

long recital of complicated facts the Master of the Rolls said: "I am amazed at your memory in this case, Sir Edward!" So his powers are not failing. Fearlessness is one of the characteristics of Sir Edward Carson whether as an advocate or in any other capacity.

One or two stories of his courage may be told. It was in the days of the Land League. Numerous prosecutions were being conducted in various parts of Ireland. Mr. Carson, then a stuff gownsmen at the Irish Bar, was Crown Prosecutor. The performance of his duty was accompanied by no small risk to life and limb; but the advocate was unperturbed. On one occasion his duties took him to a district where there was much disaffection. He entered a Court which was crowded with sullen and angry spectators, and was proceeding to open his case when a telegram was handed in. He read the message to himself. The burden of it was: "Offer no evidence on the prosecution of—." It purported to be signed by the Crown Solicitor in Dublin. Rightly suspecting that the message was a forgery, Mr. Carson tore up the telegram and calmly proceeded with the case. Thus foiled, the Land Leaguers became so enraged that the police were reluctant to allow the advocate to leave the precincts of the Court until the crowd had cleared and dispersed. But Mr. Carson would have none of this protection. "The King's highway" he said "is free to all." Thereupon he left the building by the front door. The crowd fell back and he walked in safety to the railway station.

HUMOUR IN THE LAW COURTS.

About ten years ago objection was taken in the House of Commons to some observation made by a learned judge of the Kings Bench Division in the course of an address to a Grand Jury. The late Sir J. Lawson Walton, who was then Attorney-General defended the judge. He pointed out that his remarks were intended to be humorous and added that it was unwise to attach too much importance to such extra-judicial utterances. "A joke in the Law Courts" he said "scintillates in a murky and gloomy atmosphere." These words should be taken to heart by him who essays to be a wit on the Bench. It is the