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CURRENT TOPICS.

The retirement of the Master of the Rolls, the death of Mr. Justice Cave, and the resignation of Lord Ludlow, have opened three judgeships, and have led to other changes on the English Bench. Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., was offered the position of Master of the Rolls, but although this office ranks third in dignity among judicial appointments, the offer was declined. It was then tendered to Lord Justice Lindley, and accepted. The appointment has been very generally commended, though the age of the newly appointed Master of the Rolls hardly justifies the expectation that he will be able for many years to discharge the onerous duties of the office unless he rivals Lord Esher in vigour and staying power. One of the vacant Lord Justiceships of Appeal has been filled by the promotion of Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams, of the High Court, and the other by the promotion of Mr. Justice Henn Collins, also of the High Court. These are both excellent appointments and acceptable to the profession. Mr. Justice Williams has been succeeded in the High Court by Mr. Arthur M. Channell, Q. C. The new