

decision that has been pronounced. Nor does the average arbitrator possess either the dispassionate judgment or the logical training of a legal expert. These considerations, in our opinion, render the ultimate success, and even the continued vitality, of the London Chamber of Arbitration exceedingly problematical. The mercantile community is fully alive to the advantages that a regular judicial system confers upon it; if it were not so, there would have been little outcry against the law's delays; and we entertain no serious apprehension that the supremacy and the popularity of the law courts will be endangered, much less destroyed, by the London Chamber of Arbitration, if the legal profession responds heartily and promptly to the instant demand of the public for "speedy justice." The stability even of the French Tribunaux de Commerce is at the present moment threatened by the very inherent defects to which we have already referred, and the infant organization for which the City Corporation and the Chamber of Commerce have recently provided a local habitation and a name will scarcely survive the removal of the ephemeral grievances that called it into being.—*Law Journal*.

Obituary.

LIEUT.-COLONEL BERNARD, Q.C., C.M.G.

A once-important figure in the social, official, and military life of the Capital has passed away in the person of Lieut.-Colonel Hewitt Bernard, Q.C., C.M.G., for many years Deputy Minister of Justice of Canada, who expired in Montreal on Feb. 24th. The late Colonel Bernard was a son of the late Hon. Thomas James Bernard, a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council of the Island of Jamaica. Coming to Upper Canada, after the death of the father, the Bernard family settled at Barrie, where both the deceased and his brother Richard embraced the profession of law, Hewitt eventually becoming a business partner of the late Hon. James Patton, Q.C., and being also associated with that estimable gentleman in the editorship of *The Upper Canada Law Journal*, a publication established in the interests of the legal profession and of the municipalities, whose well-merited eminence among similar publications on the continent it still maintains. The talents and capabilities of the young practitioner having been brought to the notice of Hon. John A. Macdonald, then for the first time at the head of public affairs, led to the appointment of Mr. Bernard as Private Secretary to the Prime Minister—thus opening an official connection of the pleasantest kind, which was to be preserved and strengthened in after years by a matrimonial union between the great Conservative leader and the Private Secretary's singularly gifted sister, the present Baroness Macdonald of