Montreal where an efficient medical institute had been established in 1824, and afterwards merged into McGill University. In Upper Canada no medical education could be obtained until after the opening of King's College in 1843.

The leaders in the legislative bodies were generally drawn from the legal profession, and travellers while giving unfavourable accounts of most things in the country, admitted that most of their men "would do credit to the English parliament." Long before 1840 it was not necessary to go to England for able lawyers to fill positions on the bench. As a matter of fact it was a grievance on the part of the later immigrants of 1830 that English attorneys could not be admitted to practice in Upper Canada until after several years' study in the office of a Canadian lawyer. Some of the most brilliant men of British North America appeared at the time of which I am writing. For instance, in Nova Scotia, Chief Justice Sir William Young—to give them the titles of the high positions they afterwards occupied—once leader of the Liberal party; Judge Johnston, for many years leader of the Conservative party; Honourable James Boyle Uniacke, witty and eloquent; in New Brunswick, Judge Samuel A. Wilmot, afterwards Lieutenant-Governor; in Lower Canada, Chief Justice Sir James Stuart and Chief Justice Sir Louis Hypolite Lafontaine; in Upper Canada, Chief Justice Sir J. Beverly Robinson, Judge Hagerman, Chief Justice Sir J. Buchan Macaulay, Chief Justice McLean, Chief Justice Draper, and Honourable Robert Baldwin. These are, however, only notable examples in a long list of men whose legal knowledge and oratorical power were evidences of the intellectual development of the people in the two decades before the union of 1840.