

of writs issued and judgments rendered; but others, it must be remembered, fell far short of their proportion.

In the old Districts of Three Rivers and St. Francis, 180 writs were issued, 213 causes were contested, and 51 judgments were rendered therein.

In Bedford, which is the next in the number of contested actions, leading by 21 its successor, but 59 causes were contested, and 19 judgments rendered in such cases. To balance these, however, in Beauce, but 4 cases were contested, and not one judgment rendered; in Montmagny, 12 contested cases shew but 2 judgments; in Rimouski, no judgments were rendered, though 12 causes were contested; in Saguenay, but 2 contested causes, which produced no judgments; in Percé, 1 contested cause—no judgment; in New Carlisle, 2 contested causes are balanced by 2 judgments; in Ottawa, 26 cases were contested, and but 5 judgments were rendered. (Judgments by default are not taken notice of in the foregoing statement.)

To shew still more fully the insignificance of some of the Districts graced by a resident Judge, let the Record of executions be consulted. In Kamouraska, 17 writs *de bonis* and 4 *de terris* were issued; in Percé, 3 *de bonis*; in New Carlisle, 1 *de bonis* and 1 *de terris*; in Chicoutimi, not one; in Saguenay, 6 *de bonis* and 2 *de terris*;—whilst in Quebec, 308 *de bonis* and 96 *de terris*, and in Montreal 415 *de bonis* and 161 *de terris* were taken out.

It may perhaps be as well now to examine the statistics of the Circuit Court, in order to see whether the number of actions therein instituted tends to maintain the principle of decentralisation.

In 1860, 29,894 writs were issued in Lower Canada, of which 2882 were in appealable and 26,376 in non-appealable cases, according to the Returns (leaving 636 cases not accounted for); 6652 cases were contested and 4702 judgments, 1356 in Quebec, and 844 in Montreal, were pronounced.

DISTRICT.	CONTESTED CASES.	JUDGMENTS.
In Kamouraska, - - -	127 - - -	94
Ottawa, - - -	96 - - -	66
Gaspé, - - -	54 - - -	19
Saguenay, - - -	45 - - -	30
Chicoutimi, - - -	71 - - -	55
Beauce, - - -	8 - - -	3
Montmagny, - - -	119 - - -	69
Rimouski, - - -	215 - - -	155

When it is remembered that the foregoing statement comprises appealable and non-appealable cases, a correct idea may be formed of the business transacted in some of the New Districts of Lower Canada.

How frightfully overworked the Judges resident in the District of Gaspé must be, forced to render one judgment per annum each in the Superior Court, and nineteen judgments between them in the Circuit Court. Or who would not be inclined to pity the Honorable Gentleman at Ottawa, who gets through in one year 66 cases in the Circuit, and 5 in the Superior Court. Or look at Montmagny and Beauce, what a delightful prospect for a Resident Judge having a decided leaning towards the *otium cum dignitate*.