
Flotsam and Jetsam.

The English law periodicals record the unexpected death of Mr. Justice Byrne, which, it is said, will cause a great loss to the profession and the public. He commenced his career as a junior of the Chancery bar, became afterwards a leader in the Court of Mr. Justice Chitty, and was subsequently appointed a judge of the Chancery Division. It is said, that a judge of his ability and learning, would in due course, have been raised to the Court of Appeal. He had a pleasing personality, an irreproachable character and unflinching tact and courtesy, and to this was added, the more solid attributes of an extensive knowledge of law.

The late Lord Coleridge was once speaking in the House of Commons in support of Women's Rights. One of his main arguments was that there was no essential difference between the masculine and feminine intellect. For example he said: "Qualities of what is called the judicial genius sensibility, quickness, and delicacy—are peculiarly feminine." In reply Sergeant Dowse said, "The argument of the honorable and learned member compendiously stated amounts to this: 'Because some judges are old women, therefore, all old women are fit to be judges.'"

We are rather inclined to sympathize with that Southern judge whose decisions were frequently reversed by the Supreme Court. Needless to say he possessed no exalted opinion of the latter. One day a negro was brought before him, charged with the usual offence and being found guilty was duly sentenced. Defendant's counsel gave immediate notice of appeal. That evening, however, a mob broke into the jail and the morning sun saw the late prisoner dangling from a telegraph pole. The sight greeted his Honor as he was turning into the Courthouse square, and he gazed long and placidly. "Well, judge," asked a friend, "what do you think of it?" "What do I think?" he repeated, as a quiet smile of satisfaction spread over his face; "I think, sir, that there's one of my judgments that that — Supreme Court won't reverse."—*American Lawyer*.

RETORTS COURTEOUS.—At a dinner party the other evening, says the Washington Star, a well known minister sat opposite one of the leading legal lights of Washington. During a lull which often occurs on such occasions, the minister casually asked the jurist what he thought would be the outcome of Mayor Harrison's arrest in Chicago in connection with the Iroquois Theatre disaster.

"I can't express an opinion without a retainer," promptly replied the lawyer.