

NOTES FROM THE ENGLISH INNS OF COURT.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

At the request of the Prime Minister, The Rt. Hon. Sir George Cave, Home Secretary, has refused the high office of Master of the Rolls. While the profession, having regard to his great legal attainments, may deplore this decision, there can be no doubt that it will be hailed with satisfaction by the general public. Few statesmen have served their country better since the war began. His are attainments peculiarly fitted for the discharge of the duties of Home Secretary, and it is a remarkable fact that at a time when the employment of lawyers in the high offices of state forms the subject of so much animadversion, no voice has ever been raised against Sir George Cave. He is not the first man to decline this particular office. Many years ago Sir Edward Clarke, K.C., when member for Plymouth, took the same course. Rumour was busy for a time appointing a successor to Sir Herbert Hardy Cozens-Hardy. It was suggested that one of the four ex-Chancellors who are now drawing a handsome pension from the state might well be called upon to fill the post. They are Lord Halsbury, Lord Loreburn, Lord Haldane and Lord Buckmaster. But now Lord Justice Swinfen Eady has been appointed. No better selection could have been made.

THE ADMISSION OF WOMEN TO THE BAR.

Several years before the war a lady applied for admission as a student at one of the Inns of Court. Her petition was dismissed by the Benchers, and on appeal to the Lord Chancellor this final "Court of Appeal" upheld the Benchers on the short and simple ground that there was no precedent for the application. Encouraged by the change in public opinion regarding woman's work which has come about during the war, a lady recently sought to be enrolled as a student. The Benchers unanimously decided against her. She subsequently told a press representative that: "I regard this as merely the first stage of a contest which will not be a long one, in view of the fact that I have behind me six