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have been in the House, since 1886, I have always heard complaints against the administration of justice as at present carried on, especially in the district of Montreal. I have always heard it said that the present system, however well it might have served in 1857, did not now meet the wants of the people or of those having business before the courts. I have always heard this said. The law has been amended almost every session. Law upon law has been introduced into the statutes to improve the position complained of. To-day there are still complaints. There are newspapers in Montreal which are not favorable to the bill, and which said at the beginning of the session that there were complaints and serious ones against the administration of justice. Some said that it was the fault of the Code of Civil Procedure; others that it was the fault of the judges. They may or may not have been right, but I say that there are excellent judges at Montreal and at Quebec. There are perhaps some who are not what they should be. Take, for example, the ten judges of Montreal. I say that they are a good average and what men in general are, and I say that if you take ten men, I don't care from where, you will not find a better average than that of the ten judges of Montreal. I believe that certain judges do not do all the work they might do. I do not know this personally, myself, I am only repeating what is usually said. Nevertheless, I profess the greatest respect for the judges of Montreal, and I believe that whatever anyone may say no ten other men would do more work than the ten judges of Montreal. The judges are men, and men are always men whatever may be the bills we may introduce and have adopted by this House.

MONTREAL'S INTEREST.

As to the Civil Procedure, the bill, as I have said, is already distributed. We will try to remedy, as far as possible, the abuses which actually exist. But with the best code of civil procedure in the world you could not erase the disappearance of the trouble that exists at Montreal, namely, the obstruction of the courts. There are

not enough judges at Montreal, while in other parts of the province there are far too many. Now some one may say: "You have no right to legislate only for the city of Montreal. You must not take into consideration only the wants of the great metropolis of Canada, whatever its importance." To a certain point I differ from those who think thus. I do not mean to say that the legislation of this country should be subordinated to the interests of Montreal, but I do say that Montreal, from a financial standpoint, from a commercial standpoint, from the point of view of the population and from the point of view of the judicial business of the country has a right to all the solicitude of the Legislature. Now, sir, above all, from the point of view of the administration of justice, I say that we are obliged, if not to subordinate the administration of justice of all the province to that of the city of Montreal, at least to give to the city of Montreal the part which she deserves by the important position which she occupies in judicial annals. I will give the House some figures which will show to what a degree our solicitude for the city of Montreal in this important affair should actuate us.

WHERE LEGAL BUSINESS CENTRES.

Here are statistics for the past ten years made, not by persons under the control of the Government, but by officers who are absolutely free to do their duty, and who are obliged to do it. During the last ten years there were issued from the Superior court for the whole of the province of Quebec 52,331 writs. Thus in all the province of Quebec there were issued from the Superior court 52,331 writs. Now how many do you think out of this number were issued from the Superior court of Montreal? I was surprised and astonished at the number of writs issued from the Superior court of Montreal, and this inclines me more than ever to say that I should come to the aid of the city which suffers the most from the existing state of affairs. The number of writs issued from the Superior court of Montreal was 29,269. That is to say, that more than half the writs of all the province of Quebec were issued from the Superior court of Montreal. Now, let us take the judgments in contested cases. The Su-