

He has been *bâtonnier* of the Quebec district and also *bâtonnier général* of the General Council of the Bar of the province. He was one of the editors of *Le National* of Quebec in 1856-58. He was elected to Parliament for Bellechasse by acclamation in 1870 in a bye contest, and again in 1872 and 1874. He also represented Montmagny in the legislature of the province. On the formation of the Mackenzie administration he was given the portfolio of Inland Revenue, but later was transferred to the ministry of justice, and subsequently to the post office. In 1875 he was appointed a puisne judge of the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Justice Fournier's published opinions have evinced a careful appreciation of the merits of the cases submitted, and a sound judgment on the legal issues involved.

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*THE BAR EXAMINATIONS—REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE BAR.*

The committee appointed by you on the 23rd of February last to consider the subject of examinations of candidates for admission to practice at the Bar of this Province, beg leave to report:

At the time of the appointment of the Committee it was understood that considerable dissatisfaction was felt at the result of the examinations held in January last.

Meetings of the members of the Bar of the Quebec Section had been held in reference to the matter, and a meeting of the members of the Bar of the Montreal Section had also been held. A conference had been held with the members of the Law Faculty of the University of Laval, and of the University of McGill, and it was understood that an arrangement was being discussed to provide for the prolongation of the law course to four years, and to effect some change in the system of examinations of graduates before the Law Faculties.

Since that date however, the members of your committee have taken occasion to consult with members of the faculties of the universities, members of the Board of Examiners of the Bar, and other members of the Bar, on these subjects, and have received suggestions from various quarters.

Your committee learn that the Universities have not come to an agreement as to the prolongation of the law course.

The Law Faculty of McGill seems to be rather in favor of a four years course, while the Law Faculty of the University of Laval in the city of Montreal seems to consider that a three years course with the number of lectures as now required, ought to be considered sufficient.

It is unnecessary to give at length in this report the reasons urged on the one side in favor of the four years course, and on the other in favor of the three years course.

The Act of 1894 (57 Vic., cap. 35) having been so recently enacted by the Legislature, it does not appear to be desirable or proper to insist at