

dated Statutes for Lower Canada, doubts have arisen as to the powers of prothonotaries of the Superior Court, clerks of the Circuit Court and their deputies, to judicially close inventories, and whereas it is expedient to remove such doubts;—inventories judicially closed by prothonotaries of the Superior Court, clerks of the Circuit Court or their deputies, since the coming into force of the Revised Statutes, are declared to have been validly closed, and power is conferred on the said officers, for the future, to judicially close inventories; in cases in which such formality is required, as if the said section 23 of chapter 78 of the Consolidated Statutes for Lower Canada were still in force." The Act does not affect pending cases in so far as costs are concerned.

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In the notice of the late Lord Blackburn, in the present issue, reference is made to the fact that the announcement of his first appointment to the bench caused a growl of discontent, as he was hardly known to the profession as a practising lawyer. Yet he was afterwards held in great esteem as a judge. An analogous case occurred in this province. The late Mr. Justice Ramsay was hardly known at all as a practitioner, and had very little to do until the Crown business in Montreal was assigned to him. Yet when, in 1873, he was raised to the bench of the Appeal Court, by the learning and acumen of his judgments he immediately took a high place, and added greatly to the reputation of that court. There could be no such thing as slurring over the difficulties of a case while he was a member of the court, as he insisted on the fullest examination, and the more difficult the case the greater the attraction it had for him, and the more careful the investigation it received. Like Lord Blackburn, Mr. Justice Ramsay was not a Queen's Counsel when appointed to the bench, though he had conducted the Crown business in Montreal with great zeal and ability for several years. Another instance