

**THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION.**

The meeting of this Association recently held at Buffalo was largely attended and very successful, the well-known hospitality and courtesy of American citizens to their guests adding to the pleasure of those who attended it.

The meeting was, in a sense, international in its character, owing to the presence of a distinguished representation from England, including amongst others Mr. Justice Kennedy and Mr. Joseph Walton, Q.C., who contributed papers, and also of a delegation from the Law Society of Upper Canada, composed of the Treasurer and Messrs. B. B. Osler, N. W. Hoyles and W. R. Riddell.

In the absence of the President, Hon. Joseph H. Choate, who was unable to be present by reason of his duties as Ambassador to Great Britain, one of the Vice-Presidents, who was afterwards elected as President for the ensuing year, Senator Charles F. Manderson, of Nebraska, presided, and did so with conspicuous ability and courtesy.

The President's opening address, delivered by Senator Manderson, dealt, according to custom, with the most noteworthy changes in statute law on points of general interest made by Congress and in the several States during the past year, and also drew attention to other questions of interest to lawyers; amongst them the alarming "drift of both law-makers and the Courts" in regard to "trusts." The subject matter of the annual address, which was made by Senator Lindsay was the policy of the United States in regard to the Philippines; he, while professing to treat his subject from a purely legal standpoint, in reality used the occasion for a very vigorous defence of the McKinley administration.

The most noteworthy feature of the meeting, however, was the admirable paper, read by Mr. Justice Kennedy, on the "State Punishment of Crime," which is printed in full in the September-October number of the *American Law Review*. This paper will well repay careful study; the main lines of thought (as the *Review* points out) were "(1) That the crimes denounced by the statute law ought to bear a closer relation to moral turpitude. For example, that in general the law ought not to punish such a crime as smuggling, or stealing a chattel of no great value, with the same severity as the seduction of an innocent girl or the debauching of