Baron Brampton of Brampton.

By "E."

PERHAPS no living lawyer filled the public eye in a more complete manner than Sir Henry Hawkins, to call him for the moment by the long-familiar title. Famous as an advocate, celebrated as a judge, distinguished alike by catholicity of tastes, vast experience of life, and knowledge of the principles and details of law, it might not unreasonably be thought that of all men he has the most frequently fallen a prey to the pen of the interviewer. But such is not the case; for, though interviewers of all sorts and conditions have endeavoured to secure his attention, he has invariably turned a deaf ear to the journalistic charmer, and refused to assist in the publication of his interesting record. If he would write it, or allow it to be written, what a history it would be of nearly sixty years of intellectual life!

BARON BRAMPTON OF BRAMPTON—PRESENT DAY.
From a Photo. by Elliott & Fry.

When discussing this subject one day, Lord Brampton told me that he had preserved no reports, kept no diary, and was entirely dependent on his memory for the facts of a successful career.

"I have often been asked to write my memoirs," he said; "but, apart from the trouble of doing so, I do not like the idea. You see, if I said anything good of myself, my unkind critics would write me down vain, and—well, I am certainly not going to point out my defects to an over-discriminating public."

Lord Brampton was born on the 14th of September, 1817, at Hitchin, in the County of Hertford. His father was a much respected and esteemed family solicitor, and his son was at one time destined to follow him in that honourable profession. However, this was not to be, for the future judge aspired to a greater fame than was attainable by the practice of the law in a small country town, and determined to try his fortune in the more uncertain branch of the legal profession—the Bar.

Accordingly, as soon as he could do so, he turned towards London, and entered as a student at the Middle Temple. During his student days he studied unremittingly, in grim and serious earnest, catching but few glimpses of pleasure, and striving unceasingly to prepare himself for the desperate battle which success at the Bar entails. In 1841 he went into the chambers of a special pleader, and after his term had expired as a pupil, he set up for himself, and did a good practice "under the Bar."

In a year or two he tired of the solitude of a pleader's chambers, and while acknowledging his great indebtedness to the system of pleading then in vogue, as a never-to-be-surpassed teacher of law, he entered the wider field of advocacy, and in May, 1843, was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple.

Every man worth his salt has enemies, and unscrupulous they ofttimes are; but it is certain that not even the most venomous of personal foes would deny that the cup of success was well filled for Lord Brampton during the thirty-three years when, either as Junior or Queen's Counsel, he was a prominent figure at the Bar.

No success chronicled in the pages of history was ever more honestly won, no success was ever more complete; it was founded on a basis of combined ability and determination, and, therefore, stood on the soundest of all foundations.

And here let me correct a very erroneous

impression which, although never prevalent, has been voiced by many whom ignorance or envy has led astray. It is absolutely untrue that Lord Brampton received any assistance from his relations: his father gave him no work, for the simple reason he had none to give; he could, it is true, introduce his son to his friends in the county, but any professional assistance was out of his power. And thus it may be truly said that Lord Brampton owes the whole of his successful career, both socially and professionally, to his own unaided efforts.

The work of his early life was severe, and on one occasion Lord Brampton, when speaking of his entering the profession, used words that will awake a responsive echo in many a junior's heart: "If I had known what was before me, what the awful uncertainty of success at the Bar really was, I don't think I should ever have dared to face it, and I certainly would advise no young man to embark in it without ample means at his back to support the possibility of failure."

The work was indeed severe, but his career was unprecedentedly successful. As a junior, he was engaged in many great trials. At the Old Bailey, in 1853, when Strahan, Paul, and Bates, the bankers, were tried for embezzling securities belonging to their customers, before Baron Alderson and Mr. Justice Willes, Lord Brampton appeared with Serjeant Byles for Sir John Dean Paul.

Despite his efforts, his client, with the other prisoners, was convicted and sentenced to fourteen years' transportation.

Before this, in 1847, he had defended a man named Pollard, who was charged with defrauding Prince Louis Napoleon, afterwards Emperor of the French, and had the duty cast upon him of cross-examining at Bow Street the future Sovereign, who, it has been stated by Lord Brampton, gave his evidence clearly and well. In 1858 he successfully defended, with Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., Serjeant Simon, and others, Simon Bernard, who was charged with being an accessory to Orsini's conspiracy against the life of Napoleon III., and he figured in many other great cases. But it was when he "took silk" that he startled the whole professional world by developing a practice which has never been excelled, and rarely equalled.

