

JUDICIAL CHANGES IN ENGLAND.

Our English contemporary, the *Law Times*, thus speaks of recent judicial changes in England:—

"The past week has seen several important changes in the Bench of the Supreme Court. Lord Justice Vaughan Williams and Mr. Justice Channell, after many years of strenuous and able service, have retired, the vacancies thus caused having been filled by the promotion of Mr. Justice Pickford and the elevation to the Bench of Mr. Montague Shearman, K.C., and Mr. John Sankey, K.C. Lord Justice Vaughan Williams was a judge of great distinction and sound learning, but of recent years his tendency to prolixity had been to a great extent responsible for the growing list in the Court of Appeal. Both he and Mr. Justice Channell will be greatly missed, and it is to be hoped that they will long be spared to enjoy the rest they have so well deserved. Mr. Justice Pickford is a worthy successor in every way to the Lord Justice whose place he has been selected to fill. In every branch of the common law he has shown himself a first-rate judge, and his promotion will distinctly strengthen the Court of Appeal. The selection of Mr. Shearman and Mr. Sankey is excellent, and will be warmly approved by the whole Profession. The King's Bench at the present time is particularly strong in ability, and compares most favourably even with the giants of the past."

THE PUBLIC INFLUENCE OF LAWYERS.

Lord Haldane, in the interesting speech he delivered at the City of London Solicitors' Company's banquet, remarked that "lawyers were the leaders of public opinion in this country," and that "they had it in their hands to make or mar much of the future." Never was the truth of these words demonstrated more strikingly than in the Home Rule crisis. All the three chief protagonists in the Irish question—Mr. Asquith, Sir Edward Carson, and Mr. John Redmond—are members of the Bar. To these three men, trained in a profession—which, whatever the