

regard it at once as the greatest and the most pleasant compliment that has ever come to me in my life as a private professional man that I should have received the invitation which Sir James Aikins sent me to attend the meetings of the Canadian Bar Association. This Association, modelled on the lines of an older association in the United States, is to everybody who takes an interest in the science and in the fellowship of the law one of the most interesting and surprising of societies. I hope nothing that I shall say tonight will be thought to belittle the professional patriotism of English barristers, but it would be quite impossible by any inducement to call together a great convocation of English barristers in the first week of September—(laughter)—and, realising as I do from the acquaintances and the friendships that I have made during my stay amongst you, that here gathered in the capital city of the Dominion you have men of the law, busy men, overworked men, I dare say, in need of a holiday, as all lawyers are, who have deliberately travelled enormous distances, both from the East and from the West, in order to join with their colleagues in these debates and discussions, I cannot tell you with what interest and admiration an English barrister like myself, and, I am sure, like my friend Sir Molcolm Macnaughten, finds himself amongst you.

If anything could add at once to the pride and to the pleasure with which I find myself here as your guest, it would be to come here when the Society is showing all indications of rapid and vigorous growth which your munificent president, Sir James Aikins, year by year leads to greater triumphs, and to find myself at your annual meeting under the chairmanship of my old friend Mr. Justice Duff. (Applause.) Mr. Justice Duff and I made one another's acquaintance long since. We shared the labours of a difficult and anxious time eighteen years ago, and it is one of my pleasantest memories that from the time down to today, the friendship between us has always remained close and constant.

But indeed, ladies and gentlemen, happy is the practising English barrister whose work takes him in those directions which make him the colleague of the Canadian bar. There are no more generous colleagues; there are no more kindly