

But this is not all. A daily paper, the principal Government organ, in its Ottawa news, in referring to a scene which recently took place in that court, headed the item: "Supreme Court Judges Squabble." If the details there given had been found in one of the yellow journals, it would probably have shared the fate of many of the news items contained in that class of publications, and would either not be read at all, or, if read, assumed to be untrue. But the occurrence having been reported in a leading journal, not given to sensational paragraphs, the item demanded attention. In answer to enquiries on the subject, we were informed that the reporter's statement of what took place was correct. If this be so, the word "squabble" is not too strong. The unseemly event above referred to is only a sample of what has frequently taken place before, but under different circumstances. The Chief Justice was not present. Episodes of this character, and others much more objectionable, might be referred to, which might be expected in a magistrate's court in a mining camp, but are highly indecorous in the highest Court of Justice in the Dominion. The spirit of discord and misrule which has been a characteristic of this court is somewhat remarkable where many of its members are models of courtesy and kindness. Every one knows perfectly well where the blame lies for this miserable condition of things. The attention of the Government has been called to it time and again, and the Government, of course, must be held responsible. It is idle to say that nothing can be done. Something must be done. The court cannot be a success, but must be a discredit to the country, until some change is made which will supply or remove any discordant element, and cause its business to be conducted with proper regard to the respect due to itself, as well as to the feelings and rights of those whose duty calls them to assist in its deliberations. It would be quite within the bounds of moderation to use very strong language in reference to the present condition of things, but it is unnecessary—it is common talk. All this is, of course, outside the consideration of the value or necessity for the existence of the court. The country looks to the Government to do what is necessary in both respects, and the responsibility cannot be evaded or ignored.

It is most unpleasant to have to call attention to such matters, but to ignore them is not the way to remedy the evil. The dignity of the Bench and the respect of the public for the proper adminis-