

Bar, and was never numbered among the "clamorous crew seeking silk." As to Benjamin Russell's humility, one instance known to the writer will suffice. When the Law School of Dalhousie University was established Mr. Russell was appointed Professor of Contract Law. During the first term his work lay wholly within the curriculum of the junior students; but the excellence of his lectures was such that the seniors (numbering some practising barristers) sought to take the benefit of them, and one spare day mustered in force and without leave or license entered his class-room the while he was engaged in a fine exposition of the doctrine laid down in *Household Fire Insurance Co. v. Grant*, 4 Ex. D. 216, as to the completion of a contract by a posted acceptance of an offer previously communicated. The lecturer became embarrassed at this trespass on the case, so to speak, and it was thought that he concluded his observations with more expedition than circumstances would ordinarily warrant. After the class was dismissed he told a mutual friend that he experienced diffidence in lecturing to the "seniors" who, doubtless, so he said, were able to make a better apology for the doctrine than he could, and might enumerate among themselves

"Some Bramwell, guiltless of this judge-made law." (\*)

It is instances of this kind that affirm the correctness of La Bruyère's saying—"Modesty is to merit, what shades are to a figure in a picture: giving it strength and elevation."

Mr. Justice Russell was born in Dartmouth, N.S., in January, 1849, and therefore brings to the Bench ripe legal experience and a variously trained mind in its prime. He is one of the most distinguished graduates of Mount Allison University (B.A., 1868; M.A., 1871; D.C.L., *honoris causa*, 1893). He was called to the Bar of Nova Scotia in December, 1872. Before his call he had become joint reporter of the House of Assembly with the late Sir John S. D. Thompson. For twenty years he held the office of official reporter of the decisions of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, and in that connection amply discharged the debt of usefulness which Lord Bacon said every lawyer owes to his profession. In 1882 he became Recorder and Stipendiary Magistrate of his native town, offices which he long discharged with ability and scrupulous care in the interests of the public. In 1883 he

(\*) It will be remembered that Baron Bramwell vigorously dissented from the majority of the Court in the case above cited.