

Bench and Bar.

APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE.

Henry Lumley Drayton, of the city of Toronto, Ontario, to be Chief Commissioner of the Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada, vice James Pitt Mabee, deceased. (July 1).

Hon. Charles Peers Davidson, puisne judge of the Superior Court of Quebec to be Chief Justice of that court, vice Sir Melbourne Tait resigned. (June 13).

Campbell Lane, of the city of Quebec, Province of Quebec, to be a puisne judge of the Superior Court for the Province of Quebec, vice Charles Peers Davidson. (June 26).

David John Nesbitt, of the village of Brighton, County of Northumberland, to be sheriff of the United Counties of Northumberland and Durham, vice I. O. Proctor resigned. (Aug. 3).

William F. McRae, of the town of Gore Bay, Manitoulin, to be Crown Attorney and Clerk of the Peace for the provisional judicial district of Manitoulin, vice A. G. Murray, removed from office. (June 8).

Flotsam and Jetsam.

A FIRM JUDGE.—“I never sat in the trial of a case in which I cared two cents which side gained it,” once said a judge, boasting of his impartiality. “Old Ben Wade” was not that sort of a judge, while administering justice in five Ohio counties. He saw at once the right of a case, and made the jury discern the real issue. Once when trying a case his rulings made the prosecuting attorney snarl out: “I have always understood that it was the province of the jury to decide the facts; the court has nothing to do with them.” “Gentlemen,” replied the unmoved judge, “the attorney for the state is correct; it is your province to decide the facts. The court has nothing directly to do with them—if it had it would not take long.” The retort prompted the jury to return a verdict of acquittal after a few minutes’ consideration.

Few of Wade’s rulings were reversed by the Supreme Court, but there was one notable exception. A difficult case which he