

We are pleased to state that Mr. C. B. Labatt has been added to our editorial staff. Our readers have already seen specimens of his work in various articles which have appeared in these columns during the past year. Mr. Labatt's experience as a legal writer is very considerable. The fact that articles from his pen have appeared in the foremost of the English and American law periodicals, such as the *Law Quarterly* and the *American Law Review*, and that he is the author of numerous lengthy notes in the American State Reports and Law Reports annotated is sufficient guarantee of his capacity. Another new departure for the year is indicated by the excellent portrait of the leader of the Canadian Bar, Mr. Christopher Robinson, Q.C., accompanied by a short sketch of his career. We shall hope from time to time to refer to other prominent members of the profession in a similar manner

Our readers will be glad to know that Sir John Hagarty is rapidly recovering from a severe attack of the prevailing epidemic, which had given his friends much uneasiness.

The elevation to the peerage of Mr. Justice Hawkins, who lately retired from the English Bench, is well deserved, as everyone knows. His resignation when still in good health and in full use of all his faculties only serves to demonstrate that English judges are prone to place the best interests of the public service above mere selfish considerations. When their fruitage of years is over-ripe, or some infirmity creeps in, they know the proper and becoming thing to do, and, with most infrequent and marked exception, do it ungrudgingly. Their retirement *at mero motu* may be said to be a custom of the *usus fori*. In Canada it is otherwise; here, alas!

"Weak, withering age no rigid law forbids."

The London *Law Times* thus comments upon the subject above referred to: "We should belie much which we have said in times past if we did not congratulate the learned judge and the profession that he should vacate his seat upon the Bench in favor of a younger man. We do not say a better man, or a better judge, but a younger man; first, because if judges remain for prolonged periods on the Bench promotion at the bar flags, eligible candidates