



THE LATE JOSEPH KAYE

Founder of Joseph Kaye & Sons Limited

JOSEPH KAYE

ALTHOUGH the founder of this concern may now be known to Railway Engineers and Carriage Superintendents in England, the name of Kaye may be said to be much better known in the Law Courts or to the Law Lords, H.M. Judges, the Bar, and Lawyers generally, and for the reason that Mr. Kaye was compelled by force of circumstances to enter into years of litigation against infringers of his patents, one of whom is, or was supposed to be at the time, the first lock maker in the country, and who it is admitted was sufficiently powerful to upset the judgment of Mr. Justice Mathew. Mr. Kaye, however, ultimately succeeded in restoring Mr. Justice Mathew's judgment in the greatest and last appeal court—The House of Lords—and their Lordships, let it be said, not only restored the judgment but ordered the costs of the House of Lords, also all the costs of the courts below, to be refunded to Mr. Kaye.

These trials were not only protracted but were fought single-handed so to speak, the effect of which, however, was to give the name of "Kaye" a status and an enviable position in H.M. Law Courts which it would be difficult to supersede. But these trials did not by any means end his troubles, for Mr. Kaye had subsequently to defend another action, this time before Mr. Justice Romer, and also an appeal against the latter's judgment, to protect what has since proved to be one of his most successful inventions, viz., his now well-known Automatic Carriage Door Wedge Lock, and although Mr. Kaye triumphed, the costs of this particular action were never paid to him. His prosecutor, anticipating failure, had given or turned his business (probably the oldest in London) over to some relative, the net result being that Mr. Kaye not only had to pay his own costs, £700, but could recover nothing, and this before the lock in question, his Railway Wedge Lock, had ever earned anything at all, or was even known to Railway Engineers or those most interested.

Mr. Kaye in all the above actions, extending over many years, was in the unique position of having the guidance and friendly advice of no less an authority than one of the most eminent lawyers of his day in the person of Sir Edmund Beckett, K.C.—the First Lord Grimthorpe—who was also a well-known authority on Locks, see 8th and 9th editions of the Encyclopedia Britannica, in which he characteristically begins his first article by writing "A Lock not a Canal Lock."

TELEGRAMS—
"LOCKENCAN LONDON"
"WEDGE LEEDS"

TELEPHONES—
LONDON (HOLBORN) 1847
LEEDS 21855



LONDON HOUSE

93 HIGH HOLBORN WC1