Among some of the great cases he was engaged in as a Q C. was the case of Saurin *v.* Starr, known as the Convent case; the Lord St. Leonard's will case; the Gladstone and the Van Reable divorce suits; the Westminster Election Petition, in which he defended Mr. W. H. Smith's seat; the Roupell case and the Tichborne case; and the charge against Colonel Valentine Baker, whom he defended at Croydon Assizes in 1875; all of which are landmarks in the history of the law, and stages in the progress of a great advocate.

Lord Brampton was created a Queen's Counsel in 1858. For a very long time he had what is technically termed "led in stuff," that is, he did a large "leading" business as a

From a Photo. by] LORD BRAMPTON—PRESENT DAY. *[Elliott & Fry.*

junior. The reason for this was that it had been intimated to the Bar that no more "silks" would be made for some time; for in those days, unlike the present, a silk gown was deemed to be a proof of exceptional position at the Bar, and was much more difficult to obtain than at the present day.

The number was consequently very limited. This pressed very hardly on Lord Brampton, for he practically was forced to do a Q.C.'s business for stuff gownsmen's fees. However, directly Sir Frederick Thesiger became Lord Chelmsford and Lord Chancellor, one of his first official acts was to recommend for "silk" the counsel who had long merited it.

LORD BRAMPTON—PRESENT DAY.
From a Photo. by Mauli & Fox.

Sixty years have gone since Lord Brampton attended for the first time a criminal trial. He had not then been "called," and the case was a very terrible one. The place was Hertford, the occasion the Assizes, and the prisoners two boys named Roche and Fletcher, who were indicted before Mr. Justice Vaughan for wilful murder.

The reported facts of the case were that the prisoners and some other boys—one of whom was named Taylor—had attacked and robbed an old man, whom they finally left, exhausted but not fatally injured, in the road. When they had proceeded some little way, Taylor, without mentioning his intention to his companions, returned to the place of the robbery and gave the old man a fatal kick. Roche and Fletcher had apparently nothing more to do with the murder; but, in the result, they were convicted, sentenced to death, and ultimately hanged. The scene in court was so painful as to make an ineffaceable impression on one at least of the bystanders. When the verdict of the jury was given, the prisoners fell helplessly over the front of the dock, and had to be carried to their cells. The man who had really been the cause of the old man's death escaped for a time, and enlisted in a line regiment. The police, however, intercepted a letter from him to his relatives, opened it, and found his address. He was speedily arrested, was tried at the Hertford Assizes, and was also hanged.

Lord Brampton began his legal life in the days when Sir F. Pollock and Sir W. Follett, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Adolphus, and others, were practising barristers. Those, too, were the days of Charles Phillips, Clarkson, Bodkin, Payne, and others of a bygone generation, whose names will readily suggest themselves to the lawyer on criminal trials at the Old Bailey. They used to sit then from 9 a.m. till 9 p.m.; there were two dinners, one at three o'clock, the other at five, at which judges, barristers, and friends of the Lord Mayor and officials used to dine. Those days and their customs have gone—and so much the better.

Lord Brampton was never a mere criminal lawyer, though he certainly defended many prisoners both in London and on the Home Circuit, but he never attached himself in any way to the Criminal Courts.

He is fond of telling the story of a trial which took place on his first visit to the Old Bailey, and which may be summarized as follows: Montague Chambers was defending a man for murder and robbery. I do not know the name of the prisoner, but the crime was committed in Pocock Fields, Islington. The evidence was strong, but somehow or other Chambers succeeded in getting him off, and after the trial the man left the court with his friends, who had arranged to send him out of the country. Unfortunately for him, that same evening he went into a public-house, and under the influence of drink, not only confessed, but even stated that he had thrown the piece of wood he had used in committing the crime into a pond, which he specified. One of the bystanders noted what he said and then

communicated with the police, who went to the pond and there discovered the piece of wood. The result was that the man was arrested on board the ship that was to have taken him to Australia, and being tried for robbery, he was sentenced to be transported for life.

