

not the interpreting of the laws of the kingdom. The visitor there passes first into the Parliament Hall. The scene is greatly changed from the times when the Morays and the Scotts, the Douglasses and the Homes, with many a noble of lesser degree, met there in hot debate and family feud. The atmosphere is now entirely legal. Round the walls are oil-paintings of men honored in legal legend and lore, and famous in Scottish anecdote. Bust and statue appear at intervals in age-stained marble. Here and there deep chimney-places, and recesses fitted with seats, which are generally occupied by gossiping juniors, while their busier brethren are pacing in conference with their clients up and down the well-worn boards. The wig and gown of the Scots advocate are all but the same as those of the barrister; but his professional garb otherwise is in striking contrast. An evening swallow-tail coat and a high-cut waistcoat, with trousers of some colored tweed, constitute his visible habiliments; and in that costume the advocate is content to parade the streets of his capital. The Scotch advocate has no 'chambers.' He lives and moves and has his professional being in the purlieus of the Parliament House. The client, actual or would-be, is not debarred from finding him at his private abode, and can approach him without the medium of a clerk. It is only the busier counsel at the Scottish bar who finds it necessary to employ such a functionary. He is generally some law-office-trained clerk who can systematize his master's work, 'devil' for him, to a certain extent, and take down in shorthand a dictated opinion or draft. But it is not against professional etiquette for the solicitor to go direct with work or with fees to his counsellor. Up in one of the corridors of the Parliament House are ranged on shelves a series of brief boxes, keyless, bearing on brass plates the names of their owners; and in these any papers for counsel are generally left, unless some urgency demands their delivery at the private address of the advocate. The Court of Session is divided into two 'houses'—the outer and inner. At the end of the Parliament Hall is a lobby out of which on one side open five narrow doors. The five narrow doors lead into as many narrow boxes. In each narrow box is to be found a judge of first instance, one of the Lords Ordinary of the Outer House; the Senior Lord Ordinary occupying the box nearest the Inner House, and the Junior that furthest from it. These lords survey and administer every province of law—Common, Equity, Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty. The pay of a Lord Ordinary is £3,600, and it profiteth him nothing to be promoted to the dignity of a Judge of Appeal in the Inner House, unless he is president of his division. The Inner House consists of two divisions—first and second—of co-ordinate jurisdiction and authority. Each division consists of the apparently awkward number of four judges; but the president's opinion is doubled in the event of any conflict of numbers; he has a casting vote. The Lord President of the Court of Session sits in the first division, and his annual pay is £5,000. The president of the second division is styled the Lord Justice Clerk, and his services are rewarded with £4,800. An appellant may bring his cause before either of these two divisions, as he pleases: being liable, of course, to have it removed from the one list to the other, according to the pressure of business. From either division the appeal lies to the House of Lords."