

Now, however, the Attorney-General in the new Provincial Government of Ontario has fathered a bill, the substance of which will be found below, and his position gives undue importance to the attempt thus made to change the existing order of things, and to sever perhaps the most important, and at all events the most notable and outstanding link which binds the great Dominion to the British Empire. We do not just now propose further to discuss the singularly phrased provisions of the bill as we understand that it is not to be pressed, or possibly not introduced at the present session.

Its language is really that of an Imperial Act and it is hardly to be supposed that a Provincial Legislature—large as its powers are—can abrogate His Majesty's prerogative to hear an appeal or the authority of the Judicial Committee to grant leave of petition to bring it.

The wording of the principal enacting clause of the Bill (the second section) is as follows:—

"2. Notwithstanding any Royal prerogative or anything contained in The Interpretation Act or any other Act, no appeal shall lie from any judgment, decision or order of the Supreme Court of Ontario, or of any other Court, or of any person, board, commission or body, exercising judicial authority, in any action or other proceeding brought, had, or taken in or before any such court, person, board, commission or body, to any court of appeal or authority by which in the United Kingdom appeals or petitions to His Majesty in Council may be heard, and the authority of the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council to grant leave to appeal to His Majesty in His Privy Council from any such judgment, decision or order and the prerogative of His Majesty to hear such appeals are hereby abrogated."

This provision of the Bill seems as unconstitutional as it would be abortive. The ancient right of the citizen to lay his grievance at the foot of the throne is as "old as the hills," and we trust may always remain as firmly fixed.

It is clear from the views expressed in the address of Mr. Gagné (*ante* p. 89) that the second largest of the Provinces which formed old Canada would have none of such changes and we do