I may add, for the benefit of the ordinary reader, that, having once been acquitted of murder, the miscreant could not be tried again for that offence, but as on that trial he could not have been found guilty of the robbery he had committed, he had never been in peril of conviction for that crime, and so was properly tried and sentenced.

The much-debated question whether, if a prisoner has confessed his guilt to his counsel, that counsel should afterwards defend him, came prominently to the front in court in the trial of Courvoisier. The facts of that notorious case are, shortly, as follows: Courvoisier was the valet of Lord William Russell, who, on May the 6th, 1840, was found murdered at his house in Park Lane. As the result of investigation, Courvoisier was apprehended, and on June 18th he was tried for the murder at the Old Bailey before three judges, of whom the late Mr. Baron Parke was one. Charles Phillips, a very celebrated advocate, defended, and the first two days of the trial were on the whole not hopeless to the prisoner. But before the third day arrived, it was discovered that certain plate which had disappeared from Lord William's house had been deposited at a house in or near Leicester Square soon after the murder by Courvoisier. On this discovery being made known to the prisoner, he had an interview with his counsel and practically confessed his guilt. Phillips then went to Mr. Baron Parke and asked what he should do, and that learned judge told him to continue the defence. This Phillips did, and in his speech to the jury he made use of certain expressions which were thought by some to convey a positive falsehood. For this he was greatly blamed, not only in the Press, but by a large section of the Bar.

LORD BRAMPTON AS A Q.C., 1860.
From a Photo. by Mantl & Polyblank.

I once heard Lord Brampton speak of this, and he emphatically and without any reservation took the side of Phillips, and his views on the matter are identical with those that are now expressed.

"In the first place, Phillips had been charged with telling a lie: this was a most unfair and stupid accusation. It is true that, having reason to believe that Courvoisier had killed Lord William Russell, he said, 'The Almighty God above alone knows who did this deed of darkness,' but that didn't mean that neither the prisoner nor his counsel knew. Phillips was an advocate, and was fully entitled to insist on preserving his character as such. He had a right to refuse to regard the case outside of the evidence given. It is also said that, knowing what he did, he tried to fix the crime on a servant girl, who was clearly innocent. He did no such thing; what he did say was, 'If this fact'—alluding to one of the incidents of the trial—'is relied on by the prosecution it might equally well be relied on against the girl, who did the same thing, and might equally well be advanced to prove she committed the murder'; but Phillips never suggested guilt in her."

Some time after, when speaking of that case to Lord Brampton, I trespassed on his forbearance and asked him: "Assuming that a prisoner confesses his guilt to his advocate, I gather that it is in your opinion the duty of counsel to go on with the defence?"

"Most certainly; the prisoner makes a statement to his counsel for the purpose of his defence, and not to manufacture a witness against himself. It is an advocate's duty to confine himself to the task of pointing out to a jury that the evidence before the Court is not sufficient to warrant a conviction. He has no business to go beyond it. An advocate should not lie, and should not impute a crime to an innocent person; but short of that he ought, as an advocate in dealing with the evidence, to do all in his power to bring about the liberation of his client. But he has no right to express his own opinion upon the guilt or innocence of his client. An advocate should free himself from his own individuality as a private citizen directly he assumes the character of an advocate."

Another story, which Lord Brampton tells with profound effect, is that of his first defence

in a murder case, which, in addition to being interesting, throws light on the subject I have just been discussing. Some time after he was "called," he was at Maidstone Assizes. He had been retained to defend three people who were accused of wilful murder. They were all of one family—a father, mother, and son—and their alleged victim was a poor servant girl, who had undoubtedly been killed for the sake of the very small sum of money she possessed. After dinner, on the day he arrived in the town, he was sitting in his lodgings just about to begin working at his brief, when the solicitor instructing him came in. He said:—

"Mr. Hawkins, I have a rather strange question to put to you, and one which I am not sure you will answer."

"What is it?" he replied.

"I have just seen the female prisoner; she wishes me to ask you whether, in the event of her pleading guilty to the murder, you will be able to save her husband and her son. She is perfectly willing to admit the whole charge, and take the full responsibility for her crime. She will say that she, and she alone, did the murder, if you think she will, by so doing, save her husband and son."

