

account for the publication of this open letter at the present time, when it is remembered that the draft code was made public in 1891, was again distributed in 1892, and early last session was introduced after numerous alterations had been made and suggestions received from various parts of the country, and adopted.

In a matter of this kind, we are inclined to take the ground that it was a duty, and should have been a pleasure, for any one occupying the position of a judge, enjoying the confidence of the public, and receiving public money, so far as he conveniently could, the matter having come to his attention and being on a branch of the law of which he has special knowledge, to aid in making any legislation affecting it as complete as possible.

If we are told that it is immaterial as to the manner of the fault-finding, if there are faults to be remedied, we would say that we do not care to discuss in detail whether the criticisms of the learned judge are or are not justifiable; for the simple reason that we are satisfied that whatever of merit there may be in the objections taken, the Attorney-General is quite large-minded enough even now to carefully consider them, and make any alteration or amendment in the code which may seem desirable or necessary. Of course the code is not perfect. The age of miracles is past. We never heard of a code or any human production that was perfect. At the same time we confess that we have, with others, felt some natural pride in the Canadian Criminal Code. We think it is something of which the country at large may, on the whole, be proud.

There are many of the profession who, with ourselves, have preferred that any suggestions we could give, or criticism we could make, should be done unostentatiously, as a duty owed to the public by the profession. It should always be a pleasure to every true citizen to strengthen the hands of those who are honestly trying to do their best, and be willing that those who are responsible for the production of this most important and difficult work should receive the credit, and that the country should receive the benefit.

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