

The court room for the Division Court has to be supplied by the local municipality within which the Division Court is held.

Not only do not the incomes of the officials referred to come from municipal taxation, nor from any fund of which through the County Council or otherwise the county has control, but the greater part of the electors of the county have never any business at any of the offices named, and are not even among those who pay such fees. Of those who do pay the fees, there are many who do not reside in the county, and many who, though they reside in the county, are not electors there. If the election ought to be by those who pay the officials, those who pay the fees should make the appointment. If the electors generally make the choice, it is plain that in most cases those who do not pay will have, by many times, greater weight in the choice than those who will have who do pay the incomes of the officials elected. (Applause.)

(4) Again, it is not to be forgotten that whatever evils should be found to result in the Province from the change proposed, it would be impossible to retrace our steps. Other interests and influences would spring up which would give strength to the new system apart from its merits and despite of demerits. This has been the invariable experience elsewhere. Local election of officials gives increased local importance to local wire-pullers and to individual voters, and the local influence gradually absorbs into the elective system the high officers of State and the Judges and Magistrates, as well as the local Provincial officers. It would be folly to shut our eyes to this.

ELECTION OF JUDGES.

(5) The idea of electing the Judges shocks most of our people now, and it is important to bear in mind that, were the change made which is now proposed, we should be opening the door for the election of our Judges. It is true, that, in the Patrons' platform, County Judges are excepted from the proposed change. But it is to be remembered that when provision was first made in the several States of the American Union for the election of other officers Judges were not included, yet the exception was afterwards swept away in most of the States in which it had at first been made. The election of Judges appears to have been adopted first by Mississippi in 1832, and then by New York in 1846. The New York constitution then adopted provided for the elections of all the Judges, county officers and clerks of court; and many of the other States have since followed the example of New York.

HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS ELSEWHERE.

(6) How the proposed system works in the United States is thus stated in Mr. Sterne's Constitutional History of the United States, published in 1882, p. 257:—"At a general election the voter is bewildered with the number of people he is called upon to vote for, and he finds it, therefore, more and more difficult to determine upon the fitness of candidates and is thus put at the mercy of political wire-pullers and leaders, who make the selection for him and call upon him to vote, aye or nay, between two or at most three candidates for the same office. This difficulty has not yet met with an intelligent solution at the hands of American statesmen."

The same author has the following observations, (at p. 255), with respect to the election of Judges in the United States:—"The opinion of the bar, as expressed by organized bodies of lawyers, has been almost uniformly in favor of a return to the system of appointment by the Executive: as the people as a whole, under existing American political conditions, are scarcely the proper custodians of the power wisely to