

matter comprised in any such Act, shall, notwithstanding anything in this Act, be unrestricted; but any Act of the Parliament of Canada making Provision for such Uniformity shall not have effect in any Province unless and until it is adopted and enacted as Law by the Legislature thereof."

(I reproduce this with all the capitals as it appears in vol. IV. of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906.)

I do not hesitate to characterize our neglect of the opportunities afforded by this section of our Constitution as a disgrace to a profession, which, while doubtless conservative in the best sense of the term, ought to be and I believe is progressive. Admitting that Quebec must still be excluded from the Provinces wherein uniformity of "Law relative to Property and Civil Rights" is possible of achievement, there remains a vast territory in Canada over which such uniformity can and should prevail. Why should there be in the legislation of our Provinces pitfalls for the practitioner of a sister Province in statutes relative to Voluntary and fraudulent conveyances—Assignments and preferences by insolvents—Conveyancing and law of property—Mortgages of real estate—Conveyances, leases and mortgages—Devolution and distribution of estates—Wills—Insurance—Trustees and executors and administration of estates—Bills of sale and chattel mortgages—Conditional sales of goods—Mechanics' and wage earners' liens—Wages—Master and servant—Compensation to workmen for injuries—Property of married women—Landlord and tenant?

The mere enumeration of the more important of such statutes indicates the scope for the work of a competent commission to report on the matter of uniformity of legislation on such subjects.

In the matter of procedure (scarcely less important) the reformer will find abundant opportunity in endeavouring to accomplish uniformity in respect of Arbitrations and references—Replevin—Dower—Libel and slander—Limitation of actions—Execution—Absconding debtors.

It is quite true that our Legislatures in their wisdom have striven to assimilate the laws of the Provinces, and much has been done in that direction. We cannot but be encouraged in this laudable enterprise by our observation of the working of Dominion