

sentence criticized by Mr. Lefroy, if at first sight it appears to justify his description as "a bolt out of the blue" for constitutional lawyers, will be found, upon a closer examination, to be pretty much of a "brutum fulmen," so far as any revolutionary consequences are concerned.

C. B. LABATT.

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*OBITER DICTA.*

"E'en on the groaning table of the Law  
We've kickshaws—cultured palates else were damned."

—ANON.

To the lawyer whose sympathies are with the welfare of the "Establishment" in the mother country in these dis-tempered days—with Parliamentary menaces on the one hand and Kensit brawlings on the other vexing her peace—it is comforting to read what Erskine May (*Cons. Hist.*, Vol. II, p. 455) said of the Church of England, in even more parlous times than these in her history: "The fold of the Church has been found wide enough to embrace many diversities of doctrine and ceremony. The convictions, doubts and predilections of the 16th century still prevail with many of later growth; but enlightened Churchmen, without absolute identity of opinion, have been proud to acknowledge the same religious communion—just as citizens divided into political parties are yet loyal and patriotic members of one State." It remains to be said, however, that the ritualists are losing sight of the *via media* of the old Tractarian school.

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Notwithstanding our honest desire to do justice to the memory of Sir Edward Coke, we are continually having our dislike kindled against him by meeting with examples of his mean jealousy and caddishness such as the following:—Being presented with an autograph copy of the *Novum Organum* (*Instauratio Magna*), he wrote under the great philosopher's autograph:

"Auctori consilium.  
Instaurare paras veterum documenta sophorum,  
Instaura legis justitia que prius:"