

The Upper Canada Law Journal, in commenting on the proceedings said, Sir John Macdonald "paid, perhaps, the most graceful compliment of all when he spoke of one, who though not holding so high a position and not so prominently before the public, as either of the other gentlemen named, is, we believe, second to none in devotion to the duties of his office and, who while discharging those duties with the utmost exactitude and with much ability, still finds time to add his quota to the cause which every lover of his country has at heart—the improvement of his country's laws." * * "We are the more pleased to have the opportunity of recording this expression of opinion on the part of the Attorney-General as we ourselves, as well as those who preceded us, in the management of this Journal, are under many obligations to Judge Gowan for his most valuable information and assistance on a variety of subjects." As well put by the graceful writer from whom we have already quoted: "a pioneer judge, he is yet an erudite lawyer and has had a leading mind in all the great law reforms." *

During the Government of Sir John Macdonald, the difficult task of consolidating the public statute law of the country, involving the re-casting and classification of the whole body of the statute law from 1792 to 1858, on the work of a former commis-

* *The Irishman in Canada*, by N. F. Davin, Esq.