

Justice, the duties of which he has actually discharged for the past two years.

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In several particulars there was a resemblance between Lord Coleridge and our own Chief Justice, whose decease preceded by a few weeks that of his English contemporary. They were both remarkable for easy and graceful eloquence and decided literary and philosophical leanings. There appears to be also in each case a difficulty in assigning them their precise position as lawyers. The *Law Journal*, referring to the English Chief Justice, says: "The estimates which have been formed and published of Lord Coleridge's quality as an advocate and a judge, in the course of the last few days, have been numerous and bewildering. One inspired critic has been pleased to assert that the late Lord Chief Justice was merely a master of dignified and graceful platitudes; that his cross-examinations at the Bar were notoriously futile; and that his law on the Bench was 'always interesting and sometimes accurate.' This is not a character sketch, but a caricature, and a very ungenerous and unworthy one. On the other hand, we have been told by high authority, and with equal confidence, that Lord Coleridge and Lord Mansfield will occupy about the same place in the legal firmament. It is to be feared that this estimate is coloured by the warmth and sorrow of an *éloge*. It is useless to compare Coleridge with Cairns or Jessel even, much more with the master intellect of the creator of English commercial jurisprudence. That he had high legal aptitudes is certain, but that he did not care or trouble to cultivate them to the extent which would entitle him to be ranked among supreme lawyers, is equally true. The verdict of legal posterity on the late Chief Justice will probably be a compound of the views which lie between these two extremes. Lord Coleridge was not the equal of Sir Henry Hawkins as a cross-examiner. We are satisfied that Sir Henry would