

It is now nearly nine years since that was written, and since you told me that if you were Minister of Justice you would appoint me to the first vacancy in the Supreme Court.

In a letter of March, 1903, you said: "I am still of opinion that for the important political services you rendered to the Liberal party in connection with this question you are entitled to consideration, but you must not hastily spoil your chances."

Since then there have been two vacancies in the Supreme Court.

You also reminded me then (1903), when you mistakenly assumed I intended sending copies of the correspondence anent the School Question to the other members of the Cabinet, that I "was the guardian of my own honour," etc., etc. There is in this an intimation of the position the individual should maintain, but nothing is said about the reciprocal obligation on the part of the guardians of the honour of the Crown.

You are unquestionably considered the guardian of the honour of the Crown, and should in the present instance assert the prerogative which the high office carries with it, because through you the honour of the Crown was pledged.

Mr. Disraeli, in 1836, felt constrained to remind Sir John Campbell, the Attorney-General (afterwards Lord Chancellor), "that he should aim to be the guardian of the honour of the Crown, and to prove also that he was competent to protect his own honour." (No. II. of the Runnymede Letters.) There should be no question as to your right, as well as desire, to uphold the former, and it follows as a corollary in so doing you resolve to maintain the latter.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier called to see me at my son's house during your absence in England and Rome in 1897, he expressed great gratitude for the services I was then rendering; and in June, 1901, he said that in six months there would be a vacancy in the Supreme Court, and that the question of religion would not stand in my way, and that I would then be appointed. But on Judge Gwynne's death, in January, 1902, you know what happened. Then, when Sir Oliver Mowat died, I know Sir Wilfrid favoured my appointment as his successor; but there were protests from the P. P. A. element in the party here which were willingly responded to by the Minister who urged the appointment of the present incumbent.

Sir Wilfrid manifested by word and action his intention that faith