

another year. A more mature consideration of the subject than can be given in the hurry of the present Session, especially when the Legislature is composed of only one chamber, is very desirable. The opinion of the profession has really not yet been fully obtained, and it is highly desirable that no change should be made until ample time has been given for discussion. Any legislation should have every chance of being of a reasonably permanent character; the everlasting tinkering with Acts of Parliament is a nuisance to all concerned, and is very much to be deprecated for a variety of reasons.

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*TRUSTS AND COMBINATIONS.*

The tendency of the present day to convert all industrial concerns into joint stock companies, and subsequently to unite in one great combination all those engaged in any one particular trade, is something that deserves careful consideration from a legal as well as social point of view. Not that there is anything new in the principle upon which such concerns are based, or in the methods which have been adopted to prevent them. In the elementary form of *regrating* and *forestalling*, terms well known to the legal profession in early days, the germ of combination in restraint of trade may be found, and frequent enactments by the early English Parliaments were passed to control them—somewhat similar in principle, and equally useless in practice, to the law passed by our own parliament some years ago. But the trusts and combinations of the present day are of such magnitude, and attended with consequences so serious, that, in the United States, where the system has its rise, and where it has been most fully developed, very serious efforts have been made both by legislation and by proceedings in the courts, to meet the evils by which they are attended. It cannot be said that those efforts have been successful. The proverbial coach and six has been driven through the enactments, and the craft of the legal advisers of the trusts has been able to outwit the wisdom of the legislators, and evade the decisions of the bench. How important the subject is felt to be is shown by the numerous articles in legal journals in which it is discussed, and the numerous opinions which have been pronounced with regard to it.