

subject than the learned gentleman" referred to. We have on former occasions referred to his masterly and exhaustive address on this subject, delivered in the Senate. Mr. Kains makes this address, as he says, the groundwork of his review. The opinions of Hon. Sir John Abbott and Sir John Thompson are necessarily referred to, as also those of the various judges who, in response to the invitation of the Government, have given their opinion as to whether or not Grand Juries should be abolished. As our readers are aware, the judges differ very widely in their views, but the majority agree with Senator Gowan.

One cannot read this review without a feeling that the days of Grand Juries are numbered. The more consideration that is given to the subject, the clearer it becomes that their usefulness is gone, and that it is merely a question of time when something better adapted to the requirements of the age (and less open to objection) will be substituted in their place. We have ourselves ventured a suggestion as to what the new order of things should be. We at present know of no better suggestion, and we notice that Mr. Kains, in his summing up, practically adopts the scheme we then outlined.

It would not be possible in a compilation on this subject to ignore what has been said in these columns in reference to the question involved. Mr. Kains has, therefore (in complimentary terms, for which we thank him), copied at length the articles which have appeared in these pages, calling attention to the various matters arising in the discussion.

The writer, in one of his chapters, gives a summary of the reasons against the Grand Jury system as they occur to him, quoting in connection therewith an incident in the reign of King James, which, though of ancient date, is not inappropriate. On one occasion, whilst making a royal progress through England, the King was met outside the town gates of a certain borough by the mayor and aldermen; the mayor on approaching the King humbly apologized to His Majesty for not having had the bells rung as he neared the place, stating that there were seven reasons for the apparent slight. "In the first place, my liege," said he, "we have no bells." The King was thereupon graciously pleased to remark that that reason was quite sufficient, and that he need not state the others.