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The Minister of Justice has introduced several measures during the present session of the Dominion Parliament of interest to the Profession, which we shall refer to hereafter, if and when they become law.

The country is fortunate in having in the above important position a man of the capacity and learning of Mr. Fitzpatrick. It is pleasant, moreover, to know that the one who is thus at the head of the legal profession in this Dominion is, in other respects also, a worthy exponent of its highest and best traditions.

We are constrained to urge the desirability of more attention being paid to the study of the Civil Law by Canadian lawyers educated outside the Province of Quebec. Questions involving its knowledge are constantly arising, not only by reason of inter-provincial commerce in the Dominion, but, with our expanding industries, cases requiring the determination of rights under contracts executed and to be performed in foreign countries where the Civil Law prevails will become more frequent. An instance of the latter was brought to our notice the other day, when a friend at the country Bar in Ontario appealed to us to put him straight, if we could, in respect of a contract of guarantee, framed under the Roman-Dutch law of Natal, which contained a clause whereby the sureties renounced "*beneficium ordinis, seu excussionis, vel divisionis.*" Now our correspondent was classicist enough to read the Latin, but how far could that carry him in its literal import along the road to the legal meaning of the clause in the contract? He would never so discover that the sureties were simply renouncing the civil law privilege of a surety to require (1) the creditor to exhaust his remedy against the principal before proceeding against him; and (2) the further privilege to compel the creditor to sue each of the sureties for their portion of the debt respectively, and not one for the whole. We might suggest to our law-schools to improve their curricula along this line.

In connection with the suggestion we make above as to more attention being paid to the study of the Civil Law in Canada, it is interesting to note that Professor Maitland, in his recently