

that "if our common law would return what it took out of the Roman Code it would have nothing left but its barbarous usages and customs." Time does not permit to enlarge on this.

Not only is there the same jurisprudence in Canada respecting public law and all subjects coming under the Federal jurisdiction, not only something in common in the Civil Code and common law respecting commerce, not only some blood relationship through the absorption of the principles of Roman law, but there is also a force at work the trend of which is toward greater similarity in that jurisprudence which is under provincial jurisdiction. That force is the insistent demand and urgent need of some codification of the local laws in the provinces where the common law systems prevail. The common law proper is a law library which commences with the year books and ends with the last law reports. If in this library are included the Scotch and Irish reports, our provincial reports and those of the United States, to which we sometimes refer, we shall not be far wrong in saying there are seven thousand volumes of reported decisions. Sir Frederick Pollock says that down to 1895 there were over eighteen hundred volumes of English reports alone to which a lawyer is likely to refer. These have increased in twenty years. They contain, I am told, at least one hundred thousand decisions which are constantly being added to. Of Canadian reports there are eight hundred and fifty volumes, and these too are receiving yearly additions. The Canadian lawyer also has to consult the revised or consolidated statutes of the Dominion and of the provinces, and all Acts passed since such consolidation and revision. I find that in 1913 and 1914 the following numbers of public Acts were passed in Canada:—

Parliament of Canada, 116; of Alberta, 50; of British Columbia, 166; of Manitoba, 224; of Ontario, 144; of Quebec, 125 (in 1912 and 1914 no statutes 1913); of New Brunswick, 91; of Nova Scotia, 125; of Prince Edward Island, 43; of Saskatchewan, 67; of Yukon, 27; making a total of 1,178.

Our public Acts are frequently ill-drawn and fragmentary, containing unnecessary, meteoric and disturbing provisions. So