

TRIAL OF LORD DE CLIFFORD

JUDGMENT BY PEERS.

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Picture:- For the first time in 34 years, and probably, for the last time in history, the trial by peers takes place. Lord Hailsham, Lord Chancellor arrives, followed by Lord Onslow.

Lord Wakefield, all of them looking quite unspectacular, until a peer in robes alights from a modern car. An ancient and modern him. Sir Henry Curtis-Bennett, Counsel for the Defence, and Miss Reynolds principle witness for the Prosecution. Police witnesses attend, of course, and here is the Black Rod in the person of *Sir W. Pulteney* Lord Politt, I think.

Lord Castlerease, a peer, who carries much weight in press and person. Lord Rothschild in silk hat, and many brilliant members of His Majesty's judiciary are present to advise the peers on questions of law.

This trial of Lord de Clifford takes place in the royal gallery of the House of Lords, where King Edward and Queen Alexander look down upon the ancient spectacle.

Before the throne is the Chief High Steward's chair. Otherwise the Lord Chancellor's chair, and his duty it became to pronounce the acquittal of the accused peer, and so ended the last trial by peers. Tradition is the curb of progress.