

*LORD RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN*

One of England's greatest judges and one of the best known men of recent days has passed off the scene. Lord Chief Justice Russell died after a short illness on the 10th ulto. An obituary notice, giving the principal incidents in his life, appears in another place.

The *Times* introduces an interesting sketch of his life and career by saying "A great judge, the foremost advocate of his time and a striking figure in English society, has disappeared from among us with startling suddenness." As an advocate, as a judge and as a citizen he had a personality all his own. In his capacity as an advocate he had many marked characteristics. In the examination of hostile witnesses it is said that he has had no equal in the present century, with possibly the exception of Lord Brampton, better known as Sir Henry Hawkins. This power was recognized as one of the chief factors of his success at the Bar, and may best be illustrated by his demolition of the evidence of Pigott in the Parnell Commission. Another feature was the character of his addresses. Eloquent he certainly was, though he did not depend upon eloquence, but rather upon a careful and masterly marshalling of his facts and a clear, logical and forcible presentation of them. In his address before the Parnell Commission, (Sir James Hannen presiding), which was said to be equal to some of the greatest efforts of Erskine, both characteristics were brought out. And we may here recall the incident that Sir James Hannen at the close of this address wrote to Sir Charles on a slip of paper, "A great speech worthy of a great occasion." Though gifted with unsurpassed quickness of comprehension, he relied mainly on hard work and an indefatigable study of details, whilst at the same time he plunged into every case entrusted to him with unexcelled earnestness and vigor. But after all it was his industrious preparation of his cases more than his eloquence, his nervous energy and his splendid physique that brought him success. Combined with all this was a tremendous power of concentration which enabled him to give to his clients the best that was in him, and he never spared himself.

As to his judicial qualifications he had a rare power of getting at truth with an unequalled thoroughness in the investigation of