

Possessed of ability and experience coupled with a training in an office where he often performed the function of a judge, Mr. Sedgewick's appointment to the highest court in the land is regarded as a promotion well earned."

GENERAL NOTES.

THE LAW JOURNAL (LONDON).—The *Law Journal*, at the beginning of the year, has enlarged its page and columns, and assumed a large quarto form. Several improvements in typography and make-up have also been introduced. The *Law Journal*, which has entered on the twenty-eighth year of its existence, is a worthy representative of the English Bar, and deserves the wide support which it has received from the profession.

VERDICT SET ASIDE.—A new trial is seldom ordered on the ground that the verdict was against the weight of evidence, for a jury are not often so utterly wrong-headed as to give a verdict which no reasonable men could properly find. The verdict of a Liverpool special jury in *The Bruce Sailing Ship Company v. The London Assurance Association* had, however, last week, the inglorious distinction of being set aside as wholly unreasonable. Then the question arose whether judgment should be entered for the appellants, or the case sent back for a second trial. The respondents' counsel stated that his clients might, if there were a new trial, call some additional witnesses who had appeared at a wreck inquiry in America. With the consent of the parties the depositions of these witnesses were read. The Court thought that the proposed evidence might possibly strengthen the respondents' case, and therefore ordered a new trial. On no other ground, apparently, could the Court have refrained from entering judgment for the appellants, for if a verdict be one which no reasonable jury could find, it obviously would be useless to submit the case to a second jury on the same evidence as before. One other point deserves to be noticed. According to the report of *Solomon v. Bitton* (8 Q. B. Div. 171), the granting of a new trial ought not to depend on the question whether the judge who tried the action was dissatisfied with the verdict. In the present case the learned judge had reported against the verdict, and the Court held that his opinion, though, of course, not conclusive, was a matter which they ought to take into consideration in coming to a conclusion. We are glad to find that this is good law. It is certainly good sense.—*Law Journal (London)*.