

## Staunton Trial.

Court and the Middlesex and Surrey Sessions, where he rapidly attained a leading practice.

"His great vitality and vigour, his striking if irregular features, his self-possession, and his knowledge of men and of all sides of life led him quickly to a large practice, especially as a defender of prisoners."—*Dictionary of National Biography*, lxi. 434.

In this capacity he was retained in most of the sensational trials of the day. In 1879 he was appointed junior prosecuting counsel to the Treasury, with Sir Harry Poland as his senior. In 1886 an affection of the throat necessitated a severe operation, and though he returned for a short time to the bar, his voice was almost inaudible. In December of that year he was appointed a metropolitan stipendiary magistrate, and in 1888 he was made a Queen's Counsel. He died at Ramsgate on 23rd December, 1892. His books, "Leaves of a Life" (1890), and "Later Leaves" (1891), are an imperfect record of his career. As a magistrate he did much charitable work among the London poor.

SIR CHARLES WILLIE MATHEWS, born in 1850, the adopted son of Charles James Mathews, the younger, was educated at Eton and called to the bar by the Middle Temple in 1872. Prior to his call he had read with Mr. Montagu Williams, and he now became associated with him in many of the chief criminal cases of the day. "At the later end of 1868," says the latter in "Leaves of a Life" (ii. 294), "the very best pupil I ever had came into my chambers. It was C. W. Mathews. He remained with me until 1879, and, as what is termed a 'devil,' was of the greatest possible service to me. My pupils generally turned out well, but I think I may say that young Mathews was the best of the lot." He obtained a large practice both in London and on the Western Circuit. He was appointed junior counsel to the Treasury at the Central Criminal Court in 1886, and senior counsel in 1888. He was made Recorder of Salisbury in 1893, and held that office till his appointment as Director of Public Prosecutions in 1908. In the previous year he had been knighted by King Edward VII., on the occasion of the opening of the new Central Criminal Court.

PERCY GYE, the fourth son of the late Frederick Gye, was born 25th November, 1845, and educated privately. He was called to the bar by the Inner Temple in 1872, and appointed a County Court Judge in 1896.