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It was not a matter of surprise to hear that the seat rendered vacant by the death of Sir W. J. Ritchie had been filled by the appointment of Mr. Justice Strong, the senior puisne judge of the Supreme Court. The name of Sir John Thompson had been mentioned in connection with the position. He had a right to it, and had he thought proper to take it there would have been none to question the wisdom and propriety of the appointment. He would have done honor to the high position, and both the bar and the public would have joined in hearty congratulations. Failing him, however, the appointment that has been made is the natural one, and will meet with general approval; for not only is Mr. Strong entitled to it by seniority, but his legal attainments and intellectual capacity are of a high order. The position is in many ways a most difficult one, and to fill it with advantage to suitors, to the convenience of the Bar, and with a necessary regard to the peculiar composition of the court requires attributes which are not often found in one man. We trust we may be able to congratulate the new Chief upon his success in these respects, as we now congratulate him upon his promotion.

A STATUTE with an enacting clause of two lines (55 Vict., c. 32, Ont.), provides that "The Law Society of Ontario may, in its discretion, make rules providing for the admission of women to practise as solicitors." This the Society at first refused to do. But the matter was, as our readers are aware, again brought to their attention. The Attorney-General of Ontario was the important factor on this occasion, both by his personal influence and by shadowy suggestions that the Legislature might take the matter up and pass an Act which the Society would consider more distasteful than the rule which they were asked to swallow. The rule was carried by a vote of twelve to eleven, and so women can now claim admission to the ranks.

Whatever may be thought of this question on general grounds it certainly would occur to most thinking men that, whilst the Society ought to be consulted, it is really a question of general policy for the Government of the day to act upon, and it should not throw that responsibility on the profession. Notwithstanding this vote, we venture to say that a large majority both of the profession and Benchers are opposed to the change, and yet those who ought to have decided upon the question of policy can now say that we have opened the door to the ladies of our own free will. It might have been better for those who are not in sympathy with the change, but who nevertheless voted for it, to have acted more on principle and less on the supposed expediency of the case. However, it is perhaps a matter of but little consequence. There is not much harm