

me prouvent qu'il n'y a qu'un changement radical qui puisse y porter remède. A Sherbrooke encore, le juge de la cour supérieure est surchargé d'ouvrage, tandis qu'il y a 10 ou 12 juges dans d'autres districts qui n'ont certainement pas trois mois d'ouvrage pendant toute l'année. J'ai déjà signalé la plainte que l'on fait entendre contre la cour de révision telle qu'actuellement organisée. Voilà des faits qui vous prouvent que le système qui existe actuellement, ne rencontre plus les besoins des justiciables.

Q.—Les avocats se plaignent-ils du système actuel ?

R.—Un certain nombre, oui ; d'autres sont satisfaits. Mais je prétends que l'on doit plutôt considérer les intérêts des justiciables que les intérêts des avocats.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.

The result of the case of *Shepherd v. White*—tried before Mr. Justice Hawkins and a special jury last week—is calculated to diminish the anxiety with which intelligent men have for some time regarded the abuses of actions for breach of promise of marriage. The injured plaintiff was a parlour-maid in the service of a lady at Finsbury Park, while the faithless Lothario was an old gentleman of feeble mental power, boarding under the roof and living under the practical tutelage of his *inamorata's* mistress (who was his sister) and her husband. There was no doubt that a promise of marriage (conditional on the consent of the defendant's sister being obtained) had been made; and although the defendant's gifts of conversation did not rise above the level of disjointed observations on the carts that were passing and repassing the window of his boarding-house, and although even on the momentous morning which was to determine the fate of the action against him, he talked of nothing but the family cat and the omnibus by which he was to be conveyed to the Law Courts, it is tolerably clear that he possessed the modest degree of capacity necessary in law to the formation of a valid contract of marriage. The plaintiff's technical right to relief was, therefore, complete—if we except the condition as to the consent of the defendant's sister. But the jury, taking into consideration the lightness of the defendant's mental calibre, and the possibility that his chief attractiveness in the eyes of the plaintiff lay in the