

Bench and Bar.

LADY BARRISTERS.

The Inns of Court in England have at length opened their doors to women barristers. The first case was that of Miss Ivy Williams who was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple on May 10th; the first of her sex to obtain that distinction in the most conservative body in conservative old England. She had gained a remission of terms owing to certificate of honour. Other women students we are told will shortly qualify for call.

PRIVACY OF JURY DELIBERATIONS.

The English Court of Appeal has taken the opportunity of passing severe censure upon the publication of an interview with the foreman of a jury in a recent criminal trial concerning the opinions expressed and the deliberations in the jury room. All discussions between the jurors should be treated as private and confidential, both on the ground of public policy and to secure finality. Every one will agree with Lord Justice Bankes when he said: "Speaking for myself, and, I am sure, for a large number of other persons, I saw the other day with astonishment and disgust the publication, in what are generally accepted as respectable newspapers, of a statement by the foreman of the jury in a criminal case, which attracted much public attention, as to what took place in the jury room after they had retired. I feel confident that anybody who read that statement will realise the importance of maintaining the rule, as it has been generally accepted, and I say nothing as to whether a person who invites such a statement and publishes it does or does not commit contempt of court." Lord Justice Warrington concurred, and laid stress upon the extreme impropriety of publication by any means of what took place during the deliberations of a jury after they had retired to consider their verdict, while Lord Justice Atkin also expressed complete agreement with the other Lords Justices.

COERCION.

Mr. Justice Avory is to preside over another Committee appointed by Lord Birkenhead to consider the doctrines of the criminal law with reference to the wife's responsibility for