

REVIEWS—APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS. Montreal: George Desbarats.

This is as creditable a pictorial as most publications, and we wish it entire success. Much improvement is manifest in the engravings since it was commenced, and we have no doubt that if a liberal encouragement is given to the proprietor and publisher, he will make greater efforts to ensure success. The reading matter is very good; it seems to be got up in good taste, and in this it is a marked contrast to the filthy rubbish that comes from the South of us, in the shape of pictorial newspapers.

UNITED STATES JUDICIAL SYSTEM—RECENT CHANGE.—By an act passed at the recent session of Congress the Supreme Court is to consist hereafter of nine judges, six of whom shall be a quorum. The act also provides for the appointment of a circuit judge in each circuit, with the same powers as the judges of the Supreme Court now have on circuit. The Circuit Court is to be held by the judge of the Supreme Court assigned to the circuit, or the circuit judge, or the judge of the District Court, or by any two of them sitting together. We do not perceive that the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court is in anywise affected, the sole purpose of this part of the act being apparently to relieve the judges of the Supreme Court from the pressure of their present circuit duty.

But the feature of the act which attracts special attention is a clause providing that "any judge of any court of the United States who shall, after having attained the age of seventy years, and served for the term of ten years, resign his office, shall thereafter during the rest of his natural life, receive the same salary which was by law payable to him at the time of his resignation." This we believe is the first provision ever made in the United States for a retiring pension for those who have devoted themselves to the public service. Regarding it as we do, as a decided step forward in civilization and good government, we trust that it may be a permanent portion of our judicial system.—*American Law Register*.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—The removal of Lord Stanley to the House of Lords will add to the debating power and statesmanship of an assembly which is already unrivalled for the eloquence and administrative capacity of its members. The politician will be struck with the appearance of the 15th Earl Derby, the Marquis of Salisbury, and Lord Cairns on the Opposition benches in the Lords. All these are in the foremost rank as Parliamentarians and administrators. On the Ministerial side are the veteran Earl Russell, the accomplished tactician Earl Granville, the ripe diplomatist Lord Clarendon, and the Duke of Argyll. Earl Carnarvon, Earl Grey, Bishop Magee, and many others, are noted for their legislative ability or their oratory. Lord Cairns, Westbury, Penzance, Hatherly and Romilly constitute a legal junta of unsurpassed brilliancy.

Shall we deplore or rejoice in our hereditary and legal system which crowds the House of Lords with men of pre-eminent talent? It depends upon whether we utilize the force in the Lords or suffer it to lie waste. In the Lords there are some of the first and best men in the country, ready and anxious to devote themselves to the service of the country, and all that we have to do is to divide the business between the two Houses, which may be done without in the least interfering with the real or assumed privileges of the Commons. If the recommendations of the Select Committee are acted upon the Lords will not be idle; the arrears of business will be cleared off; important measures such as the Irish Church Bill and the Irish Land Bill will not stop all other legislation; and the great ability in the Lords will not be lost to the country, but on the contrary will be turned to excellent account.—*Law Journal*.

John Scott, after his great argument in *Ackroyd v. Smithson*, became a favorite with Lord Thurlow. On one occasion, after Richard Pepper Arden, afterward Lord Alvanley, whom Thurlow disliked exceedingly, made a very able argument before him, Mr. Scott rose to address the court on the same side, and his Lordship said, "Mr. Scott, I am glad to find that you are engaged in this case for I now stand some chance of knowing something about it."—*Bench and Bar*.

One day Lord Alvanley, Master of the Rolls, sent his respects to Lord Thurlow, regretting that extreme indisposition prevented him from sitting that day at the Rolls. "What ails him?" roared Thurlow to the bearer of the message. "If you please, my lord, he is laid up with dysentery." "Confound him," exclaimed his lordship, "let him swallow an act of parliament. He'll find nothing so binding."—*Ibid*

APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE.

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE CROWN.

JAMES CANFIELD, of the Town of Ingersoll, Esquire, to be Deputy Clerk of the Crown and Pleas, and Clerk of the County Court of the County of Oxford, in the room and stead of William A. Campbell (temporarily acting) resigned. (Gazetted October 16, 1869.)

CORONERS.

FREDERICK WILLIAM STRANGE, of the Village of Aurora, Esquire, M.D., to be Associate Coroner within and for the County of York. (Gazetted November 20, 1869.)

DANIEL JOSEPH KING, of the Village of Canonbrook, Esquire, to be an Associate Coroner within and for the County of Perth. (Gazetted November 27, 1869.)

GEORGE ROILTON, of the Village of Bothwell, Esquire, to be an Associate Coroner within and for the County of Kent. (Gazetted December 4th, 1869.)

CHARLES SAMUEL HAMILTON, of the Village of Roslin, Esquire, M.D., to be an Associate Coroner within and for the County of Hastings. (Gazetted December 18th, 1869.)

HENRY ADAMS, of the Village of Embro, Esquire, M.D., to be an Associate Coroner within and for the County of Oxford. (Gazetted December 18th, 1869.)