

THE GREAT WANT IN CIVIL CASES IN CANADA.

When any one publishes a pamphlet on a Law suit in which he has been unsuccessful, the common inference is, that he intends to prove that he should have won. This is, however, so far from my intention that if I am even remotely instrumental in procuring what I think would be a great boon for Canada, and one which is enjoyed in England, I shall greatly rejoice. There is one privilege which is denied to suitors in civil cases in Canada, namely, a hearing in Court. They are forbidden to state their cases in evidence, but must prove everything indirectly by such clues or presumptions as they can find, except they are subpœnæd by the opposite side to do so, on written questions. Lord Brougham was the first to see the inconvenience of this, and was instrumental in bringing in a Law that allowed all men to be heard on oath, their evidence of course being taken for what it was worth as to character and other concomitant circumstances, and it has often been considered that this was one of the greatest blessings that illustrious man ever conferred upon his country. I wish to guard myself particularly against it being supposed that I consider the Justices C. J. Duval, Caron, Badgely and Drum-