Imperial House of Commons with reference to the definition and limitation of the jurisdiction of judges dealing with contempt of court. Over twenty years ago Lord Selborne introduced in the House of Lords a measure of reform in reference to this matter. Some years afterwards another bill dealing with the subject was brought in by other eminent legal men in the House of Commons, but nothing has been done up to the present time. The result of the discussion of the bill before the House will be looked for with interest.

The sale of a manuscript to a publisher authorizes its publication under the author's name, but this authority would seem to be limited to the precise matter written by the author, and to change it materially is to represent him as saying something that he did not in fact say, and he might thus be held up to the public as an object of ridicule or obloquy. There is a very perceptible difference between withholding the name of an author and exploiting him as the author of that which is not his. Literary property is probably to be governed by much the same rules as property of other kinds, and if authors wish to enjoy special rights and privileges in respect to productions which they have sold, they will doubtless find it necessary to provide therefor in their contracts.--*Law Notes.*