

these walls may be so guided by Divine Providence that they may administer justice with firmness and impartiality, ever mindful of the paramount duty which devolves upon them to at all times temper justice with mercy.

That Your Majesties may long be spared secure in the affection of Your people to preside over the destinies of this mighty Empire is the fervent prayer of Your loyal and devoted City of London.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

It is a source of great gratification to The Queen and Myself to preside at the opening of the new Central Criminal Court. We thank you sincerely for your dutiful address of welcome, and We cordially congratulate you, My Lord Mayor, and, through you, the City of London, on the admirable manner in which this great work has been carried out. The building, which We shall presently examine with the greatest interest, is not only of handsome exterior, but is, I am confident, admirably fitted in every way for the purpose for which it is designed.

The great increase in the population of the metropolitan area which has taken place in the last half century rendered the old buildings far too confined for the proper performance of the duties for which they were at one time adequate, and this noble edifice, erected by the City of London entirely at its own expense, will, I am sure, amply fulfil its high purpose by giving convenience and dignity to the administration of justice, in the interests not only of the inhabitants of its immediate district but of the vast urban population that has accumulated in the adjacent counties.

The old buildings which have now been replaced, were, however, of high historical interest, for they witnessed during the century of their existence a change in the administration of criminal justice far greater than has taken place in any preceding century. The barbarous penal code which was deemed necessary a hundred years ago has gradually been replaced in the progress towards a higher civilisation by laws breathing a more humane spirit and aiming at a nobler purpose. It is well that crime should be punished, but it is better that the criminal should be reformed. Under the present laws, the mercy shown to first offenders is, I am well assured, often the means of re-shaping their lives, and many persons, especially children and young offenders, who, under the old system might have become hardened criminals, are now saved from a life of crime and converted into useful citizens. Still more remains to be accomplished in the direction of reclaiming those who have fallen into crime, and I look with confidence to those who will administer justice in this building to have continual regard to the hope of reform in the criminal, and to maintain and strengthen in their new home those noble traditions which have gathered round the high position they occupy.

I am well assured that the independence and learning of the Judges, supported by the integrity and ability of the other members of the profession of the law, will prove in the future, as they have in the past, the safeguard of order, right conduct, and true humanity.

We sincerely join in your prayer that God's guidance, without which we can do nothing, may be vouchsafed to all those whom duty calls to administer justice in this Court.

Whitehall, February 28, 1907.

The KING was pleased on the 27th instant, on the occasion of Their Majesties' visit to the City, for the purpose of opening the new Central Criminal Court building, to confer the honour of Knighthood upon the Common Serjeant, Frederick Albert Bosanquet, Esq., K.C., and Charles Willie Mathews, Esq., K.C.

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 1st day of *March*, 1907.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.  
Sheriffs appointed by His Majesty in Council for the year 1907.

ENGLAND

(except Cornwall and Lancashire).

<i>Bedfordshire</i> ,	Lieutenant-Colonel Geoffrey Howard, of Highfield, Bedford.
<i>Berkshire</i> ,	Major Edward Arthur Barry, of Ockwells Manor, Maidenhead.
<i>Buckinghamshire</i> ,	Lieutenant - Colonel Peter Broome Giles, of Holne Chase, Bletchley.
<i>Cambridge and Huntingdon-shires</i> ,	William Cutlack, of The Grange, Littleport, Esq.
<i>Cheshire</i> ,	Sir Gilbert Greenall, of Walton Hall, Warrington, Bart.
<i>Cumberland</i> ,	Frederick Ponsonby Johnson, of Castlesteads, near Bramp-ton, Esq.
<i>Derbyshire</i> ,	Francis Nicholas Smith, of Wingfield Park, Amber-gate, Derby, Esq.
<i>Devonshire</i> ,	Colonel Sir Dudley Gordon Alan Duckworth-King, of Wear House, Countess Wear, R.S.O., Bart.
<i>Dorsetshire</i> ,	Humphrey Frederick Weld, of Chideock Manor, Bridport, Dorset, Esq.
<i>Durham</i> ,	Rowland Burdon, of The Castle, Castle Eden, Esq.
<i>Essex</i> ,	Charles Ernest Ridley, of The Elms, Chelmsford, Esq.
<i>Gloucestershire</i> ,	Lieutenant - Colonel Fairfax Rhodes, of Brockhampton Park, Andoversford, R.S.O., Glo's.
<i>Herefordshire</i> ,	Charles James Paul Gwyer, of Eywood, Kington, Esq.
<i>Hertfordshire</i> ,	Benjamin Samuel Faudel-Phillips, of Ball's Park, Hertford, Esq.
<i>Kent</i> ,	Edward Windsor Hussey, of Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst, Esq.
<i>Leicestershire</i> ,	Richard Dalglish, of Asfordby, Melton Mowbray, Esq.
<i>Lincolnshire</i> ,	Edgar Lubbock, of North House, Grantham, Esq.