

which compelled him to undergo an operation. But such was his industry and strength of will that his ill-health did not prevent him from performing his judicial duties with a regularity which few judges have equalled, or from undertaking at the instance of the Government responsibilities of an extra-judicial nature of the highest importance. It was while he was in Paris, as one of the British arbitrators in the Behring Sea inquiry, that the fatal illness first began. For a time the proceedings of the commission were adjourned on account of his indisposition; and, although he enabled the inquiry to be resumed at the earliest possible moment, and played a leading part in bringing about the result of the investigation, his health gradually grew weaker, until he felt compelled to resign the office of Lord of Appeal. Not long before his death his condition appeared to improve, and hopes were again entertained of his recovery, but they were quickly followed by a relapse, from which he never recovered. For a judge Lord Hannen died at a comparatively early age, several occupants of the Bench being more advanced in years. He was born in 1821, his father being a London merchant, who lived at Kingswood, in Surrey. He was educated at St. Paul's School, and completed his studies at the University of Heidelberg, where he acquired his love of German literature and philosophy. His success in the legal world was due entirely to his own exertions, for his rise at the Bar—to which he was called at the Middle Temple in 1848—was not the result of family influence. For a time he encountered the vicissitudes of the briefless barrister, and occupied his leisure in writing for the press. It was his solid learning as a commercial lawyer which obtained for him a leading position as a junior on the Home Circuit in Westminster Hall. His style of speech was not adapted to what are known as sensational cases, though in the course of his career he appeared in the *Shrewsbury Peerage Case*, and was one of the prosecuting counsel in the trial of the Fenian prisoners at Manchester. As an advocate, all that he aimed at was lucidity, and this quality his speeches preserved in a remarkable manner. While on the bench he cultivated with success a more ornate style of speech. His judgments and summings-up were frequently models of pure and graceful English, and were notable for the number of apt illustrations they contained, and in the felicity of his phrases could be recognised the scholar as well as the judge. For five years Mr. Hannen was junior counsel to the Treasury.