

say, therefore, that the common law is never learned, is almost to utter a truism. It is no more than a declaration that the human mind cannot compass all human transactions. It is its true glory, that it is flexible, and constantly expanding with the exigencies of society; that it daily presents new motives for new and loftier efforts; that it holds out forever an unapproached degree of excellence; that it moves onward in the path towards perfection, but never arrives at the ultimate point."

The learned member for Richmond told us he was going to vote for the measure, but could not do so without stating his arguments against it. Such a course, pursued by one of those gentlemen possessing a "million of facts," my schoolboy would be ashamed of.

I now come to my honorable friend from Sydney. In opposition to this measure, his tactics were excellent. Where, he asks, are the petitions? where the excitement? Where, I ask, were the petitions and excitement when the honorable gentleman introduced his Wind-or-College Bill? It was a very good bill; every one was in favor of it; and the honorable gentleman did not stop to ask where the petitions were. But the honorable gentleman was not content with this. He must needs throw up another kite; a beauty which soared away, and rose so high, that it got quite out of sight and has never since been seen. The honorable gentleman asks, Have we not lawyers enough? I might answer in the words of old Dr. Gray's thanksgiving, "Thou hast showered down enough, Lord; aye! and more than enough." Now, let me turn to the honorable member for Pictou; he certainly handled the measure without gloves to-day. He told us he was in favor of a pure administration of justice; so am I; so are we all. But somehow or other, rumors do reach us at times that we have not got it. But the honorable gentleman told us the American Revolution was produced by bad judges. They were all lawyers previously, were they not? This monopoly existed in America at that time; then, what argument could be drawn from that to prove that laymen should be prevented from exercising this privilege? If it have any effect, surely it bears against the honorable gentleman's argument. We were told of the depth and profundity of the studies required to fit men for this profession; told a tremendous story about the forms; and then he asked me how I would give an opinion upon an insurance case? Well, sir, in the first place, my opinion would be very much guided by the side upon which I was retained, and the amount of the fee; and then, if it happened that the party retaining me had no just grounds either of defence or prosecution, his case should be dismissed at once. But then, the forms, the forms, he says, what *would* you do without the forms? How would you understand the nature of declarations, re-