

portant political positions in the Dominion been occupied at the same time by ex-judges.

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Mr. Justice Hall had the pleasure, at the opening of the last criminal term of the Court of Queen's Bench at Montreal, of directing the attention of the grand jury to the important circumstance that there had been six terms of the Court since any prisoner had been found guilty of murder, and that nine years had elapsed since the last infliction of capital punishment in this district. This was not mentioned as an indication that the administration of justice had been lax or that juries had failed in their duty, but as gratifying evidence of the absence of serious crime in the most populous city and district of Canada. Not only in Montreal with its population of a quarter of a million, but throughout the province murder is almost unknown, and even cases of homicide occurring in the heat of quarrels are extremely rare.

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The death of Mr. George Macrae, Q.C., on Nov. 30, has removed another of the now fast diminishing group of advocates who were in practice in Montreal before the end of the first half of the century. The deceased was born in June, 1822, and had therefore entered on his seventy-first year. He was admitted to the bar in 1846. For many years past he has confined himself chiefly to the business of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of which he has long been the solicitor. He was a gentleman of high principle, courteous in his intercourse with his professional brethren, and consistently opposed to anything that could reflect discredit upon an honorable profession.

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The case of *Legault v. Legault*, decided by Mr. Justice Davidson in the Superior Court, Montreal, June 30, 1892, disclosed a remarkable attempt to incarcerate a sane man in a lunatic asylum. Strange to relate, the affidavits of