

* * * By warrant of the Admiralty, dated the 17th August last, the Exchequer Court of Canada was endowed with the jurisdiction of a Prize Court in time of war. The appeal from the court in such matters lies to Her Majesty in Council direct. (Naval Prize Act, 1864, sec. 5.) Apropos of this event we might quote from Lord Stowell, at 1 C. Rob. 350:—"It is to be recollected that this is a court of the Law of Nations, though sitting here under the authority of the King of Great Britain. It belongs to other nations as well as to our own; and what foreigners have a right to demand from it is the administration of the Law of Nations simply."

* * * The lawyer of literary tastes will find much to entertain him in Mr. Stephen Wheeler's recently published "Letters of Walter Savage Landor." Landor was a man of action as well as of letters; and though the lack of amiability which characterizes his correspondence often offends the reader, yet the correctness of his views concerning the statesmen and state-craft of his time renders them extremely instructive. Anyone familiar with his "Imaginary Conversations" will not require to be told that the letters are marvels of style. He seems to have had a profound contempt for Lord Brougham, and in writing to the "Examiner" on an occasion when that journal was threatened with an action for libel by the Lord Chancellor, he thus pillories him: "The prosecution with which you are threatened by Lord Brougham might well be expected from every facette of his polygonal character. He began his literary and political life with a scanty store of many small commodities. Long after he set out, the witty and wise Lord Stowell said of him, that he wanted a little law to fill up the vacancy." Later on he asks: "What other man within the walls of Parliament, however hasty, rude and petulant, hath exhibited such manifold instances of bad manners, bad feelings, bad reasonings, bad language and bad law?" And he adds: "They who cannot be what they want to be, resolve on notoriety in any shape whatever!" We feel it necessary to explain, in justice to ourselves and the memory of Lord Brougham, that we offer this as a specimen of Landor's invective rather than his perspicacity in estimating the worth of public men. Of the latter quality Mr. Wheeler's book contains many instances, which we have no space to quote.