office ; for Mr. Disraeli, as every one knows, had been baptized as a boy, and always professed to be a Christian. Jessel's career was not marked by any remarkable incidents. He rose quickly to eminence at the bar, being in this aided by his birth ; for the Jews in London, as elsewhere, hold together. Although a decided Liberal, as the Jews mostly were until Lord Beaconsfield's foreign policy had begun to lead them into other paths, he had borne little part in politics till he took his seat in the House of Commons ; and when he spoke there, he obtained no great success. Lawyers in the British Parliament are under the double disadvantage of having had less leisure than most other members to study and follow political questions, and of having contracted a manner and style of speaking not suited to an assembly, which, though deliberative, is not deliberate, and which listens with impatience to a technical or forensic method of treating the topics which come before it. . . . He possessed a wonderfully quick, as well as powerful mind, which got to the kernel of a matter while other people were still hammering at the shell, and which applied legal principles just as swiftly and surely as it mastered a group of complicated facts. The Rolls Court used to present, while he presided over it a curious and interesting sight, which led young counsel, who had no business to do there, to frequent it for the mere sake of watching the judge. When the leading counsel for the plaintiff was opening his case, Jessel listened quietly for the first few minutes only, and then began to address questions to the counsel, at first so as to guide his remarks in a particular direction, then so as to stop his course altogether and turn his speech into a series of answers to the judge's interrogatories. When, by a short dialogue of this kind Jessel had possessed himself of the vital facts, he would turn to the leading counsel for the defendant and ask him whether he admitted such and such facts alleged by the plaintiff to be true. If these facts were admitted, the judge proceeded to indicate the view he was disposed to take of the law applicable to the facts, and, by a few more questions to the counsel on the one side or the other, as the case might be, elicited their respective legal grounds of contention. If the facts were not admitted, it of course became necessary to call the witnesses or read the affidavits ; processes which the vigorous impatience of the judge considerably shortened, for it was a dangerous thing to read to him any irrelevant or loosely drawn paragraph. But more