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WE regret to record the death of Mr. James Hutcheson Esten, barrister-at-law, on the 13th inst., in the 59th year of his age. For 20 years Mr. Esten was secretary, sub-treasurer, and librarian of the Law Society. Before his appointment he practised his profession in the city of Toronto. He was called to the Bar in Easter Term 1865. Mr. Esten was a faithful and industrious officer of the Society.

THE *American Law Review*, in speaking of the international interests of the United States and Canada, apologizes for discussing economical questions. They cite with commendation an argument before the Senate on interstate commerce, in which the speaker pointed out the extent to which their transcontinental railroads are suffering from the competition of the subsidized railroads of Canada, and proposes some retaliation for their protection. Reference is made to the enormous leverage afforded by the power of practically shutting up the Atlantic port of entry for Canada for six months in each year, in which case we should be obliged to make ports of entry of St. John or Halifax, and use the Intercolonial Railway around Maine. So far, retaliation on the part of our friends to the south of us has done us good. Possibly action in the line indicated might also be found beneficial to us, and show that there is no need after all to annex the State of Maine, which, we presume, the Americans do not now require, as so many of them have left it. After all, it really belongs to Great Britain, and, but for Yankee sharpness when the treaty was made, would now be part of the Dominion.

THE commissioners appointed to inquire into the charges of drunkenness made against Mr. Justice Cook, Senior Puisne Judge of Trinidad and Tobago, made short work of the inquiry. The charges were that the learned judge was in the habit of using intoxicating liquor in excess while in the actual discharge of his official duties. The commissioners, Sir William Markby and Sir Frederick Pollock, were appointed on the 13th of April and on the 5th of May the Official Gazette published their report, which was to the effect that, owing to his intemperate habits, the continuance of Mr. Justice Cook in his present office would be wholly incompatible with the due administration of justice. It is gratifying to know that a commission of this sort is almost unknown in the British dominions. Whilst it is sad that such a state of things could exist, the report shows that the inquiry had also its comical side. One incident was a judicial joke of a rather grim character, in which a Dr. Anderson was the victim.