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CURRENT TOPICS.

The Minister of Justice, in his report on appointments of Queen's Counsel, gives two reasons for not recommending any new appointments for the present,—one being that the number of such appointments in the past has been greatly in excess of what was proper, and the other, that the appointing power has not yet been definitely determined by the highest authority. The first ground, standing alone—though the fact asserted cannot be questioned—would be insufficient, for the indiscriminate benevolence of governments in the past would not be a valid reason for withholding the distinction from those who are now fairly entitled to professional preferment. But the second reason assigned is good ground for delay on the part of the federal government in making any new appointments until the question of right to appoint is settled by the best authority. The majority of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Lenoir v. Ritchie*, 3 Can. S.C.R. 575, certainly inclined to the opinion that the power to appoint is vested in the Dominion, but it is reasonable to await the decision of the Privy Council if the question is considered of sufficient importance. We say, if the question is considered of