

prudence that our judges were entirely removed from, and above, political influences of every kind. Such can not be the case if a man may be a judge to-day and a party leader to-morrow. The two positions are entirely different, and no man can properly fill the one if he has in contemplation the prospect of the other.

Having been brought up with a feeling of deep respect for the dignity, importance, and responsibility of the Bench, the layman looks upon elevation to it as the most honourable position to which any of his fellow subjects can attain. The idea, therefore, that one who has been called to such a place of honour and usefulness, can be willing to desert it for the sake of political advancement, or personal gain, at once creates a feeling that after all the Bench is not entitled to the respect with which it has hitherto been regarded and of which it will be no longer the object.

The legal profession is no doubt able to take care of itself; yet, being a close corporation and a strict monopoly, it may be as well for it, in these iconoclastic days, to take heed to its ways, and be wise. It is otherwise with the Bench. In it the interest of the profession is secondary to that of the public whose welfare it so largely controls, and who, therefore, have the largest concern in seeing that its dignity, its independence, and its integrity are maintained.

SIR WILLIAM MULOCK.

The Exchequer Division of the High Court of Justice for Ontario has at last been vouchsafed a Chief Justice; the late Postmaster-General, Sir William Mulock, K.C., LL.D., having been appointed to fill the vacancy.

One so well-known in political circles and a leading and forceful member of the Dominion Cabinet had doubtless a claim to any position of honour in the gift of his party. Whether the selection will prove to have been a good one remains to be seen, for the new Chief Justice has not occupied that prominent position at the Bar, which, as a rule, should mark a man as fitted for the responsible position of a judge; and, moreover, other pursuits than law have for many years occupied his attention. In this