

Mr. Justice Hawkins, one of the most vigorous and independent of judicial critics, is particularly happy in his onslaught on what may be termed fads and crotchets, from whatever source they emanate. Recently it appeared by the statement of a witness at a trial, that the coroner had declined to hear him because his face was black. His lordship remarked that neither he nor any other judge on the Bench had power to refuse to hear a man because he had a dirty face, and he expressed his great surprise at the statement that the coroner refused to hear the witness because his face was black. He said that at any inquiry everyone should be heard irrespective of his dress or the colour of his face; and that there was no right to refuse to hear a man simply because he happened to be a chimney-sweep and came with his face unwashed. He hoped it was the last time he should hear of such a thing.

The English addresses of counsel and the charge of Mr. Justice Mathieu in the Shortis case, as taken by Messrs. Lomax and Urquhart, official stenographers, have been issued in pamphlet form (Montreal, W. Drysdale & Co.) As a record of a memorable trial the work is interesting and valuable.

SUPREME COURT OF CANADA.

OTTAWA, 26 June, 1895.

NORTH WEST TRANSPORTATION CO. v. MCKENZIE.

Ontario.]

Contract—Correspondence—Carriage of goods—Transportation company—Carriage over connecting lines—Bill of lading.

Where a court has to find a contract in a correspondence and not in one particular note or memorandum formally signed, the whole of what has happened between the parties must be taken into consideration.—*Hussey v. Horne Payne* (4 App. Cas. 311), followed.

A shipping agent cannot bind his principal by receipt of a bill of lading after the vessel containing the goods shipped has sailed,