

the advantages of optimism are evident. The longer we live, the more we appreciate the average honest man, as compared with the dishonest talented man.

Act as thou wouldst act, if all the consequences of thy act could be realized at the moment thou actest."

LAW REPORTING AND DIGESTING.

Through the courtesy of Mr. George Whitelock, Secretary of the American Bar Association, we have received the program presented at their meeting held in October last at the City of Washington. He sends also copies of various reports which then came up for consideration. They are all of interest. The one especially so to us at the present time is the report of the Committee on Law Reporting and Digesting. In a small way the same difficulties meet us here as confront the profession in the United States in this connection. The decisions of the Courts in the various provinces of the Dominion and of our Supreme Court require attention at the hands of every careful practitioner and counsel, and the number of these cases increases year by year. The series of reports known as the "Dominion Law Reports" meets present needs so far as Canada is concerned; but the volume of cases and the labour of reading and noting them becomes greater day by day and the profession must eventually realise the necessity of condensation and selection.

For light and help in this matter we cannot do better than reproduce the report presented to the American Bar Association giving the result of the thought and research of the eminent men who had this important matter in charge. It reads as follows:—

"For the American Bar the problem of reporting and digesting is a peculiarly difficult one. There is no other Bar that has to keep in touch with the decisions of so many courts. Neither the courts nor the lawyers of one state can safely ignore the course of legal decisions in other states of the union. The enterprise that has brought about the publication of the decisions