

The Government have wisely declined to entertain the suggestion of erecting a new Court-house for Montreal on a different site. By transferring the Circuit business to another building, additional space will be obtained in the present edifice. The Criminal and Police courts might also be advantageously combined with the Circuit business in one building: in which case the present Court-house will afford adequate accommodation for some years to come. The time is doubtless not far distant when a new Court-house will be required, but the present site, with its open spaces on all sides, is probably the best that could be obtained in the city, and during the erection of the new building—which should be commensurate with the wants of a city of at least one million inhabitants—temporary accommodation will have to be provided elsewhere.

The appointment of judges for the trial of small causes at Montreal is a measure which, within our recollection, has been constantly suggested for over a quarter of a century. At last, the Government have resolved to carry it out. This will give immense relief to the judges of the Superior Court, who have hitherto been obliged to leave their proper business, in order to hold the terms of the Circuit Court. There can be little doubt, we think, that the new arrangement will also give greater satisfaction to the bar and to the public generally.

#### CHANGES AT MONTREAL.

The following resolutions have been passed by the Quebec Assembly:—

*Resolved*,—That the Lieutenant-Governor may out of the amount collected in every year of salaries, fees, emoluments and pecuniary profits attached to their respective offices, assign to the Prothonotary of the Superior Court at Montreal the sum of \$4,000 annually, to the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Montreal, \$2,600 annually, and to the Clerk of the Superior Court sitting in Review in the district of Montreal, the sum of \$2,600 annually.

The next resolution provides for the business of the Circuit Court:—

“Whereas the creation of a special court composed of two district magistrates permanently sitting in the city of Montreal, would be very advantageous to the interests of justice in the district, so that all cases, proceedings, matters and things which are within the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court might be brought before such Court, and that the judges of the Superior Court might more exclusively attend to the business of their proper Court:

Be it *resolved*,—That two district magistrates may be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council with a salary of \$3,000 per annum each, to preside over a special district magistrate's court in the city of Montreal, by and before which shall be brought, heard and decided all causes, proceedings, matters and things which now are within the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court of the said district.

#### CHARGE OF MR. JUSTICE CHURCH.

Mr. Justice Church, in his charge to the Grand Jury, at the opening of the June Term of the Court of Queen's Bench, at Montreal, made the following observations:—

The recent legislation on the subject of speculative dealing in stocks and other commodities on margins, with the view of suppressing certain objectionable features of some of these transactions, is intended to meet a want in our system of law, and to supply a remedy for a condition of things which had become an evil of vast and evergrowing magnitude, and which had occasioned great private pecuniary loss and moral degeneration. Whether your attention will be drawn to this matter in a special and particular way I do not know, but should such happen, I bespeak in the interests of the general public as well as of those who may be the subject of accusation, your most careful and unprejudiced attention.

The subject of the licensing of the liquor traffic, not alone with a view to revenue purposes, but also as regards its regulation and restriction, is again engaging the attention of the general public, and in a few days must also engage the attention of the members of the Legislature. It is to be hoped that the full and exhaustive examination and subtle