

country, came forward and claimed the whole estate. Very reluctantly the courts held that under the then existing law respecting aliens, an alien was not entitled to take the property, and it must all go to the nephews. The case went to the Privy Council, and there the judgment was confirmed because the son was an alien. Twice the Privy Council maintained that the nephews were entitled to the property. And then, in 1849 or 1850, after twenty years of litigation, the Legislature of the late Province of Canada passed an Act relieving this young man from the disabilities of an alien, and gave him the property which would have been his by inheritance if he had been born six months later. All the costs were allowed out of the estate. In 1849 there were several good constitutional lawyers in Parliament, yet the statute was contrary to the decisions of the Privy Council. The present case did not approach the case of Donegani. There were also Acts passed at Quebec on two occasions, giving validity to the minutes of notaries who had died without having their deeds countersigned. These instances showed that the Dominion Parliament had the power to pass the Act in question. The Privy Council, moreover, held that the Dominion Parliament had a right to deal with the question. The Dominion Parliament have dealt with it. The law is not so carefully worded as it might have been; but the Court has to interpret it. His Honor read the Act, and expressed the belief that it covered the present case. There was a question as to costs. Under the circumstances, the judgment would be maintained with costs of the lower Court, but each party would pay their own costs in appeal.

BABY, J., concurred entirely in the remarks of the Chief Justice.

Judgment confirmed, Ramsay, J., dissenting.

*Macmaster, Hutchinson & Knapp*, for Appellants.

*J. L. Morris*, for Respondents.

#### GENERAL NOTES.

SERGEANT K —, having made two or three mistakes while conducting a cause, petulantly exclaimed, "I seem to be inoculated with dullness to-day." "Inoculated, brother," said Erskine, "I thought you had it in the natural way."

Nous avons appris avec regret la mort de M. Abraham Lesieur Désaulniers, doyen du Barreau des Trois-Rivières et ex-député du comté de St. Maurice à la Chambre Locale. M. Désaulniers s'est éteint dans sa 60<sup>ème</sup> année. Jusqu'au temps de sa dernière maladie il avait été un collaborateur assidu à la presse canadienne.—*La Minerve*.

A DANISH colonial magistrate, for whose exceptional character and ability we can vouch, once made a grimly comic experiment in this direction, and upon this principle: He was appalled by the endless perjuries committed in cases before him, determined to stop them, and did. He, of course, said nothing of his method, but an English friend seated beside him on the bench noticed that whenever a witness told a palpable lie he jumped. He asked the reason, and the magistrate, after a caution, revealed his secret. "My orderly stands behind the witness, and whenever I put my left hand to my ear, that indicates that the evidence is false, and he runs a pin into him." It is a well known fact to the many who will recognize this story that the "sting of conscience" in this material form proved effectual, and that the magistrate, who died honored throughout Denmark, in three years turned an Alsatia into one of the most orderly and law-abiding of communities. He could always get the truth.—*London Spectator*.

GOOD RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR. (Copied surreptitiously from the Diary of a member of the Bar.)—

1. During the New Year not to lose any case; if it cannot be gained within the year, fight it over into the next.

2. When defeated don't lie down, but go up. If my client can afford to be beaten, tell him I can't.

3. Don't ask an adjournment for a reason that the other side know is a false pretext. Truth is the best policy, at least when the truth is known.

4. It is a good thing to have as many causes on the calendar as possible, even if there is nothing in them. It looks well, and keeps one's hand in.

5. Keep the diary full of entries, even if there is nothing doing. It looks busy.

6. When I go out to dinner or for a lounge with a cigar, always say I have gone to a reference. It keeps up respect and discipline in the office.

7. Always take two or three files of law papers in hand when walking through Nassau street or Broadway; it looks well. Never carry a book; it looks as if one hadn't all the law in his head.

8. When speaking of the judges to clients, always say "Old so and so." It impresses clients so favorably.

9. To get business, grab for it. Clients don't know whether to trust a lawyer till they see how hungry he is.

*Query.* Whether it is the best policy to make reasonable charges and build up a *clientèle*, or to take all I can get from each and then look out for a new client?

*Query No. 2.* Is it best in a doubtful case to engage senior counsel and succeed, or take the whole fee and run for luck?—*N. Y. Daily Register*.