Lord Brampton replied that he hadn't read his brief, and couldn't say. "Is it a bad case?" he asked.

"A terribly bad case; it could not be worse!" was the answer, which clearly showed him that the woman's plea of "guilty" would be a true plea, and the men's pleas of "not guilty" untrue.

"Have you told her that if she does plead guilty she will be hanged?"

"Yes, she knows that. She is prepared to take the consequences if she can free her husband and her son."

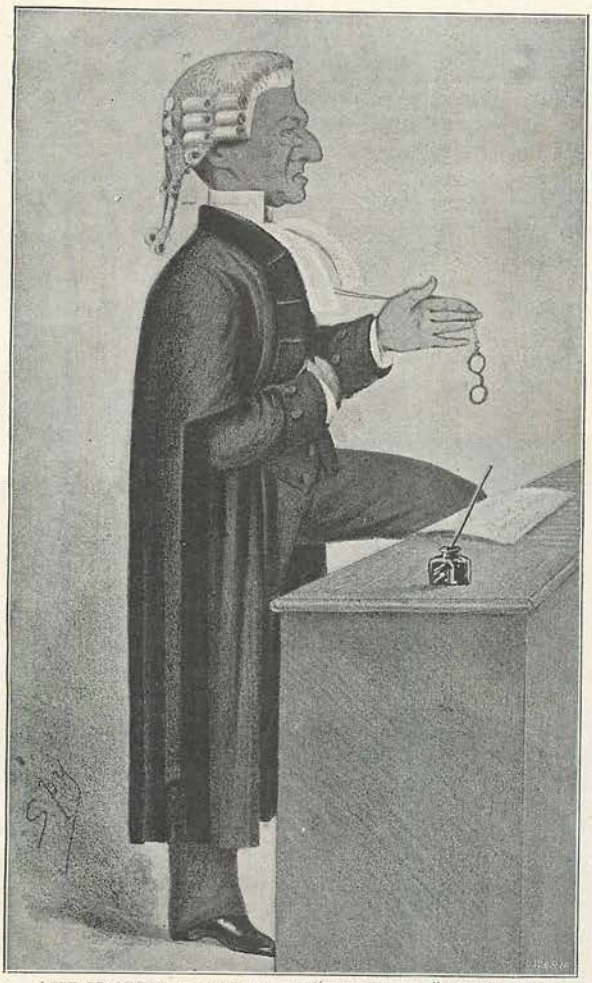
Lord Brampton promised to read the brief and tell him in the morning his opinion of his clients' position. After reading the brief he came to the conclusion that they were all three guilty or all innocent. In the result they all pleaded "not guilty," and he defended them successfully *on the evidence*.

LORD BRAMPTON, 1864.
From a Photo. by Mault & Polyblank.

When the series of lawsuits which culminated in the trial at Bar of the Claimant to the Tichborne Estates was first launched, Lord Brampton was a Queen's Counsel in possession of a practice which in retainers alone amounted to hundreds a year.

The magnitude of such a practice can only be properly appreciated by those who were acquainted with it, and it must suffice to say that very few of our most heavily-feed counsel have ever come within measurable distance of it. At the time when Arthur Orton first startled the country by preferring a claim to estates bringing in over twenty thousand a year, Lord Brampton found himself in the happy position of being retained both for the Claimant and for the trustees of one of the estates. It was obvious that he could not act for both parties, so he arranged to appear for the defendants. Want of space prevents me from recalling even the salient points of that great case, or of Lord Brampton's part in it, but it is generally admitted in legal circles that his conduct throughout the Tichborne litigation was of pre-eminent excellence.

On the 2nd of November, 1876, Lord Brampton was raised to the Bench. This appointment created some surprise, not because the new judge was not everywhere considered worthy of the honour, but for the very—in these days — singular reason that, having already refused a judgeship, it was thought that he did not desire promotion. However, Time can do a great deal, and Time, in this connection, reconciled Lord Brampton to the surrender of the great position he held among English advocates. He accordingly exchanged the successful, troublesome labours of the Bar for the dignified leisure of a judge's career. At the end of this article, my views of my subject as a judge will be found shortly expressed, and now I am concerned with history. But, still, let me once and for all



LORD BRAMPTON AS DEPICTED BY "VANITY FAIR" DURING THE TICHBORNE TRIAL, 1873.
By special permission of the Proprietors of "Vanity Fair."

say this: that to identify severity with Lord Brampton is to attempt to range under a common classification things that are essentially different.

