

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

was killed by a shot fired at him, while entering his chambers at Lincoln's-inn, by a man called Bertram, against whom Sir John had given a decision. The assassin was examined before the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General "according to special directions given by his Majesty in that behalf," but committed suicide before he could be punished (see 2 Morant's History of Essex, 281). A few years later a very severe and summary punishment was inflicted on a ruffian who attempted to injure a judge of assize. Chief Justice Richardson at the assizes at Salisbury, in the summer of 1631, was assaulted by a prisoner, condemned there for felony, who, after his condemnation, threw a brickbat at the judge, which narrowly missed him. For this an indictment was immediately drawn by Noy against the prisoner, whose right hand was forthwith cut off and fixed to the gibbet upon which he was himself immediately hanged in the presence of the court (see 2 Dyer, 188b).—*Ex.*

THE London correspondent of a Chicago paper was in attendance on the great detective case at the Old Bailey, and was astonished beyond measure at the methods of English justice: "There did not seem to be an impression among the opposing counsel that they were deadly enemies because they happened to be engaged on opposite sides of the same case. Their treatment of each other was characterized by all the courtesy of gentlemen, such as one would find at a dinner-table or in the social intercourse of a drawing-room. The absence of unseemly squabble, of the ill-tempered wrangles of counsel made me homesick; and was an emphatic reminder that I was far from home, and among a strange, a singular people. My nostalgia was increased by the absence of anything like the bullying of witnesses. The man in the box was not made to believe that he was regarded as a deliberate perjurer. There seems to prevail here the singular—singular from an American legal standpoint—conviction that a man can be a witness on the other side without necessarily being a liar and a horse thief, and treated accordingly."—*Ex.*

LENGTH OF TRIALS.—A solicitor, says the *Solicitors' Journal*, moved by the recollection of the Tichborne trial, and the seven days' trial of the Penge case, has been at the pains to give, in a letter to a daily journal, an interesting analysis of the principal criminal trials which have taken place during the last fifty years, with a view to ascertain how far they differ, in intricacy, and in the number of witnesses examined, from the trials of the present day. The result of his investigation, as to the earlier trials, says the *Journal*, may be summed up as follows:—

"At Patch's trial, in 1806, for the murder of his partner,—a very intricate case,—there were thirty-three witnesses, and the trial lasted one day. Bellingham's trial, for the murder of Spencer Perceval, in which there were sixteen witnesses and long defence, lasted only one day. Thistlewood's trial, for the Cato-street conspiracy, with forty witnesses, lasted two days. In 1824 occurred Thurtell's trial, at which there were forty-six witnesses—including one who was an accomplice, and who was examined at considerable length, and another who was called in the course of the summing up. The trial lasted two days. In 1828, Corder was tried, a long indictment read, twenty-six witnesses; and the trial lasted one day and a-half. In 1828, Burke's trial took place; a long argument as to the indictment, sixteen witnesses (one of them being an accomplice), and the trial lasted one day. In 1831, Bishop, Williams and May were tried for the murder of the Italian boy; there were forty-one witnesses, and the trial lasted one day. In 1837, Greenacre's case: thirty-five witnesses, two days. In 1839, Frost, for high treason; there were sixty-nine witnesses, one whole day taken up with legal arguments, and the trial lasted seven days. In 1840, Courvoisier: forty-four witnesses, three days; and in the same year, Gould's case: forty witnesses, one day. In 1843, McNaghton's case: several scientific witnesses, forty-seven witnesses in all; two days. In 1845, Tawell: twenty-one witnesses, exclusive of those called to character, two days.

ELOQUENT TRIBUTE TO A PROFESSIONAL JURYMAN.—There was a pause, and a solemn stillness pervaded the court room when the venerable member of the bar rose to second the resolution. He said: "The deceased was a remarkable personage in the