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In England Sir Richard Henn Collins takes the position of Master of the Rolls, vacant by the death of Sir A. L. Smith. Sir J. C. Matthews from the King's Bench Division steps into the vacancy thus caused in the Court of Appeal, and his place is taken by Mr. Joseph Walton, K.C. Mr. Justice Day, having retired from the King's Bench Division, Mr. A. R. Jelf, K.C., succeeds him. These appointments are highly spoken of as being made on the ground of merit alone. An English contemporary speaking of an appointment to the city of London Court says that "After so many promotions and appointments due solely to merit, political services must be expected to re-assert their claim." More's the pity! But things are not quite so bad in England in this respect as they are in Canada.

Whilst a Judge must largely be considered in the light of a legal mill to grind out the law from the facts before him, we are glad to know that it is with many Judges a pleasant privilege to suggest and sometimes urge a settlement, when circumstances seem to make such a thing desirable and possible. In this connection we were glad to notice that at the recent sittings presided over by Mr. Justice MacMahon, at his suggestion and with his kind assistance, some suits were amicably adjusted. We know of no one who could complain except perhaps the lawyers engaged, but taking upon ourselves to be their mouth-piece, we think we may on their behalf, as good citizens, gladly chronicle the good offices of one of our best Judges in this regard.

The Court of Oyer and Terminer for the City of Toronto was opened last month by Chief Justice Falconbridge, and he appeared on that occasion in the purple robes with flesh tint facings worn in former days by our common law judges sitting in term. This change may not be in the line of the democratic tendency of the present day; but that is no reason against it—rather the contrary. This levelling tendency should find no place in the administration of justice. We were pleased to see the change, as we have always felt and long ago expressed the opinion that every reasonable effort, even in minor details, should be made to impress the public mind with the majesty and solemnity of the law and the dignity of the office of those who administer it.