

law was probably confined to the consumption of various dinners and a scrape through an examination, was made a Commissioner in Lunacy, and no doubt performed with reasonable efficiency the not very exacting duty of following about his medical colleagues, dotting their i's and crossing their t's, and seeing that the mad folk got enough to eat, had plenty of sheets and blankets. And McCombie received or was going to receive a testimonial, but when he heard that it was going to take the shape of a service of plate or some such kind of material aspect, he hinted that he would rather have it in money, and a good round sum was handed to him—more fortunate than another man whose portrait was painted and presented, and who was then called upon to make good the considerable deficiency that remained after the accounts were made up.

Lord Douglas' heart was never in his work, although he was by no means deficient in ability ; but his interests were in the sporting line, and he did not take kindly to the discussion of agricultural matters, so, on the first opportunity, he too beat a retreat, and I was asked with four others to place my name before the electors, with results which I have elsewhere described.

There were other competitors, both tenant farmers, when Sir William Forbes was selected, and unhappily for him he was successful in the ballot. The cost, although moderate enough in those days of unrestricted expenditure, was too big for a man whose property was somewhat seriously burdened, and the work of the contest, beset as he was by experienced hecklers, worried him, and I doubt if he got much fun out of it