

local law. But with this inconvenience we must make up our minds to accommodate ourselves for the present. It cannot be removed, and I don't well see how it can be modified.

I think any agitation to abolish the Supreme Court, would be highly undesirable, although I have always thought its establishment premature, and the principle of its composition most unfortunate.

What is required in the Court of Queen's Bench is greater facility for hearing cases in Montreal, but it is quite unnecessary for me to enlarge on the method of accomplishing this, as I have given it in full detail in a former letter, with a calendar showing precisely how it would work in practice. It does not differ very materially from the scheme suggested by the report, although I hardly agree with the literal interpretation the Commissioner gives to a notable, if not a very inconvenient part, of the punishment for original sin. I see no resemblance between the labour of the hands and that of the head, and consequently I don't see any reason for the judges sitting on the Bench every day because a workman earns his daily bread by his day's labour. On the contrary, subjecting judges to the harassing rules the Commissioner desires to lay down, would prevent them from performing their duties. As a fact lawyers don't plead every day, nor can judges sit every day. A man of learning like the Commissioner must know that "The wisdom of a learned man cometh by opportunity of leisure."

I disapprove of further limiting trial by jury. It appears to me that juries, as a rule, deal more reasonably with the facts of every-day life than judges, except when misled by passion. When these rare instances occur, new trial affords a sufficient protection. I don't think there is a probability of twelve jurors ever misunderstanding the value of evidence so outrageously as it was misunderstood in the case of *Desilets v. Gingras*. As far as my experience goes, and I have had no inconsiderable opportunity of forming an opinion, I would say, that the people of this Province make excellent jurors. They appear to me generally to be honest, patient