

what appears to them to be the equity of the case\*. This is a most melancholy picture of courts of justice. Is it possible for a people to be more seriously oppressed, than to be obliged to depend, for the security of their property, on courts composed of judges who differ so materially on the principles which ought to govern their judgments in deciding the causes brought before them? The suitor's fortune, nay, his political existence in the society, must depend on the chance of an accidental majority of judges on the bench ; of those who decide by French law ; of those who decide by English law ; or of those who, neglecting all law, decide by their own ideas of natural equity. The Quebec Act is express in its direction, that all civil actions shall be decided by the laws and customs of Canada ; yet the Court of Appeals decides by

\* See Appendix, No. XIV.