

powerful. The rich may truly intimidate the poor, shake the assurance they repose in their rights by dint of proceedings, appeals and other artifices. but such dilatory methods or obstructions are not attributable to justice or to judges, but verily to the laws which the legislators, the spokesmen of the people, may repeal or amend. Let me say, in presence of this select gathering, and I wish my voice would reach all the citizens of this country, that, in the plates of the scales of Justice, the rich and powerful weigh no more than the most humble subject of His Majesty.

People there are who look with distrust upon court houses and consider them as so many dens of iniquity and injustice. Others consider the interpreters of the law, magistrates or advocates, as so many parasites or sycophants living on the miseries of human life. The former Prime Minister of Great Britain, Mr. Asquith, gave expression to a similar view when, speaking before the London Bar, at the opening of the Courts, he once said: "The general public, which has never realized the debt that England owes to the practitioners of law, notwithstanding the spread of education, is still apt to look on the legal profession as a parasitic and as an unnecessary excrescence upon the organism of a healthy society."

Yet history, as sanctioned by Truth, is there to demonstrate that Justice has never had more valiant defenders than the lawyers. The foremost writers throughout the world are agreed that the legal men have inspired and inaugurated that legislative revival which has been the corner stone of the social edifice, the initiation of true civilization, the pride of human intellect and the great organ through which the sovereign power of society moves.

I am well aware that the impressive though austere idea of justice is eclipsed by the shining prestige of warriors and heroes, whose deeds always appeal to popular imagination, such as Themistocles, Miltiades, Alexander the Great, Caesar, Turenne, Conde, Napoleon, Nelson, Wellington, to whom the coming historians will compare Joffre, Foch, Haig, Jellicoe and Byng of Vimy, our new Governor-General, to