

*MR. JUSTICE RIDDELL.*

The vacancy in the King's Bench Division caused by the lamented death of the late Mr. Justice Street has been filled by the appointment of Mr. W. R. Riddell, K.C., to the position. We think congratulations are due, not only to Mr. Riddell, who has won the legal equivalent of the "Marshal's baton" which Napoleon said was in the knapsack of every grenadier, but also to the public and the profession which will feel that the Canadian Government has in this instance duly appreciated one of its most important duties, that of filling up from the ablest members of the Bar the vacant places in the ranks of those who are chosen to the high office of the interpretation and administration of the law.

William Renwick Riddell, as we are informed in the indispensable "Morgan," is "the son of Walter Riddell of the family of Riddell of that ilk in Scotland," and was born near Cobourg, with which town many of the leading events in his career have been associated. His name suggests, what is indeed the fact, that his ancestors came from that rugged border-land of Dumfries which has produced so many strenuous Scots, from the days of Bruce and Douglas to those of Thomas Carlyle. Mr. Riddell received his education at the well-known Collegiate Institute of his native town in which he was afterwards for some time the mathematical master, and at Victoria University, of which he is one of the most distinguished alumni. From that University he received high honours in mathematics and natural science, and also the Bachelor's degree in arts, science and law. Early in life he attained a high position as an educationist, being appointed Professor of Mathematics in the Ottawa Normal School in 1875. The attractions of law, however, were not to be gainsaid, the teacher's desk was abandoned for that of the student-at-law, and in 1883 he was called to the Bar, standing first in all his examinations and winning the gold medal of the Law Society. He began practice in Cobourg, where he soon took a leading position which justified his removal to a wider arena in Toronto in 1892, first in partnership with Mr. Charles Millar and Mr. R. C. Levesconte, and subsequently as a member of the well-