

on measures against the king of France. The President, De Mesmes, pathetically asked the Prince of Conti, if a prince of the blood of France would give audience on the *fleurs de lys* to France's most cruel enemy. There it was decreed that no foreigner should sit in the councils of France; that a price should be set on Mazarin's head, and that his noble library of four thousand books should be sold to pay the reward. There it was more nobly determined that the philosophy of Descartes might be taught in the schools. Louis the Fourteenth annulled this decree, and the Jesuits succeeded in having the doctrines exclusively inculcated, that extent is not necessary to body; that thought is not necessary to soul; and that vacuum exists. There the Parliament avenged itself for the contumely it had received from *Le Grand Monarque*, by annulling his will, and recognizing the Duke of Orleans as absolute regent. There it issued its decree against Law's bank, which, if courageously enforced, might have prevented the ruin which resulted from that wildest of financial dreams. There the suppression of the great order of the Jesuits was decreed, and its members exiled from the country. In this chamber, when the conservative, powdered, and gowned aristocrats of the Parliament had been succeeded by the Revolutionary tribunal; when Molé and De Harlay and D'Aguesseau had been replaced by Hermann and David and Fouquier Tinville,—more dramatic trials were had than had ever been conducted by the peers, presidents, and counsellors who sat upon the *fleurs de lys*. The hall was re-christened "*La Salle de l'Égalité*," and in it Marie Antoinette was found guilty of having been a queen, and condemned for the crime. There Danton pleaded his cause before the Revolutionary tribunal. He raised his voice to such a pitch that it could be heard across the Seine; and his words were listened to by the great crowd which had gathered outside the palace in dismay at the overthrow of the great agitator. The President, Hermann, sounded his bell for him to speak lower. "Don't you hear the bell?" said the President. "The voice of a man who pleads for his life," replied Danton, "may well drown the tinkling of a bell." From this hall the Girondins marched, after receiving sentence of death, chanting the "*Marseillaise*."

In the *Salle des Pas Perdus*,—the great hall into which the chamber of Saint Louis opened, —Fouquier Tinville had a guillotine erected, so that those on trial could look from the faces of their judges to the doom that was soon to be theirs. But the Committee of Public Safety, when it restricted Tinville to the trial of sixty persons at once, also deprived him of the ever-present sight of the instrument he loved so well. The hall has been sadly changed. The visitor who gazes at reputable-appearing advocates in gowns and caps, sharp-featured notaries, uneasy clients, and wearied judges, sitting in a modern-looking hall, sees little to bring back the parliaments of Paris or the tribunals of the Revolution. The voice of Danton has ceased to vibrate; the eloquence of Harlay no longer delights the ear; the prose of the nineteenth century has replaced the pathos of the eighteenth, and the pride and dignity of the seventeenth.

(To be Continued.)

REPORTS AND NOTES OF CASES.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH.

Quebec, March 2, 1878.

Present: DORION, C. J., MONK, RAMSAY, TESSIER, and CROSS, JJ.

SERGEANT V. BLANCHET et al.; and BRAUDETTE-
plff. en gar., v. REID, deft. en gar.

Demurrer—Appeal—Illegal Issue of Debentures.

The action was brought against the president and directors of the Levis & Kennebec Railroad for damages, for illegal issue of debentures—Beaudette, one of the defendants, sued Reid, the London financial agent of the road, for having issued certain of these debentures in violation of the Company's charter. Reid pleaded to the action *en garantie*, among other things, that the directors authorized the issue, and that Beaudette, as one of a firm, actually accepted a portion of the debentures as collateral security. The plaintiff *en garantie* demurred to this last part of the plea and the demurrer was maintained. The defendant *en garantie* now moved to be allowed to appeal.

Leave was granted.