

Our English exchanges refer with deep regret to the death of Lord Justice Mathew. Sir James Mathew had a reputation of being a great lawyer as well as having special knowledge and grasp of matters connected with commercial law. It will be remembered that he was the originator of the Commercial Court over which he presided for some years. He was, subsequently, appointed to the Court of Appeal, from which he retired about two years ago, owing to ill-health. The learned judge was born in 1830, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin. In 1881 he was raised to the Bench. As a criminal judge he was said to be thoroughly human, and in striking contrast with his brother Catholic judge, Sir John Day, making allowances and being lenient in his sentences. Though he had a reputation of being a wit and the best after-dinner speaker on his circuit, he did not carry his pleasantries to the Bench. Among other good things, one of the best of his sayings was that although in the eyes of the civil law husband and wife were one person, yet if a man killed his wife it was murder, not suicide. Mr. Mathew was one of the juniors for the prosecution in the *Tichborne Case*.

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We notice that *The Times* enlarges upon the suggestion of a New York paper that a retiring President of the United States should, as a matter of course, have a seat in the Senate, receiving an appropriate salary. The thought is based upon the very sensible argument that the President, whether he be one of the greatest or only one of the average type must inevitably acquire a great fund of experience and knowledge in national business. He becomes, it is said, a national asset, and it is reasonable that the knowledge and experience that he has acquired should remain at the disposal and in the service of the nation. Possibly the principle involved in this suggestion might occasionally be beneficially invoked as to the selection of men for the Senate of the Dominion. But the supposed exigencies of party politics would probably stand in the way.