THE

Canada Law Journal.

Vol. XXIX.

MARCH 1, 1893.

No. 4.

THE vacancy in the Supreme Court occasioned by the promotion of Mr. Justice Strong has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Robert Sedgewick, Q.C., Deputy Minister of Justice. His late chief was, we understand, strongly of the opinion that a man in the full vigor of comparative youth should take the place, and that was one reason, it is said, why Mr. Sedgewick, who is 45 years of age, was chosen. We are scarcely in a position to speak as to his qualifications in respect to his professional attainments in his own Province of Nova Scotia, but Sir John Thompson is of course thoroughly con petent to form an opinion on that subject, and we doubt not has acted wisely in the choice he has made. We can say, however, that what is known of Mr. Sedgewick in his late capacity leads to the conclusion that his appointment will lend strength to the Supreme Court. Certainly his genial disposition, his sound common sense, and the fund of general knowledge he has acquired by the experience gained in his late position, will add largely to his usefulness. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1872, and made Deputy Minister of Justice in 1888, upon the appointment of his predecessor, Mr. Burbidge, to the position of judge of the Exchequer Court.

We have, however, read the very satisfactory account given by the press of his standing and success at the Provincial Bar, and the ability he has displayed as Deputy Minister of Justice, the best testimony to which is his appointment at the instance of the head of that Department. But we have heard that many persons who know both men and are competent to form an opinion on the point, think it would have been better that Mr. Justice Burbidge, who has obtained experience and displayed great ability in the Exchequer Court, should have been appointed to the Supreme Court, and Mr. Sedgewick chosen to fill the vacancy thereby