

ness and literary stamp that render them models of judicial deliverances.

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Some correspondence, which is inserted elsewhere as a matter of history, shows that resentment was expressed in certain quarters at the proposed filling of the position now held by Mr. Justice Curran by other than an English speaking judge. The gentleman whose name was first mentioned in connection with the position, it may be remarked, was personally worthy, and no objection could have been urged to the appointment on the score of ability or character; but the vacancy having occurred in one of the few positions held by the minority in this province, it was according to precedent that it should be filled by a gentleman of the same nationality. In a newspaper interview with Mr. Ives, which has appeared, that member of the government is represented as stating that the position was offered to no less than four English speaking members of the bar—Messrs. D. Macmaster, H. Abbott, J. S. Hall and A. W. Atwater, and declined by each in turn. Mr. McGibbon is also reported to have said that he might have had it, but was unwilling to accept it. It is unfortunate that the smallness of judicial salaries in this country prevents lawyers in remunerative practice from accepting seats on the bench. But if the leading English lawyers persistently refuse judicial positions, they cannot complain if the bench be soon entirely occupied by French speaking judges, for we do not think a government would be justified in lowering the standard by the appointment of second or third rate men merely because they are English-speaking so long as better men of the other nationality can be obtained. Lawyers should be willing to make some pecuniary sacrifice for a position on the bench. Although the salary is small, discreditably small, it must be remembered that there is the provision for a pension which adds to the value of the position. But an earnest effort should be made to pay the city judges better.