

JUDICIAL CHANGES IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Justice Ridley of the King's Bench Division has retired after a long period of judicial service. He was an Official Referee for many years before he went to the Bench. He does not seem to have been a great success as a judge. As one of our exchanges remarks: "It is perhaps unwise to promote at 55 an Official Referee whose previous career at the Bar has not given him any adequate opportunities of dealing effectually with the intricacy and subtlety of our jurisprudence as they arise during the actual hearing in court. Robert Lowe, a most successful coach and barrister, but an indifferent Chancellor of the Exchequer, sagely remarked of himself that you cannot transplant an oak at 50." Some of these observations are not inapplicable to some appointments to the Bench in other places besides England.

The two new Judges just appointed are Mr. Arthur Clavell Slater, K.C., and Mr. Alexander Adair Roche, K.C. Mr. Roche had devoted himself almost exclusively to commercial causes, whilst Mr. Slater was a great jury advocate. These appointments are highly spoken of by the Bar in England.

The new Common Sergeant is Mr. H. F. Dickens, K.C., who succeeds Sir F. A. Bosanquet. Although going on the Bench at the age of 68, his great legal knowledge, varied experience and vigour of mind and body will make him a success. His duties are to preside at the Mayor's Court and the Central Criminal Court. It is interesting to know that Mr. Dickens is a son of Charles Dickens, the novelist, famous as a writer wherever the English language is read.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS IN ANGLO-SAXON COUNTRIES.

Among the enlightened nations the United States leads the world in manumitting murders and enlarging felons, while Anglo-Saxon countries not under the American flag have the least percentage of murderers and felons.

Has any other nation laws which its courts of last resort