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EXTRACTS FROM RECENT SPEECHES DELIVERED IN UPPER CANADA—CHIEFLY EDUCATIONAL.

I. THE HON. WM. H. DRAPER, C.B.

Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas.

ARCHITECTURAL IMPROVEMENT IN UPPER CANADA—THE LAW COURTS, COURT HOUSES, CHURCHES, &c.

At the recent re-opening of Osgoode Hall, Chief Justice Draper spoke as follows:—"The unquestionable superiority, in every respect, of the buildings provided for the holding of our Courts, over every other devoted to a similar purpose that has preceded them in Upper Canada, is no insignificant type of the character of the general improvement of the Province. Our early settlers—the hardy pioneers of improvement—were glad to be under the shelter of a rough log house, to find protection against the storm and tempest, the heat of summer, and the inclemency of winter. The necessity of a due administration of laws, without which no frame of human society can be held together, could only be supplied in proportion to their limited means; and the buildings for that purpose were inevitably of the plainest structure, of materials which were cheapest and most readily procured. It is within my own remembrance that the sittings of the Court of Queen's Bench for Upper Canada,

were held in a building within a quarter of a mile of this very spot, whose external appearance was scarce equal to that of any building which may now be seen around the dwelling, and forming part of the homestead of our industrious and successful farmers. But intelligence, industry, and integrity—the motto of our flourishing city of Toronto—were at work throughout the Province, and resulted, not simply in the accumulation of independent means, amounting in many instances to wealth; but produced also a desire for the acquisition and diffusion of knowledge, for the study of liberal arts and sciences, by the cultivation of which the thoughts and habits of the people might be elevated and refined; and in the fullest proportion to the increase of our material resources, has been the striking development of our educational system, together with an expanding and ennobling view of our social position, its advantages and its obligations. Thus, while comfort and even luxury have found establishment in the farmers' houses; while those engaged in commercial pursuits, and here and there some members of the liberal professions, have erected residences which ornament our principal cities and towns, and their environs, the religious feeling of the people has prompted and accomplished the erection of houses of worship to God, the Giver of all good; suited in many instances to supply the coming as well as the present generation; and their respect for law and justice, and for the authorities constituted to administer them, has displayed itself in the efforts of the various municipalities to erect Court Houses, ornamented in design, substantial in structure, and fitted up with a due regard to the dignity of their object and employment. And in that spirit has this building been completed. The Law Society, under the sanction of, and liberally aided by, the Government, undertook to provide for all time to come for the accommodation of the superior Courts of law and equity; and, in fulfilling that undertaking, have shown a determination on their part to keep pace with, not merely the actual, but the prospective advancement of the country; and not merely to follow, but to surpass the efforts so honourably made by the County Councils, to provide accommodation which the most fastidious could not help admitting to be abundant, joined to a display of architectural style and finish which makes not merely an ornament to the city, but reflects credit on Upper Canada at large. And it is impossible to deny that they have fully succeeded; that to this city, already deserving of notice for some of its ornate public buildings, they have added a new and brilliant decoration, worthy of the purposes for which it is set apart. To the Benchers, and especially to the building committee, we offer our congratulations on the completion of