

old, the people recognized integrity of life and the conscientious fulfilment of onerous duties. In the words of my text he might say :

"Having then conversed with you from my youth unto this day, behold here I am."

He had held various trusts during his earthly career—in the City Council, in the Provincial Legislature, on the Bench, in the Department of Justice and in the Dominion Parliament. It will not be saying too much to assert that he might make the challenge to public criticism contained in those words of my text ;

"Speak of me before the Lord and before His anointed, whether I have taken any man's ox or ass : if I have wronged any man, if I have oppressed any man, if I have taken a bribe at any man's hand."

Canadian public life has its bitterness. Party journals do not lack a keen vision for the delinquencies of their opponents. Even now, as in the days of our Saviour, men can see the mote in their neighbour's eyes, whilst perhaps blind to the beam in their own. Public men live now more than ever in the full light that is cast around them from a hundred sources which did not exist in past ages. They cannot hide themselves behind the throne of their sovereign, or screen their character beneath the cloak of office.

Our age respects no curtains drawn before the sanctuary of the council of the King. Hence the acts of a high public official are as open to the criticism of the people as those of the village beadle. Indeed, the more exalted the station in which a man may be placed, the more fierce is the light which surrounds his actions and the more