

Bar. Again, the qualification of seniority seems to be of no account in this list—not that that in itself is a qualification—but some juniors in a firm are appointed over their seniors of at least equal capacity and standing. The key to the puzzle, if there is a key, must be party politics, and a most unpleasant and inappropriate one it is.

Long ago the profession had almost come to the conclusion that "silk" had ceased to be an honour, and this list confirms that conclusion. Those who are responsible for the appointments have again belittled what was, many years ago, regarded as a very honourable distinction. Better that the farce should cease and the position be abolished. To be made one of a herd of nobodies is no compliment to men of real merit, and it brings into ridicule those whom the whole profession know have received the honour for no other reason than political support of the party in power.

One of the appointees, we understand, has declined the honour, whether from motives of modesty or contempt we are unable to say. It is not very complimentary to the Crown when its honours are thus declined.

There is another cognate matter to which attention should be called. There are some gentlemen at the Bar who hold patents of the Dominion Government appointing them King's Counsel. One at least of these gentlemen, and there may be more, considers that this gives him no right to appear in silk in the Provincial Courts. The recent appointments by the Provincial Government do not, we believe, include any of these gentlemen, although some of them are eminently worthy of the distinction. It would seem odd to see, in an Ontario Court, well-recognized leaders of the Bar in "stuff" when some junior non-entity appears in silk and takes precedence. The question arises, ought the appointment by the Dominion Government of a gentleman as a K.C. to be regarded as a bar to his appointment as a K.C. by the Provincial Government. We should say it ought not, but we fear it is so considered, if this phase of the subject has been considered at all.