Those who have experience of Law Courts will know that Lord Brampton was ever on the side of the weak, and, to my mind, took an even exaggerated view of the dignity of humanity.

It is well known that he is entirely opposed either to birching or flogging. He holds and has publicly stated that such a punishment "brutalizes the person who suffers it, and tends to brutalize the person inflicting it; that it is cruel and barbarous, and only tends to excite a spirit of dogged revenge in the culprit." He does not believe that flogging put down garroting, and has often condemned the system of giving a man a short sentence and a flogging as radically bad. The man suffers his punishment—he argues—and by the time he has served his term, has forgotten all about it. "The fear of such another punishment again is, experience tells us, insufficient to be really deterrent; so the result is that you turn a man into a devil, and have not one atom of good to show for the sacrifice."

Only once has he sentenced a person to be flogged, and then it was a very brutal case, which was tried *many years* ago at Leeds. The prisoner got his victim down, and deliberately ground his iron-heeled boot into his eye. It was an exceptionally bad case, but even then the punishment was indefensible in principle. He objected to ordering children to be birched, for the idea of sending a poor little fellow to be flogged by a prison warder in a prison yard was repulsive to him; and, besides, he deemed the punishment both cruel and useless. He was of opinion that a birching not only degrades the child, but it, so to speak, stereotypes the fault in his nature, leaving a painful memory to the end of his life. The criminal population owe a great deal to Lord Brampton, for he was the foremost in insisting on the speedy trial of prisoners, and the propriety of allowing bail in all but the most serious cases. In many other respects, too, he advocated the more enlightened and merciful treatment of prisoners.

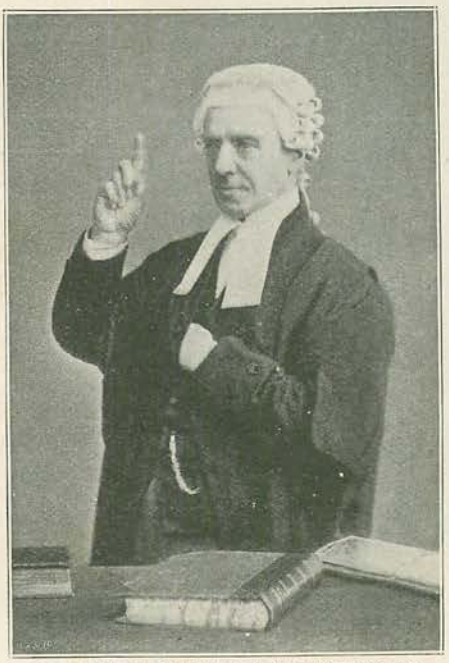
He defends the ticket-of-leave system as one which, while assisting in the preservation of prison discipline by encouraging good conduct, renders the convict's life less hopeless and less dreary; but he condemns the system of "police supervision," whose evils he has too often seen evidenced.

A man when he leaves prison should be able to begin life afresh, and it would have been bad for a policeman proved guilty of interfering with a ticket-of-leave man who was doing his best to gain an honest livelihood, had Lord Brampton been called upon to speak his mind.

It is well known that he does not disapprove of the capital sentence, which he would limit to cases of murder other than infanticide and "constructive murder" by a mother. This view seems imperative, for

if death were not the punishment for murder, every burglar would carry his revolver and argue: "If I kill my victim I may escape; if I don't, five or ten years more may be my fate —it is worth trying." The criminal classes don't joke with their necks, but they will always risk a given term of penal servitude. "There is no doubt," he said to me when speaking on this subject, "that the capital sentence is absolutely necessary to the well-being of the community."

In meting out punishment, Lord Brampton took all the circumstances of the case into consideration, and never punished a mere momentary lapse into crime with severity, unless attended with deliberate cruelty. He believes that the proper end of punishment is to *deter*, and not merely to inflict pain. He approves of long terms for habitual offenders convicted of serious crimes, but not for the man or woman who has through some great temptation or weakness momentarily lapsed.



