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CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES

Lord Roseberry's bill respecting the appointment of colonial judges to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was probably intended merely as a tentative measure, and as a concession in part to the popular sentiment in favor of a rapprochement between the mother country and her colonies. No salary, or at all events, no adequate salary was provided, and so far as Canada is concerned, it would seem out of place to provide a judicial salary for the sake of having a Canadian judge present in the few cases which reach the Privy Council from this country, and why should Canada pay a judge to hear cases from other colonies? Then, again, only judges are qualified for the appointment, but in Canada, as in most places, the duties of a judge are too important to admit of his frequent and prolonged absence from the country. It has been announced that Chief Justice Strong, of the Supreme Court of Canada, has been appointed. This seems to be in accord with the tentative character of the whole arrangement. Sir S. H. Strong has been 27 years on the bench, and is the head of a court which although not overdriven like the Supreme Court of the United States, has nevertheless so much to do that it could ill