

to Mr. Atlay in his *Lives of the Victorian Chancellors*, Brougham's oration led to a greater number of legal reforms than any speech delivered either in ancient or modern times. "His concluding word," wrote his biographer, "are the noblest he ever uttered."

"It was the boast of Augustus—it formed part of the glare in which the perfidies of his earlier year were lost—that he found Rome of brick and left it of marble; a praise not unworthy a great prince, and to which the present reign also has its claims. But how much nobler will be the sovereign's boast when he shall have it to say that he found law dear and left it cheap; found it a sealed book, left it a living letter; found it the patrimony of the rich, left it the inheritance of the poor; found it the two-edged sword of craft and oppression, left it the staff of honesty and the shield of innocence." It may be added that by a curious misprint, the *Times* in reporting this speech substituted the word "*insolvent*" for the word "*innocence*" in the last line. One may be permitted to wonder what Brougham thought of this when he read his morning paper!

#### AN ARCHBISHOP AS A JUDGE.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has recently for the first time been called upon to perform a duty imposed upon him by an Act passed nearly twenty years ago. The Bishop of Oxford, acting on the report of Commissioners appointed by him under the Benefices Act, 1898, to hold an enquiry into the conduct of a rector, appointed a curate of the benefice without requiring the rector to make such appointment, and inhibited the rector from performing all ecclesiastical duties of the benefice. The rector appealed to a court which, under the terms of the Act, consists of the Archbishop of the province and a judge of the High Court.

The charges and the evidence in support of them were of an extraordinary nature. It was alleged that the rector had lost influence with his people; had subordinated his duties as a priest to those of a landowner; had preached sermons which had no connection with his text or Christian doctrine; had used the pulpit as a political platform; had used bad language and been convicted of assault. Let one example suffice. On one occasion he said