LORD BRAMPTON AT THE TIME OF THE TICHBORNE TRIAL, 1873.
From a Photo. by] [*Maull & Fox.*

Among the chief criminal cases over which he has presided was the Penge mystery. This case was tried at the Old Bailey in 1877, and ended in the four prisoners being sentenced to death. It is common knowledge that the whole batch was subsequently reprieved, and Lord Brampton's opinion as to the propriety of the intervention of the Home Secretary is also well known.

At the Old Bailey, in 1879, a woman named Hannah Dobbs was tried for murder before Lord Brampton—strange to say, at the same time that Kate Webster was being tried in an adjoining court for a similar crime by Mr. Justice Denman. The facts, shortly, are as follows: A Miss Hacker lodged in Euston Square with a certain married couple. She was an eccentric old lady, and always kept a large sum of money in a cash-box in her bedroom. Hannah Dobbs was a servant in the house. One Sunday, Dobbs told her master and mistress that Miss Hacker had left the house. Four days afterwards, her master and mistress went up to Miss Hacker's room, found it empty, and on the carpet a stain of blood, which had been partially washed out. A few days afterwards, Dobbs was seen with a book of dreams, which had belonged to Miss Hacker; she gave the lid of Miss Hacker's cash-box to a child for a plaything, and was noticed to be wearing a watch and chain she had not worn before—and which were proved to have been Miss Hacker's. In her box, also, were found several articles which were identified as having belonged to Miss Hacker. Seven or eight months afterwards, the body of Miss Hacker was found in the cellar, and Dobbs was put on her trial for murder. The circumstantial evidence against her was very strong, but the defence was that another person—a suggested lover — had killed the woman, and had given the things to Dobbs. This line was successful and Dobbs was acquitted. The other person was soon afterwards put upon his trial for perjury arising out of this case, and was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour by Lord Brampton. Hannah Dobbs owed a great deal to Lord Brampton, who always took the view that, although the evidence against a prisoner may be strong, the punishment of death is such a terrible and irrevocable one, that it ought only to be pronounced on the very clearest evidence. The evidence in this case was not such as to exclude a reasonable doubt, and so Mr. Mead (the present police magistrate) succeeded in getting his client off.

Referring for a moment to the trial of the Muswell Hill burglars, it is reported that when someone asked Lord Brampton, "Was there not a doubt as to the complicity of Milsom in the murder?" he replied, "Not the very slightest; what made you think so?" "The reports in the newspapers seemed just compatible with the theory of the defence."

"Yes," said Lord Brampton, in a convincingly humorous tone; "but *I* try a case on the evidence given in court; and on that evidence no reasonable person could doubt that Milsom was quite as guilty as Fowler."

Lamson, whose guilt was never in doubt, was another criminal tried by Lord Brampton; and the thief and murderer Charles Peace was also brought before him at the Old Bailey, in 1878. He was charged with shooting at a constable with intent to murder him, and on being convicted he made a long, passionate, tearful appeal for mercy, the while he literally "grovelled" before the judge. Mr. Montagu Williams's account of this incident is well worthy of reproduction:—

"This harangue seemed to have an effect upon everybody in court except the man to whom it was addressed. It was a great treat to watch the face of Mr. Justice Hawkins during the speech. When it was over, his Lordship, without any sort of comment, promptly sentenced the delinquent to penal servitude for life"; and thus, I may add, dealt with him as he deserved.

Another important murder trial over which Lord Brampton presided was that of the poisoner, Neill Cream, a few years ago.

