

(reverence, I would almost say) for the Bench, cannot sometimes restrain the thought that elevation to the Bench is not equivalent to inoculation against the feelings of gratitude for past favors or pleasing anticipation of those to come.

"It is a fact of some sinister significance that the political parties, the Governments and their oppositions, have in these latter days become the most frequent of litigants and that the practice which I am venturing to condemn has grown up and expanded synchronously with the development of that condition. My Lord, I see no justification for the employment of Judges in matters outside their office, and not covered by their salaries, in the assertion that it is the Governments of the day that are the employers and the paymasters. The 'Government of the day' is but an euphemistic alternative for the name of some political party. If employment is accepted from Mr. Sifton and Mr. Roblin, why not from Mr. Borden and Mr. Greenway? If from the Government of the day whose members are deeply interested in much litigation, why not from the Canadian Pacific Railway, or the Hudson's Bay Company? Would it be sufficient reply to such employment to say that the Judges were too pure and too little human to be affected by such engagements, and if, my Lord, Judges may accept free transportation from the railway companies and be unaffected, why may they not also accept a cask of wine from Mr. Galt, a bale of silk from Mr. Stobart, or a bag of flour from the Ogilvie Milling Company?

"My Lord, I hesitated long before deciding to say publicly what I have now addressed to your Lordship, and I have awaited for its utterance some public opportunity which might possibly attract to my words that notice which my private position would not of itself insure. I am persuaded, too, that by the Judges, my words, although probably thought unnecessary, or even ill-judged, will be accepted as the true belief of one who, I can assure them, by no means stands alone in the apprehension with which he contemplates the present popular attitude towards the judiciary of his country. My Lord, the Bar and the public wish you every success in the discharge of those duties to which they believe you will bring not merely the advantages of long experience, and a conscientious desire to do justly, but, maintaining the high traditions of the British Bench, a determination to avoid those things which are tending toward its debasement."

Mr. Justice Perdue, in reply, after thanking Mr. Ewart and the Bar for their congratulations, and asking for their forbearance and assistance in his duties, went on to say:—

"I agree with much you have said, Mr. Ewart, as to the duties of the Judges. Of course, I am too newly-appointed to say much about these duties; remarks of that nature would come more properly from a more experienced Judge; but I think I might go this far and say that I agree that a Judge should avoid as far as possible being involved in an enquiry or any commission which would mix him up in any political controversy,