

were compiled from the best qualities of human greatness as then understood. Athenian youths fixed the Iliad in their minds and began to repeat Achilles in their lives, and soon the ideal hero was looking down upon many thousands of living Achilles moving in the streets of Athens. With admiration we recall the intellectual achievements, the literature, the philosophy, the art, the spirit of those Athenians inspired and made great by an ideal. Why not repeat that in Canada? Why not in our Association?

Now what are some of the professional ideals and qualities which attracted us and which this Association should assist the Benchers and councils of the official societies to keep ever before and develop in the students and thus advance a truly Canadian soul in the Bar from coast to coast, and a supreme spirit in our temple of Justice to which we may pay homage?

We all recall the transforming influence upon us, when students, of those whom we regarded as then pre-eminent at the Bar. Every provincial Bar, except the recent ones of the prairies, had then their great lawyers. You know them, for they attracted you. May I mention four in Ontario whom I, as an articled clerk, knew and regarded highly—Edward Blake, Matthew Cameron, Thomas Moss and James MacLennan. These great lawyers were gentlemen, jurists who knew the law and its practice, scholarly, and of public spirit and action.

They were not discourteous in manner or bullies in court or unreliable in practice or mean in their methods of getting business. Yet they were strong men. Gentleness is an inflexion of strength. We admire good form whether at the Bar or on the Bench. The German word meaning good form which Lord Chancellor Haldane used before the American Bar Association, Montreal, 1913, is omitted. Evidently the Huns did not know its meaning.

Unfortunately, there are lawyers in all our Bars whose ethical standards are not desirable, whose greed outweighs their conscience and who regard the law as a business rather than as a profession. But contrasted with the membership of Bars elsewhere, we have no reason for congratulation.