

# Canada Law Journal.

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VOL. XXXIX.

MARCH 15, 1903.

NO. 6.

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The Governments of England and Canada have well and honourably carried out that part of the treaty that devolved upon them in the selection of those who will have in charge the interests of the Empire in relation to the Alaska Boundary dispute. There can be no question that our Commissioners, Lord Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice of England, Hon. John Douglas Armour, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and formerly Chief Justice of Ontario, and Sir L. A. Jettè, Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec and formerly a distinguished Judge of that Province, are "impartial jurists of repute" of whom any country might be proud. A writer of learning and research in another place enables our readers to form their own opinions as to the three named by the Government of the United States. The services of Mr. Christopher Robinson, K.C., and of the Hon. Edward Blake, K.C., have been secured as counsel, admittedly the best men that could have been chosen for the position either in England or Canada. Mr. Aime Geoffrion will be junior counsel.

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## THE OLDEST CIVIL CODE.

The recent discovery, by the celebrated archaeologist, M. de Morgan, of the Code of Hammurabi, King of Babylon, (circa 2250 B.C.) puts us in possession of the earliest of all codes of law devised by man. According to the *New York Independent*, which publishes an English rendering of the German translation, by Hugo Winckler, and from the cuneiform inscription, the Code was set forth on a stone stele by Hammurabi, the biblical Amraphel, of Abraham's time, in Sippara, city of the Sun-god Shamash, and was carried to Susa (where it was discovered by M. de Morgan) as a trophy by an Elamite invader. The Code is a compilation of some 282 distinct provisions, and bears remarkable testimony to the enlightened jural conceptions of Babylonian civilization. It may also be said to afford very striking disproof of the eighteenth century theory that all customary law had its origin in legislative enactment, (see *Collins v. Blantern*, Wils. pt. ii, pp. 348, 351); and,