

"humble advice" to Her Majesty. Perhaps the fact is best realized at a distance, for, although the Court has its own quaint observances, it must be owned that the sittings are not particularly impressive to the eye. But the most casual acquaintance with the history of the Privy Council fills the mind with memories dating back to the dawn of our national story, whilst the records of its routine business comprise minute discussions on the religions and the superstitions, the laws, institutions, domestic habits, manners, customs, and antiquities of scores of different races and tribes, with civilizations ranging from primitive savagery to complicated systems elaborated by generations of saints and sages and sanctioned by immortal time. The evolution which has resulted in making this particular development of the council of Plantagenet kings the supreme arbiter of questions of canon law such as Popes and Synods would have disputed about in the days of Becket; of questions of the old French laws transplanted across the Atlantic under the

proudest of the Bourbons; of the Roman law which the Dutch took with them to the Cape; of the most venerable and sacred of the holy books of the Hindus; and of the teachings of the Prophet to scores of millions of the devout adherents of Brahmanism and of Islam is, indeed, a process to wonder at. The Judicial Committee is the legal heart and head of the British Empire. The Queen in council is the Cæsar to whom all the subjects of that Empire, from the hill tribes of the Himalayas to the Red Indians beyond the Rocky Mountains, from mighty potentates contending for the succession to a principality to poor fishermen claiming the right to gather bait, may appeal. Men come to her from the uttermost ends of the earth for justice, and tell the innermost history of their private lives before her appointed tribunal.

Hyde Park, London, contains 400 acres; Central Park, New York, 862 acres; Phoenix Park, Dublin, 1,760 acres.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The decision of the Senate of the University of Toronto, to adhere for another year to the plan of having examinations for honours and scholarships at matriculation at various centres, does not commend itself to the judgment of those who are most familiar with the conduct of examinations. It seems to us, taking all things into consideration, that it would be cheaper to pay the railway fares of such candidates to Toronto than to pay all the expenses involved in sending competent examiners to all the centres required to ac-

commodate the candidates all over the country. We feel certain that the decision arrived at will not give satisfaction either to the candidates or to those interested in them.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

For months past a keen discussion has been carried on in the School Board of London, England, on this subject. Great attention was given to the discussion in the city and over England.