

his constitutional advisers to do so or not. We should suggest, however, that the matter be brought before Council by means of a petition, which we think might properly be made by any Canadian subject, praying for the Governor-in-Council to set at rest the doubts which may exist by referring the matter to the Supreme Court, where counsel might be heard on both sides of the question. We would suggest further, that as the Governor's advisers may see a difficulty in advising such reference, on account of the expenditure of public moneys which it would involve, and as they possess no express authority from Parliament to make such expenditure, that it would remove this ground of objection to the proceeding, if the party petitioning made an offer of his willingness to pay the costs of the Government, and should deposit an amount sufficient to be a substantial earnest of his ability to do so.

You will understand that we do not say that this is the only remedy which may exist to test the legality of the Acts in question, but have simply confined ourselves to answering your question as to the most speedy means by which their legality could be tested.

Yours very truly,
ATWATER & MACKIE.

A petition was forwarded to the Governor-in-Council in accordance with the suggestion of counsel.

INSOLVENT NOTICES, ETC.

Quebec Official Gazette, June 1.

Judicial Abandonments.

Hilaire Brulé, trader, parish of St. Barthélemy, May 23.

M. Lebourveau & Co., traders, township of Eaton, May 29.

Osmond A. McCoy, trader, Waterville, May 21.

Joseph Meade, trader, Coaticook, May 25.

Curators appointed.

Re Damase Bélanger.—G. S. Vien, Lauzon, curator, May 29.

Re Octave Bernard, contractor, St. Hyacinthe.—J. Morin, St. Hyacinthe, curator, May 23.

Re A. N. Bullock & Son, Coaticook.—Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator, May 27.

Re Edward Coveney, grocer, Quebec.—A. C. Bedard, Quebec, curator, May 28.

Re Jos. Fortin.—C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator, May 28.

Re W. J. McKenzie, Buckingham.—J. McD. Hains, Montreal, curator, May 25.

Re Archibald McNair, trader, New Richmond.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, May 28.

Re Edmond Poulin, St. Ephrem de Tring.—A. Lemieux, Levis, curator, May 17.

Re Chas. Tellier.—E. Guibault, Joliette, curator, May 28.

Dividends.

Re Beauregard & Lapiere.—First and final dividend, payable June 15, J. O. Dion, St. Hyacinthe, curator.

Re Dlle V. Perrault, Victoriaville.—Dividend, payable June 17, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re P. Gardner & fils, Woodside.—Dividend, payable June 17, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re David Guimond, Ste. Madeline.—First and final dividend, payable June 17, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re Léon Lahaie, Batiscan.—Dividend, payable June 17, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re Henry J. Lyall.—First and final dividend, payable June 13, J. B. Hutcheson and W. J. Lunan, Sorel, joint curator.

Re D. McCormack & Co.—First and final dividend, payable June 17, C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator.

Separation as to Property.

Edwidge Boucher vs. Philippe Gélinas, St. Boniface de Shawenigan, May 27.

Appointments.

Joseph Nault, appointed registrar of St. Hyacinthe.

GENERAL NOTES.

BANQUET TO SIR R. WEBSTER.—The Attorney-General was entertained at dinner on May 29, at the Holborn Town Hall by the solicitors, and was presented with an address, signed by three thousand eight hundred members of that branch of the legal profession, testifying their appreciation of his straightforward and honourable conduct. Sir R. Webster, in acknowledging the compliment, attributed it to the English love of fair play, and thanked Sir William Harcourt, whose attacks had prompted the present gathering.

EXTENDING HOURS OF VOTING.—There are a good many presiding officers who can testify to the utility to the voter, combined with convenience to the official, which would result if Mr. Sydney Buxton and his friends succeed in extending the hours of polling at parliamentary and municipal elections. The hours are at present, under the Act of 1885 (48 Vict. C. 10), from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The proposal is to make them last till 9 p.m., obviously for the convenience of the workmen, whose natural habit is to turn into the polling booths in excessive numbers from 6.30 onwards. It often happens that, the poll being necessarily closed at 8 p.m. sharp, many voters are crowded out at the last moment. These votes could be recorded if Mr. Buxton gets his way. But it must not be forgotten that the presiding officer and his clerks have a hard day's work, too. They have to be on the spot soon after 7 a.m., and they cannot leave the building all day. Further, they are often compelled to convey their boxes for many miles to the central station before they are relieved of their charge. They should not be forgotten.—*Law Times* (London).