

POWYS, LORD LILFORD

ment with which he had little sympathy. As attorney-general he conducted the king's case against the seven bishops with a mildness and moderation which would have been rank treason in the ears of Sir Edward Coke. Such a man could come by no harm at the revolution which his elder brother had aided, and he became a celebrated counsel for state prisoners, Sir John Fenwick being one of his less fortunate clients. From queen's serjeant he was promoted in 1713 to be a judge of the Queen's Bench, but two brothers upon the same bench voting together with fraternal unanimity made a position which the court could not long tolerate, and on the coming of King George, he, as the more active and troublesome Powys, was removed and reinstated in his rank of king's serjeant.

In 1711 he acquired the manor of Lilford in Northamp-

tonshire, and there in the church he was buried in 1719 under a monument of grey and white marble, between whose pillars lies the effigy of Sir Thomas in his judge's robe, between statues of those qualities of Religion and Eloquence which advance a man to be attorney-general and judge.

His great-grandson, an active parliament man for more than twenty years, and famous for his frequent speeches, was the first Lord Lilford and ancestor of a numerous family. His descendant, the fourth Lord Lilford who died in 1896, made Lilford celebrated by his aviaries and natural history collections. A yachtsman and a falconer, he followed the study of ornithology from boyhood, and died whilst still engaged upon his great work of the *Coloured figures of birds of the British Islands* which was completed by the naturalist Osbert Salvin.