

**TRIAL OF THE REV.
EDWARD IRVING, M.A.;
A CENTO OF CRITICISM**

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Trial of the Rev. Edward Irving, M.A.; A Cento of Criticism by Various

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VARIOUS

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TRIAL

OF THE

93

REV. EDWARD IRVING, M.A.

CENTO OF CRITICISM.

"I pray thee take the cork out of thy mouth, that I may drink
thy tidings."

As You Like It.

Fifth Edition.

LONDON:

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MDCCCXXIII.

L'ENVOY TO SECOND EDITION.

BOARD OF CENSORS.

Wednesday, 11th Sept. 1893.

Mr. Chairman—Heyday! What have we got here? “The Trial of the Rev. Edward Irving.”

Examiner—A remarkably pleasant and amusing *jeu d'esprit* indeed, gentlemen.

Times—Very smart and clever I must own.

Courier—And very amusing.

Lit. Chron.—The speeches are much to the point.

Courier—And the cross examination of the witnesses, most ingenious!

Examiner—Yes particularly happy. (*aside*)
Yours especially, Mr. Courier.

Lit. Chron.—And the defence most eloquent and powerful.

Examiner—And the squibbery in the reporting department light and easy.

John Bull—A bit of foolery methinks, but withal, remarkably smart, and well done.

Times—Let me add too, as not its least praise; so free from all malignity.

John Bull—Liberal egad! (*aside*) Shown up to the life, and yet the first to praise.

Mr. Chairman—Well, gentlemen, you seem all to be pretty much agreed in opinion— I presume Mr. Secretary may enter it as the award of the Board—

Times—That it *deserves general circulation.*

Examiner—And forms a pleasant and useful pasquinade for those *who are anxious to have all sides of the question.*

Star—And is the only thing worth reading that has been written on the subject of Mr. Irving.

Mr. Chairman—Let judgment be entered up accordingly.

HIGH COURT OF COMMON SENSE.

SPECIAL JURY CASE.

TRINITY SESSIONS, 1823.

*The KING, at the Instance of JACOB OLDSTYLE,
Clerk, v. the REV. EDWARD IRVING, M. A.*

FROM the extraordinary interest which this case excited, the doors of the Court were no sooner opened than it was filled in every part to excess, by an assemblage of persons of the first rank and distinction in the country. On the bench beside the Chief Justice, sat the Lord Chancellor and his brother Lord Stowell, Earl Liverpool, Earl Grey, Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord Erskine, Right Hon. Sir William Grant, Mr. Justice Bayley, Sir James Mackintosh, Mr. Canning, Mr. Peel, Mr. Huskisson, Mr. Tierney, Mr. Brougham; and at the extremities of the bench, but railed off from the others (for in the Court of Common Sense it is not as in other Courts), the Duke of Somerset, Lord Kenyon, Sir Gerard Noel, Sir Harcourt

Lees, Mr. Peter Moore, Mr. Parkins, Romeo Coates, and Dr. Dinwiddie. Earl Grosvenor was put into a box by himself, and the prayer-book placed out of his reach. The galleries were almost entirely filled with elegantly dressed ladies, admitted by tickets from the Lady Patronesses at Almack's. All its best blood was there. Among a crowd of persons attending below the bench to give evidence, were most of the active literary characters about town connected with the periodical press; and for reasons developed in the course of the proceedings, it is necessary that we here enumerate their names, as far as they were known to us. We observed Dr. Stodart and Mr. Barnes side by side; Mr. Jerdan, Mr. Mudford, Mr. Hazlitt, Mr. Cobbett, Lieut. Col. Torrens, Mr. Soane, Sir Richard Phillips, Pierce Egan, Rev. Ingram Cobbin, Rev. George Redford, Mr. Black, Dr. Dreghorn, Mr. Thomas Campbell, Mr. Byerley, Mr. Gifford, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Wooler, Mr. Coulston, Mr. David Booth, Mr. D. W. Harvey, Rev. Mr. Burder, Rev. Mr. Knox, Mr. Theod. Hook, Paul Potter, Dr. Walsh, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Josiah Conder, Mr. William Jones, Mr. Bell, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Gale Jones, Mr. R. Hunt, and Mr. Moody (not the *Judy*.)

Mr. Serjeant Bishop appeared for the prosecution, along with whom were Mr. Parsons and Mr. Macvicar.

The defendant conducted his own case, assisted by Mr. Counsellor Phillips. Mr. Irving maintained throughout a very firm and collected demeanour.

He seems to be about thirty-five years of age, and nearly six feet high. The general contour of his countenance is intellectual, though somewhat coarse, his complexion very dark, his hair black and bushy, whiskers tremendous. As one of his many critics has observed, "he would undoubtedly be a very handsome man," only he squints abominably.

The list of the special jurors being called over, the following gentlemen answered to their names: — ALDERMAN SIR JAMES SHAW, Bart., ALDERMAN BIRCH, ALDERMAN KEY, JAMES MILL, Esq., DR. ALEXANDER CROMBIE, A. STRAHAN, Esq., A. J. VALPY, Esq., HORACE TWISS, Esq. M. P.

The defendant having prayed a tales, the jury was completed by the following names from the common jury list. Mr. THOMAS UNDERWOOD, Mr. RICHARD TAYLOR, Mr. HURCOMBE, Mr. T. C. HANSARD.

CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Mr. Macvicar opened the case to the jury. The present, he said, was a prosecution instituted at the instance of Mr. Jacob Oldstyle, Clerk, against the Rev. Edward Irving, Minister of the Caledonian Church or Chapel, in Cross Street, Hatton Garden. The indictment was laid on seven different counts.

First, For being ugly.

Second, For being a merry-andrew.

Third, For being a common quack.