

jest. On the Bench scarcely ever has a jest escaped my mouth. The strain on the faculties in trying to arrive at a right solution of a problem and the overwhelming responsibility of acting as judge in other men's cases seemed to remove from my mind the temptation to jest in a court of justice."

#### THE RECORDER AND THE COMMON SERGEANT.

The Recorder and the Common Sergeant are appointed by the Lord Chancellor, but their substantial salaries are paid by the City of London. Their judicial functions are not confined to the Mayor's Court, for they are always in the Commission of those who try prisoners at the Old Bailey. It will be recalled that the present Recorder was the judge who presided at the trial of Adolph Beck whose conviction more or less directly resulted in the Criminal Appeal Act. Nor are the duties of these two lawyers merely judicial: At every city ceremony one or other of them is generally in attendance on the Lord Mayor, the Chief Burgess of the City visits the Courts on November 9, the address to the judges is always read by the Recorder.

Notwithstanding his resolution to eschew frivolity when on the Bench—a resolution faithfully kept—"Bozy," as our lawyers always called him, was full of fun and humour.

He is an after dinner speaker of the first order. When he was at the Bar where good speakers in every style are to be found, no legal banquet was regarded as complete without a speech from him. How great a boon must he have been in the city where dinners are in general more celebrated for their turtle soup than for their postprandial utterances?

#### A READY RETORT.

Sir Albert had a power which is characteristic of the really humorous speaker. He possessed and was able to maintain a funereal solemnity when saying the drollest things. This solemnity was in part due to his professional avocations. Immersed as he was in black letter law, he seldom had a case which could be furthered by any exercise of his ready wit. Indeed his style of