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Further changes have taken place in the English bench. Lord Justice Rigby has retired from the Court of Appeal and is replaced by Sir H. H. Cozens-Hardy, one of the judges of the Chancery Division. The retirement of Lord Justice Rigby will, it is said, be much regretted, although his successor is an able lawyer, a rapid worker, and with a courtesy and geniality which has much commended him to the bar. Sir Swinfen Eady, K.C., has been appointed to the vacancy caused by the promotion of Mr Justice Cozens-Hardy. This appointment is also spoken of as an excellent one.

An Irish judge recently commented on the ridiculous method at present adopted for ascertaining children's knowledge of the nature of an oath. He termed it "a ghastly farce," asking a child whether he knew what would happen to him if he told a lie, and accepting as satisfactory the invariable reply, "I would go to hell." There is truth in what the learned judge said, but all such criticism is useless unless accompanied by a suggestion of some better way. The time at trials is generally too precious to admit of a more extended theological examination of the witness. The "invariable reply" is no doubt largely due to the fact of previous coaching on the subject, and may or may not be the child's real opinion or belief or indication as to whether he or she has any opinion or belief on the subject.

STATUTE MAKING.

The time for making and amending statutes is at hand. Our attention has been called to the matter by some observations which appear in a recent number of *The Law Times* (England). We are not aware whether the Archbishop of Canterbury has any special knowledge of the subject, but when recently presenting prizes to the pupils of the Royal Grammar School, at Sheffield, he said: "What a gain it would be if our legislatures knew grammar enough to make laws perfectly intelligible. As it was, legislators made