

"Considérant que l'appelant était bien fondé à demander que sa plainte fût prise en considération, vu que le droit de suffrage a été étendu aux personnes ci-dessus mentionnées par l'Acte de Québec, 52 Vict., chap. 4, sect. 3, que les listes électorales pour les élections parlementaires de la province de Québec doivent être faites chaque année, du premier au quinze mars, d'après le rôle d'évaluation (sec. 4), et que le dit rôle d'évaluation doit comprendre les noms des fils de propriétaires et cultivateurs qui ont droit de vote en vertu de la sec. 3 du même Statut (sec. 7);

"Attendu qu'il a été prouvé devant moi que les dites personnes sont dûment qualifiées à être électeurs parlementaires pour la province de Québec, comme fils de cultivateurs et de propriétaires;

"Vu les articles 737 et 746A, et 1061 du Code municipal, ordonne à la Corporation intimée, à son Conseil et à ses officiers, et nommément au secrétaire-trésorier du Conseil de la dite paroisse de porter, sous huit jours de la signification du présent jugement, sur le rôle d'évaluation susdit, les personnes suivantes, fils de cultivateurs et de propriétaires de la dite municipalité de la paroisse de Ste-Geneviève, dûment portés au rôle d'évaluation actuellement en force, les dits fils de propriétaires et de cultivateurs dûment qualifiés comme électeurs parlementaires pour la dite province, savoir: Joseph et Pierre Payment, fils majeurs de Toussaint Payment, Ovila Legault, fils majeur de Aldéric Legault, Camille Brunet, Albert Brunet et Etienne Brunet, fils majeurs de François-Xavier Brunet; le tout avec dépens, etc."

F. D. Monk, for appellant.

Prévost & Bastien, for respondents.

A KAFIR LAWSUIT.

A Kafir in the witness-box is often a surprise to those who know little or nothing of the traditions of the Kafir race. The ease with which the ordinary native parries the most dexterous cross-examination, the skill with which he extricates himself from the consequences of an unfortunate answer, and, above all, the ready and staggering plausibility of his explanations, have often

struck those who come in contact with him in the law Courts. He is far superior, as a rule, to the ordinary European in the witness-box. Keen witted and ready, he is yet too cautious ever to answer a question the drift of which he does not clearly foresee, and which, when he understands, he at once proceeds, if necessary, to forestall by his reply. As a result, the truth of his evidence can only be sifted by a very careful proceeding on the part of the cross-examiner, and by keeping him in the dark as much as possible as to the bearing of his answers upon the subject-matter of the suit. Whether this dialectic skill is innate in the Kafir, or whether it is the result of long cultivation, it is difficult to say; but, as some proof of the former, we subjoin a very interesting extract from a book now unhappily becoming rare—viz: Colonel Maclean's 'Handbook of Kafir Laws and Customs, compiled from Notes by Mr. Brownlee, Rev. Dugmore, and Mr. Ayliff,' which will, we venture to think, throw a great deal of light upon the present abilities of the descendants of those whose judicial customs fifty years ago are so graphically described in the following words: 'When a Kafir has ascertained that he has sufficient grounds to enter on an action against another, his first step is to proceed, with a party of his friends or adherents, armed, to the residence of the person against whom his action lies. On their arrival they sit down together in some conspicuous position, and await quietly the result of their presence. As a law party is readily known by the aspect and deportment of its constituents, its appearance at any kraal is the signal for the mustering of all the adult male residents that are forthcoming. These accordingly assemble and also sit down together within conversing distance of their generally unwelcome visitors. The two parties, perhaps, survey each other in silence for some time. "Tell us the news," at length exclaims one of the adherents of the defendant, should their patience fail first. Another pause sometimes ensues, during which the party of the plaintiff discuss in an undertone which of their party shall be "opening counsel." This decided, the learned gentleman commences a minute statement of the