

Fletcher & Mutual Fire Ins. Co., S. C. St. Francis.
 Fuller & Fletcher, S. C. St. Francis.
 Gault & Dussault, S. C. M.
 Guilbault & Vadenais, S. C. Richelieu.
 Hart & Rascony, S. C. St. Hyacinthe.
 Law & Frothingham, S. C. M.
 Leduc & Western Ass. Co., S. C. M.
 Loisel & Paradis, S. C. Iberville.
 Merchants Bank & Leslie, S. C. M.
 Merchants Bank & Whitfield, S. C. Iberville.
 Miller & Coleman, S. C. M.
 Molsons Bank & Lanaud, S. C. M.
 Molsons Bank & Lionais, S. C. M.
 Montpetit & Montpetit, S. C. M.
 Municipality of Cleveland & Melbourne, C.C. St. Francis.
 Nicholson & Metras, S. C. M.
 Normandin & Fauteux, S. C. M.
 Pierce & Butters, S. C. St. Francis.
 Réel & McEnven, S. C. M.
 Sénécal & Crawford, S. C. M.
 Société de Construction & Desautels, S. C. M.
 Terrien & Labonté, S. C. Iberville.
 Terrien & Labonté, S. C. Iberville.
 Whitfield & McDonald, S. C. Iberville.
 Wilson & Grand Trunk R. Co., S. C. M.
 Windsor Hotel Co. & Lewis, S. C. M.

Under the head of judgments confirmed are included all cases where the judgment is reformed without the respondent being condemned to pay costs. This is the system followed in the official returns to Government; but in some cases it is calculated to mislead: e.g., in *Bain & White* the judgment was to all intents a reversal, (and we have so placed it,) although the respondent was not condemned to pay the costs of the appeal.

It is worthy of notice that in 1880, the number of reversals was 29 out of 116 decisions, or exactly 25 per cent. In 1881 the number of reversals in 101 appeals from the District of Montreal was 27, a little over 25 per cent. So that the chances of clients appealing are just one in four on the average of the two years! Including the country districts, the total number of confirmed judgments was 89, and 42 reversed. It will be noticed that the appeals to the Court of Queen's Bench from country districts are very few in number, the usual recourse being an inscription in Review. The statement for 1881 is as follows:—

	C.	R.	Total.
Ottawa.....	2	0	2
Terrebonne.....	1	1	2
Joliette.....	1	0	1
Richelieu.....	1	2	3
St. Francis.....	5	4	9
Bedford.....	1	1	2
St. Hyacinthe.....	1	2	3
Iberville.....	3	6	9
Beauharnois.....	0	0	0
	15	16	31

There were also six criminal cases in the Montreal Division, including two writs of error. In 2 cases the judgment was affirmed, and in 4 the judgment was reversed or set aside.

In the Quebec Division there were 64 judgments in civil cases, in 43 of which the judgment was confirmed, and in 21 the judgment was reversed. There were also 3 Reserved Cases at Quebec. In 1 case the conviction was affirmed, and in 2 cases the verdict was set aside.

EXAMINATION OF THE PRISONER.

The London *Times* of December 3, referring to the trial of Guiteau, says:—

"On the whole we may safely come to a conclusion as to the expediency of admitting prisoners to testify without attaching much consequence to the incidents of this extraordinary trial (Guiteau's). We cannot help seeing that the tendency is in favor of permitting this course. In more than one recent Act—for instance, the Merchants' Shipping Act of 1876, the Mines Regulation Act, and the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act of 1875—the Legislature has broken in upon the common law, and has allowed the defendant to give evidence as an ordinary witness. People are more sceptical than they were as to the advantages of the present system. It is not so clear as it seemed to be that justice should have so heavy odds against it in its contest with the murderer or thief. The rational rule seems to be that everything should come out; and in the end this is likely to obtain acceptance. It is almost a daily occurrence that men get verdicts of acquittal when if one or two questions had been put to them the hollowness of their defences would have been revealed. A jury acquits a prisoner under the belief that he has never been convicted. They are then informed that he has been in prison half-a-dozen of times for the same offence. They feel that they have been duped. Their verdict would have been otherwise had they been trusted, and the whole facts been laid before them. With our traditions it might not be expedient to allow the Judge, as in France, to question the accused; that would depose the former from his position of impartiality. But it is probable that we should, on the