

In a word, that any number of Queen's Counsel it may please the executive to name, may besiege any of the Courts of Law in Upper Canada, and there out-vote the regularly appointed Judges of the land.

We conjure Mr. Cameron, ere he renders himself instrumental in passing such a measure, to pause and consider what would be the consequences of an invasion of a new levy of some sixteen or twenty newly caught Queen's Counsel from Lower Canada, determined to sit on a case perhaps involving an intricate question of real property.

Amid this rage for law reform, we are also menaced with a bill introduced by the learned prosecutor for the Crown at Sherbrooke; which surpasses anything in the shape of legislation we have ever had the good, or rather ill fortune to read. To describe it minutely would not be easy, but its principal characteristic is that it endeavours to convert into a felony the most innocent actions of every man's life, that it presumes guilt and leaves innocence to be proved. As an instance of this, we may take the 14th and 19th sections, by which it is proposed to enact that if a person is aware that there is some forged promissory note, letter of credit or bank note lying in some one of his open fields, he is liable to being convicted of felony unless he can prove how it came there. It is not to be denied that, in the locality in which the learned legislator has acquired his professional experience, the crimes against which the Bill now under our consideration is directed are only too common; but this sort of rough legislation is not found to produce the effect intended, and for the simple reason, that by its operation innocence and guilt are so nearly allied, that the line of demarcation is lost, juries cannot be got to convict, or public opinion to blame them for not convicting.