

rate, as the present Lord Chancellor remains in office, political reward will not be given in the form of appointments to the Bench of justices."

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These wholesome and patriotic views of the Lord Chancellor of England are well worthy of consideration by those responsible for judicial appointments in this Dominion. To make the Bench, whether judges or magistrates, a refuge for worn out politicians or clamorous partisans is to do a most serious injury to the country at large, and brings both the appointing power and the Courts into disrepute. It seems strange that even strong party men cannot see that good political capital is to be made by occasionally appointing to the Bench, or to the Senate, or such like responsible positions, the best men of the opposite stripe of politics. Politicians do not seem to realize that there is a large and powerful independent vote that takes notice of these things, and when the time comes, expresses its opinion with no uncertain sound. In other words, it pays politically to make good appointments.

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One of our English exchanges refers to the suggestion that it would be desirable to institute a scheme for affording gratuitous legal advice to persons standing in need of it, but who are too poor to command such a luxury. The writer of the article questions the wisdom of such a step, and thinks that more harm than good would result from pandering to that trait in human nature which desires to get something for nothing; and points out some experiences in that direction in the administration of the poor laws and the giving of free medical advice. The latter has been officially said to have sown seed from which has grown up a harvest of pauperism. The recipient of such charity "soon learns to discover the whereabouts of various sentimental schemes, whereby he is able to throw off other burdens of manhood."