

latent cases, they may have espoused and undertaken to establish for their clients.

Purity in the administration of justice requires that the position of the Judge should be beyond the reach of suspicion.

It is obvious, therefore, that the constitution of this Court, which allows a minority of its members to lay down the Law and rule in a manner contrary to the opinion of the majority, which permits the rendering of judgments opposed to each other in like cases and which suffers practising Barristers to sit and act as judges, is in its nature *anomalous* and requires to be abolished.

The exercise by the Court of Queen's Bench in Inferior Term, which the existing Law sanctions, of a concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Courts, throughout the Districts, in matters under twenty pounds currency, is productive of much hardship and inconvenience to the rural population. A trader living in a country Parish will prosecute several of the parishioners at the same time and retain an Attorney residing at Quebec to take out the actions. (I speak in particular of the extensive District of Quebec, but presume from the nature of the Law that the same evil exists in the other Districts.) The Attorney will find it more suited to his own convenience to take out the actions from, and bring the Defendants before, the Court at Quebec, than to travel fifty, seventy-five, ninety, or one hundred and eighty miles, to the place where the Circuit Court may be held in the neighborhood of the Defendant. This facility, so advantageous to the members of the legal profession, of concentrating all the business in the chief Towns, is too detrimental to the community at large to be permitted to endure.

The Bankrupt Law is susceptible of some amendments.

The Judicature Act which declares that the Circuit Judges shall be Commissioners of Bankrupts and may act alternately as such, is at variance in some particulars with the Bankrupt act, although both these Acts passed the Legislature simultaneously.

The complaint against, and abuses of, the Commissioners' Courts in the Country Parishes, which in former days led to their abolition and to the appointment in their place of a Circuit Court of Requests, warranted the belief that they never again would be brought to life. The latter Court was considered, by the inhabitants of the District of Quebec, as a great