

Procedure, has the same right to control the conduct and settlement of the suit as if there were no private relator, and may, at any stage of the case withdraw the right of using his name; and, further, that a mandamus will not lie to him, as an officer of the Crown, in such prosecution. The Committee also decided that the municipal authority of a city has power to sanction the closing of a public street. The case has considerable general interest in its bearing upon the powers of the provincial attorney-general. The appellants' counsel evidently found a formidable obstacle in art. 703 of the Revised Statutes of Quebec, which declares that the provincial attorney general "has the functions and powers which belong to the office of attorney-general and solicitor-general of England, respectively, by law or usage, in so far as the same are applicable to this province." Reference may also be made to par. 4 of this article:—"He has the regulation and control of all litigation for or against the Crown or any public department, in respect of any subject within the authority or jurisdiction of the government of the province."

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At the annual dinner of the Birmingham Law Students' Society, the president, Sir Frederick Pollock, chose for the subject of his presidential address "Law Reporting," a topic with which he is specially conversant. In the course of his speech he said that they would not find any satisfactory historical instances of law reporting before the middle of the thirteenth century. The early year-books did not show much trace of official revision, or, indeed, of any revision at all. They appear to be the transcript of notes taken in Court, and represented just what might be heard by a fairly attentive lawyer who happened to be in Court. There was no care taken to verify the names of parties, still less any communication with the judge, except that occasionally they found a judge saying privily to a counsel what he (Sir Frederick) supposed the judge