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Counsel; and in the year 1823 he was called within the bar. From that time forward he only appeared occasionally in proceedings at the Old Bailey; but his practice in the Court of King's Bench was of a respectable order, even in days when the names of Copley, Brougham, and Scarlett held the most distinguished places in that court. The zeal and industry, however, of Mr. Gurney, procured for him a large share of business, and in the year 1832 he was raised to the bench of the Court of Exchequer. As a judge in criminal cases he sometimes appeared to great advantage. It has frequently been thought that his early habits enabled him to penetrate with extreme astuteness the disguises with which a prisoner sought to conceal his guilt; and it has been said that his anxiety to dispense the strictest justice caused him occasionally to overlook those claims which might, perhaps, in a mind differently constituted, have led to more lenient sentences than those which he felt it his duty to pronounce. It might be wished that this was more often the case with our criminal judges, for it is a truth too often forgotten amidst the sophistries of the law, that there is a mercy due to the community as well as to the accused.

Sir John Gurney retired from the bench scarcely six weeks before his death. He was a man eminent for his attention to religious duties, but on the doctrines of religion he had more than once changed his opinions. In early life he was a member of an Independent congregation at Clapham. As he advanced in years he manifested an evident leaning towards Unitarian opinions; but, before his elevation to the bench, he joined the Church of England. His charities were munificent; and it is said that his clerk was in the habit of dispensing several hundreds a year in small donations upon cases carefully selected and liberally relieved.

Mr. Baron Gurney married, Dec. 11, 1797, Maria, daughter of William Hawes, M.D. and aunt to the present Member for Lambeth. By that lady, who survives him, he had a numerous family. His sons were named after the great patriots of English history. The eldest, the Rev. John Hampden Gurney, M.A. Curate of Lutterworth in Leicestershire, married, in 1839, Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. Henry Grey, Minister of St. Mary's, Edinburgh. Russell Gurney, esq. the second son, barrister-at-law, has resigned the office of Common Pleader to the City of London on being promoted to the rank of Queen's Counsel. Sidney Gurney, esq. barrister-at-law, the third son, is an Equity Draftsman, and Clerk of the Arraigns on the Western Circuit.

in default of such appointment, in trust for his daughters.

P. 429. Probate of the will of *William Earl of St. Germans* was granted to the Earl of St. Germans, the sole executor. The personal estate in England sworn under 30,000*l.* Bequeaths to his daughter, Lady Caroline Georgiana Eliot, an annuity of 400*l.*, and leaves her all the furniture, &c. in the house in New Burlington-street, except pictures. The rest and residue of his property of every description and wheresoever situate he bequeaths to the present Earl. The will is very short, dated 9th of May, 1843.

P. 435. Probate of the will of *Sir John Gurney*, was granted on the 6th May, to his sons, the Rev. John Hampden Gurney, Russell Gurney, esq., and Sidney Gurney, esq., the executors. Personal estate sworn under 80,000*l.* He leaves to his wife 6,000*l.*, and the furniture, &c.; also the residue of his property for her life. His library (not law books) to be divided among his children after Lady Gurney has made a selection. Bequeaths to his eldest son, the Rev. J. H. Gurney, a legacy of 8,000*l.*, and the chambers in Paper-buildings. To his second son, Russell Gurney, barrister-at-law, he bequeaths all his freehold estates at Northlands and Abbots Farms, and the property at Cuckfield, in Sussex, and his chambers in King's Bench-walk; also his law library. To his son, Sidney Gurney, a legacy of 2,000*l.* To his three daughters 1,000*l.* each. The residue of his property, at the death of Lady Gurney, to be divided among his children in portions as directed by the will. To each of his nine grandchildren a legacy of 100*l.*, and to his faithful clerk, who had been with him many years, a legacy of 400*l.* The will is dated Nov. 30, 1844. On a separate paper is a list of his children and grandchildren, and their ages, place of birth, &c.

P. 436. Probate of the will of Sir *John Henry Seale*, Bart., of Carlton-place, Sloane-street, has been granted to his son Sir Henry Seale, the sole executor. He bequeaths Lady Seale and his children annuities for life, and a ring to each as a token of his ardent attachment to them. Bequeaths the residue of his property to his eldest son, Sir Henry. The will is dated Aug. 3, 1840, and in his handwriting. There are two codicils written by him on the same paper, which, for the want of subscribing witnesses, are rendered invalid. By the first, the trustees under the will are left one hundred guineas each, and to the servants are left a certain amount of wages. By the other codicil, he gives to his third son, at a suitable