

The Legal News.

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The appointments of Queen's Counsel in England have been announced, but what a contrast does the list present to those upon which we have recently commented! The *London Law Journal* says, "an addition of new silk to the Queen's Counsel bench has been expected for some time. One Queen's Counsel only was appointed last year. In February, 1888, fourteen practising barristers were made Queen's Counsel. On the present occasion seven practising barristers only are put in the front row. The appointments of Sir Augustus Stephenson, Solicitor of the Treasury and Director of Public Prosecutions, and of Sir William Hardman, formerly chairman of the Surrey Sessions, are honours well deserved from long service in public office. Mr. A. V. Dicey, junior standing counsel to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, has long earned the right of becoming leading counsel. Mr. R. P. Haldane, M. P., is the only Chancery barrister appearing in the list. The Midland Circuit has Mr. C. A. Cripps, the South-Eastern Mr. R. O. B. Lane and Mr. Sidney Woolf, the North-Eastern Mr. Cyril Dodd, and the Northern Mr. Macrory as new leaders on those circuits." It appears, therefore that in three years only twenty-two appointments have been made in England—less than the number announced on one day in the province of Quebec alone!

The death of Mr. Alfred B. Major has made a gap not easily filled in the ranks of the junior bar of Montreal. Mr. Major came here a stranger, a few years ago, and by steady application combined with fair ability, obtained admission to the profession, and was rapidly making his way to an excellent position at the bar when prostrated by the illness which, unhappily, has cut short his career. Mr. Major was the author of "Legal Sketches," a republication of papers and sketches of considerable merit, which was

favorably noticed at the time of its appearance. He was also a valued contributor to the Montreal Law Reports.

Pres. C. W. Needham, at the annual meeting of the Chicago Law Institute, observed:—"A library is a workshop—a place of toil and labor. No sound of hammer is heard; men move in quiet, but temples rise—temples not for idol worship, but wherein dwell rightness and truth. For come with what purpose we may, the study of great opinions, the reasoning of learned jurists, the clear presentation of sound law upon the written page, and greater still, the conviction that always accompanies truth, leads all minds to an apprehension of right principles, and the constant study of them to the practice and application of these principles to practical questions and issues. Books are thoughts crystallized—ideas in picture. We study them from without and detect the errors and apprehend the right as we cannot do by any other process. The decisions of Courts are the application of principles to practice, and we judge of the rightness of these principles, and the fitness of their application, without the prejudice or bias that comes with personal contact, or knowledge of the parties immediately interested. Nothing quickens mind like contact with mind, and in the library this process is carried on without distraction or unnecessary friction. He who establishes a library of good books, not only preserves thought, but furnishes the tools and material for the creation of new thought; and they who establish and maintain a well selected law library, not only preserve precedents, but furnish the inspiration and activity of mind that creates good law and makes able jurists."

SUPREME COURT OF CANADA.

OTTAWA, Jan. 22, 1890.

Ontario.]

HALDIMAND ELECTION CASE.

*Election law—Corrupt act—Bribery by Agent
—Proof of Agency.*

An election petition charged that H., an agent of the candidate whose election was