

fully considered. The principal features of the bill, creating two orders of judges, reducing the number of superior judges, and permitting them to reside in the large cities, seem to offer great advantages.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

LONDON, NOV. 19, 1892.

Present: Lords WATSON, HOBHOUSE, MACNAGHTEN, MORRIS and HANNEN.

LABRADOR CO. v. THE QUEEN.
THE QUEEN v. LABRADOR CO.

Act of Parliament—Statement contained therein—Force of—Schedule under Seigniorial Act—Seigniority of Mingan.

Held:—1. *It is not competent for a court of law to disregard an absolute statement of fact contained in an Act of the legislature, even if it could be proved that the legislature was deceived. If a mistake has been made in an Act the legislature alone can correct it. So, it being stated in the Seigniorial Amendment Act of 1856 (19 Vic. c. 53, s. 10), that there was a Seigniority of Mingan, the courts are bound to give effect to such determination.*

2. *Where the schedule made under the Seigniorial Act of 1855 has been deposited without complaint being made by any person interested therein, it must be deemed to be correct, and to establish conclusively the existence and boundaries of the Seigniority therein described.*

LORD HANNEN :

The subject matter of these appeals is a tract of country on the northern shore of the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, extending from Cape Cormorant to the Strait of Belle Isle, a distance of more than 400 miles, with a depth of six miles.

The Labrador Company is in possession of this territory. The Attorney-General for the Province of Quebec, on behalf of Her Majesty, seeks to recover it from the company, who claim title to the whole of the land in question under a grant alleged to have been made in 1661 to one François Bissot by "the Company of "New France," deriving its powers from the Crown of France. The Labrador Company also claimed a title by prescription and immemorial possession. In answer to this claim the Attorney-General denies that the alleged grant of 1661 gave a title to the