

still lingering in our body corporate, the contemplation of which brings one back from Utopian dreams to stern realities. Regard the educational statistics of Quebec, and behold one of the most uneducated populations in the civilized world. Look at the Legislature, so engaged in quarrelling over the distribution of the spoils as to be unable to attend to the pressing wants of the Province. Investigate the condition of our Bench, and realize the position of a country where Judgeships are the counters with which the leaders of a party pay supporters, whose only claim to the dignity conferred is service rendered in the black mire of politics.

But, sir, it is a matter of congratulation that wrong is, after all, but short-lived. We see the eternal principle of right illustrated in the case of our distinguished guest; the strong prejudices which at one time obscured from public recognition his great services to the Canadian people have disappeared, and his name, engraved on the tablets of history, will go down to posterity as one who deserved well of his adopted country.

As the best answer to the toast, permit me, sir, in conclusion to quote the words of the Lord Chancellor of England, which, pregnant as they are with truth, I commend to the earnest attention of all who hear me:—

“Liberty and Law are the two great pillars of the State; each is absolutely and indispensably necessary for the perfection of the other. Without liberty, law would easily degenerate into an arbitrary system—I might almost say an intolerable tyranny. On the other hand, no man’s liberties would be safe, either as to his person, his political rights, or his private rights of property, if law were not respected, independently administered, and loyally obeyed.

Mr. E. CARTER, Q.C., in reply, thanked the assembly for the honour done him in calling upon him to represent the legal profession. “The Professions,” he thought, very properly followed such toasts as that of “The Parliament” and “The Dominion.” He spoke of the difficulties presented by the mixed law of this Province, which was largely to be credited with the “law’s delays.” Having mentioned several leading men of the country who had been trained in the law, he said it must afford the greatest satisfaction to all present to do honour to the guest of the evening, especially as all classes of the community were well represented.