It is frequently a subject of debate in legal circles as to whether and how far evidence bearing only on motive, state of mind, previous or subsequent conduct as tending to prove system or guilt in the particular case, can be given by the Crown on the trial of a prisoner. It is too technical a question to discuss here, but in Cream's case Lord Brampton admitted evidence of subsequent administration of poison by the prisoner to persons other than the woman for whose murder he was then standing his trial. There is no doubt that this was a correct ruling; and in order to illustrate the necessity of having occasionally to try other issues than the main issue, in order to establish the latter, the following account may be given. Somewhere about 1880, a farmer living in Essex was awakened one night by a noise in his courtyard. He opened the window, and put out his head to see who or what it was. As he did so, a man outside discharged a gun full in his face and killed him on the spot. The murderer then broke and entered the house and stole some valuables. He then disappeared, leaving no apparent clue. The next day a chisel which had been used for the purpose of effecting an entrance was found in the farmhouse. Some time after, a discharged gun was found in a copse near the house. Inquiries were set on foot, and it was found that the gun had been stolen some weeks previously from another house in the neighbourhood, and, strange to say, it was also ascertained that the thief had in that case also left behind him *a chisel*, similar to the one found in the farmhouse. The police then set to work to find out where the chisels came from, and they found that they had been stolen from a blacksmith's forge in a village near the farmhouse. As the result of further inquiries, a man was arrested, and was tried before Lord Brampton at Chelmsford, for wilful murder. The main issue, of course, was: "Did the prisoner kill and murder the farmer?" The subordinate issues were: "Did the prisoner steal the gun? Did he steal the chisels?" If he did, it was almost of itself conclusive of his guilt. The jury found that he did steal the gun, that he did steal the chisels, and further that he did shoot at and murder the farmer. The result was that the prisoner was convicted, sentenced to death, and executed, after a trial which was described by the judge as "highly satisfactory."

Counsel frequently complain that—to speak plainly—judges take sides, and they argue that a judge's duty is merely to preside and take notes, and dispassionately sum up the facts. This view I have myself on occasions countenanced. Now, one of our strongest judges was Lord Brampton; and as his power of marshalling facts was very great, he has frequently been the subject of discussion. Without entering into an analytical disquisition on the point, one thing is certain, and that is that he always took the greatest care to study the proof and effect of every alleged fact before he dealt with any case, be it civil or criminal. But when he dealt with it he did so with an earnest desire to arrive at the truth. He interfered with counsel as little as possible, but was, of course, bound to prevent them leading the jury off on a side issue, the while they might well hesitate to approach the main question. After all, a judge is a judge, and should remember that he sits not to perform the mechanical duties of an automaton, but to see, to the best of his ability, that justice is done.

Lord Brampton's love of animals is well known, and no article, even written from a strict professional standpoint — such as this is—would be complete without a reference to his dog Jack, of whom Lord Brampton wrote: "I can say that a more intelligent, faithful, and affectionate creature never had existence, and to him I have been indebted

LORD BRAMPTON WHEN FIRST MADE A JUDGE, 1876.
From a Photo. by Maull & Fox.

for very many of the happiest years of my life."

Poor Jack is now no more, but his master is faithful to his servant even in death. None supplies his place. He was given to Lord Brampton by his friend the late Lord Falmouth, and after thirteen years' close companionship, Lord Brampton felt his loss very deeply. The mutual affection existing between Jack and his master is not an unfaithful index to the character of Lord Brampton.

During Lord Brampton's career at the Bar his success was remarkable. In the words of Mr. Montagu Williams: "He was not only the greatest and most astute advocate of his time in ordinary civil cases, but he had the largest practice in compensation claims." And here, by the way, it may be mentioned that he was retained to defend in nearly all the claims made by owners of the property on which the Royal Courts of Justice are built.

His power of dealing with every case before him was at the Bar unrivalled; and the imperturbable coolness, the thoroughness, the great personal individual force, the lucidity, the persuasiveness which he has ever brought to bear on his work, rendered him as deadly an opponent and as powerful a friend as could be found in a Court of Justice. In cross-examination, his powers may be described in the words of the late Chief Baron Kelly, which were spoken at a dinner, soon after Lord Brampton became a judge:—

"Of my friend Mr. Hawkins, I can only say this: that no man ever surpassed and few have equalled him as a cross-examiner; I place him on a level with Garrow and with Scarlett, whom no one has ever excelled," and this re-echoes the opinion which those who knew Lord Brampton at the Bar universally hold.

As a judge, he had his critics, but not even the sourest would venture to assert that as a lawyer he was not excellent. That he held the scales of Justice evenly balanced between party and party, and Queen and citizen, is as well known as the most elementary axiom of arithmetic.

One who knew him well wrote of him as "the kindest man in the world where women, children, and animals are concerned," and that description is true. Whatever may be Lord Brampton's faults he stands confessed as an upright and fearless judge, and the owner of a name which as long as records last will always proudly shine forth from the pages devoted to the great ones of the Law.