

small proportion of the existing judicial staff are graduates in high honors. Including eight Law Lords and the four paid members of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the total number of Judges may be taken as forty. Out of this number seven are graduates of Oxford and eleven are graduates of Cambridge. Of the seven graduates of Oxford, Lord Selborne obtained a first class in classics, Lord Justice Cotton a second class in classics and a first class in mathematics, and Sir Robert Phillimore a second class in classics; while Lord Coleridge, Lord Justice Thesiger, and Justices Grove and Lopes were passmen. The eleven Cambridge Judges exhibit a larger proportion of classmen than those who have been educated at the sister University. Lords Hatherly and Blackburn and Lord Justice Baggallay were wranglers, the Lord Chief Justice of England was in the first class of the Civil Law Tripos, Mr. Justice Denman was Senior Classic, while Baron Cleasby was both a wrangler and first class man in classics. Lord Justice Brett and Sir James Colville were Senior Optimes, Vice-Chancellor Malins was a Junior Optime, and Lord Penzance and Sir Robert Collier took no honours. The University of London is represented by the Master of the Rolls and Mr. Justice Fry, both of whom obtained high honours, and the Lord Chancellor's career at Trinity College, Dublin, was also highly distinguished. Baron Huddleston was educated at the last-named University. Lord Gordon and Lord Justice James were educated at Scottish Universities, and Sir James Hannen at Heidelberg, while the remaining fifteen Judges do not appear to have graduated at any University."

IRELAND.

LAW REPORTING.—Judge Christian, Lord Justice of Appeal, has been assailing for some time past the reports published under the authority of the Council of Law Reporting in Ireland. Either the Judge is very eccentric, or the reports are very carelessly done. In a late issue of the *Times* the following appears in its Dublin correspondence:—

"In the Court of Chancery Appeal to-day, Judge Christian, Lord Justice of Appeal, in expressing his concurrence in the judgment delivered by the Lord Chancellor affirming a decision of the Vice-Chancellor, declined to state his reasons for so doing, being assured that if he did so a mangled version of it would in a week or a fortnight be sold to the solicitors on either side, and would in due course be laid before counsel in London for them to advise as to the hopefulness or the hopelessness of an appeal to the House of Lords. He appealed to the Council of Law Reporting, as gentlemen, to state in their next publication that the reports

given in their publication of the case of *'Lewis and Coote v. Gordon'* had been disowned, disclaimed and exposed by the calumniated Judge. That reparation he demanded of them in the interests of justice and fair play, and he could not bring himself to believe that it would be refused. He desired to make a few observations with reference, not the strictures of the newspapers, or one or two of them, on himself, but with regard to the temperate and weighty strictures which he heard had been passed upon him by instructed, competent, impartial, nay, even in some instances friendly, critics. By some such it seemed to have been thought that he had spoken too strongly; that he had made too much ado about individuals, that, in fact, he had been breaking flies upon a wheel. With all deference, he thought that these gentlemen had failed to realize the true state of the case. The publication of that libel in *'Lewis vs. Lewis'* was an aspersion upon him of the most malicious kind that could be made upon any judge. Was he to pass that over in silence? Had he done so after what had occurred in July, it would have been loudly proclaimed as an admission of the accuracy of the report. If a policeman from the *'Hall,'* or a coal-porter off the quay, had been brought in and placed in the reporters' box, he could hardly have produced a thing of more entire inanity—if, indeed, it was not wilful caricature. But it was said, *'You are assailing the reporters.'* As well might the highwayman complain that he was assaulted by the man who resisted him. He again appealed to the Council of Law Reporting to take prompt measures for expunging from their publication the slanderous trash they had appended to his name, which constituted a series of defamatory libels on the Court of Appeal in Chancery in Ireland."

RECENT ENGLISH DECISIONS.

Company.—1. Nine persons signed the memorandum of association of a new company. At a preliminary meeting, attended by four of the signers, it was voted that three others should be allotted no shares, and the deposit made by them should be repaid; which was done, and the three had nothing more to do with the company. The directors, under the articles of association, had power to issue and dispose of shares as they thought fit, but had no power to accept surrenders of shares. *Held*, on the winding up of the company, that the three were contributors.—*In re London and Provincial Consolidated Coal Company*, 5 Ch. D. 525.

2. The proprietors of a lease and concession of the island of Alto Vela from the Republic of