

shewn that the law, in formulating its theory of liability for negligence in civil cases, has not regarded the mental attitude of the wrong-doer, but has contented itself with fixing an external standard of conduct as the criterion of blameworthiness. To attempt to overlay this purely objective theory with subjective refinements is not such an experiment as could be expected to commend itself either to hard-headed practitioners or to the more academic members of the legal profession who are jealous to keep intact such symmetry as the philosophy of the common law has up to the present time been able to achieve.

CHARLES MORSE.

SUGGESTED CHANGES IN THE ELECTION LAW.

Changes in the election law have been discussed in preceding numbers by two writers from different standpoints and with widely different views. The first in the calm and judicial manner appropriate to the conservative province "down by the sea." And the other in the fresh and breezy style that one has learned to expect from the prairie province. Both articles are well worth consideration. We venture to think, however, that the writer of the later one scarcely grasped the true thought of the first in reference to his main suggestion. As we understand his proposal it is that there should be an official whose special duty it would be to enforce the election law; and, in order that such an official should be free from improper interference, suggests that he should not be removable from office except by a two-third vote of the House of Commons. It may be noted that a somewhat similar provision exists in reference to many other appointments, municipal and otherwise throughout Canada. The purpose of such a provision is obvious and does not strike us as being unreasonable. Scarcely, under the circumstances, could he be called an "irresponsible functionary," a "dictator," or a "despot."

The reason for the appointment of such an official as suggested is presumably based largely on the truth of the old saying that "what is everybody's business is nobody's business." As pointed out by Mr. McLeod, the working out of the duties of such an