

Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XXXIV.

OCTOBER 15, 1898.

NO. 17.

We recorded in our last number the elevation of Mr. Archer Martin, of Victoria, to the British Columbia bench, an appointment which has been very well received. He is the second son of Mr. Edward Martin, Q.C., of Hamilton, Ontario, having been born in 1865. In 1887 he was called to the Bar of Manitoba, and in January, 1894, went to Victoria, where he was shortly afterwards appointed counsel for the Dominion Government, and agent for the Minister of Justice in that city. Mr. Martin recently published a book, which is well thought of in England and in this country, on the land tenures of the Hudson's Bay Company. He was for several years editor of the *Western Law Times*, published in Winnipeg. Being only 33 years old, he must be, we think, the youngest Judge on the Canadian Bench. As a brother journalist we congratulate him upon his appointment, and venture to predict that he will prove a most useful member of the Bench.

Attention has been called in England to what has been styled a "judicial eccentricity," viz.: the sentencing of a prisoner, who was a Frenchman, in his own language. The sentence should undoubtedly have been pronounced in English, but as the prisoner was a Frenchman he was given the benefit of a sentence in a language which he could understand, and probably no great harm was done. There is not much fear of England (whatever may happen in a peaceable manner to the English speaking people in Canada) being dominated either by Frenchmen or the French language. As a contemporary remarks, since the time of Edward III. our own tongue has taken the place of the French in the courts