

so, a very extraordinary result will have been accomplished by this brief sentence, and one which neither in the interest of landlords or tenants was demanded, nor is likely to prove of any real benefit to either of them, but rather the reverse, inasmuch as until the effect of this section is determined judicially it may have the effect either of increasing the expense of leases by the introduction of a multitude of stipulations, which under the former law were, without any stipulation, an ordinary and necessary part of the relationship of landlord and tenant, or, where those precautions are neglected, it may result in both landlords and tenants finding themselves deprived of rights which they had previously and confidently assumed they still enjoyed, but which, for want of an express or implied contract that they should still continue to enjoy them, they may find they are not entitled to.

On the other hand, it may turn out that the effect of the section is not quite so revolutionary, and that the real purpose and object of it is to be found in the concluding clause, and that it is merely meant to enable assignors of leases and others, having no reversion, to distrain. We are inclined to think that this is the proper construction of the section, and that, notwithstanding its provisions, the right of landlords to distrain as of yore is not intended to be interfered with, but rather extended to cases where before the Act a distress could not be made, owing to the technical rule that in order to entitle a landlord to distrain the rent must be incident to a reversion; but until the exact effect of the section has been determined it is necessary for the profession to be on its guard.

SUPREME COURT CHANGES.

The resignation of Mr. Justice Fournier marks an epoch, as he has been a member of the Supreme Court for twenty years, and it was he who, as Minister of Justice, brought before Parliament the bill which established that court.

Mr. Fournier was called to the Bar of Quebec in 1846, was elected to Parliament in 1870, and appointed Minister of Inland Revenue, afterwards becoming Minister of Justice in the Mackenzie Administration.