

of professional decorum, or an offensive pertinacity, or, it may be, severely censuring a piece of sharp practice, or other conduct unworthy of our noble profession. The evils complained of are growing ones, and there must be an end to them. The traditions of the Canadian Bench are a sacred trust, and he who violates them is doing his country a wrong which he can never remedy.

It is not at present necessary further to particularize. We trust it may never be necessary so to do. We are not writing as we have said, to the public, but to those who know whereof we speak. Names need not now be given, for the members of the Bar have a keen sense in such matters, and those of the Bench (happily only a few) who offend in these respects, also know to whom these remarks apply. It is necessary in this matter to hew to the line, and let the right men fill their baskets with the chips.

We are very proud of the Bench of this Canada of ours. No country outside of England can compare with it as a whole, and it is because we are jealous of its reputation, as well as impelled by a sense of duty to the profession, that we now call attention to the complaints referred to.

Indelibly impressed upon the memory of the writer is a scene in the library of Sir John Beverley Robinson, when Chief Justice of old Upper Canada. It was in the days of technical pleading and practice, and petty motions by way of summons and order. The room was crowded with barristers and law students, waiting their turn for a hearing. The Chief sat in one chair, with his feet on another, one foot swathed in flannels, with marks of agonizing pain occasionally passing across his face. One by one the motions were made and patiently heard. Never once did the pain he suffered, or the ignorance, or pertinacious stupidity of some novice, ruffle the serene courtesy of his speech or manner. Leaders, juniors and students were treated alike and, if there was an exception, it was in favor of the last, when this learned and venerated judge, with an encouraging smile, explained to some raw student what the practice was, or wherein his material was defective. As it was in the