

public; it is one of substance. The federal authority, Executive and Congressional, at Washington, is a delegated authority, conceded by sovereign States; nor has the civil war altered their relations materially. In Canada, the source of authority is the Crown, and powers are delegated by it to the Dominion Parliament in the first place, and subordinately to the Local Legislatures. By the Crown, of course, we mean Her Majesty acting by and with the advice of the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament—that is by Statute.

In our constitutional charters, as they may be called, of 1791 and 1840, there is no mention of a Colonial Parliament; and although we are inclined to think that Mr. Taylor has laid too little stress upon the tacit understanding between Governors and Legislatures, it is impossible to doubt that he is substantially right. Strange as it may appear, the British North America Act of 1867—which so far as most people know, merely united the Provinces by a tie which secured perfect freedom of self-government to each of them—actually gave this portion of the British Empire a Parliament for the first time. Then, and then alone, in the constitutional history of Canada, were 'all powers, authorities and functions,' as well as all 'privileges, immunities, and powers,' of the Commons House of Parliament in England conferred upon a legislative body in Canada. The Local Legislatures remain, like the old *quasi* Parliaments, with limited dignity and narrow jurisdiction.

It seems desirable now, in conclusion, to refer briefly to two aspects of the subject which may indicate, rather than fully develop, the value of Mr. Fenning Taylor's work. The first is—and it is missing in most of our professed historians—the insight it affords with regard to the struggle for 'responsible government.' Of all the men who fought the battle in the days of Lord Metcalfe, none were more strenuous in their assertion of the Parliamentary character and dignity of the Provincial Legislature than the Hon. Robert Baldwin and Mr. James Small, and yet the fathers of both these gentlemen—Dr. W. W. Baldwin and Mr. John Small—denied *in toto* that Assemblies were Parliaments. It was their misfortune that it was to their interest to take up the ground they did—for they were both civil servants, nevertheless, they were right on higher grounds.

The other feature of the work is the exceedingly dispassionate view of the struggle for 'responsible government' given in chap. vi. especially. One can see in Mr. Taylor's clear, and strictly honest review, what most of us have hardly been clear upon—the *locus standi* of Lord Metcalfe and his champions. No one can read this calm 'study and review' of a by-gone struggle, deep and deadly for the time, without admiring the skill of a writer who has survived the passions of the past generation without losing aught of the intellectual vigour and well-balanced judgment which must always have been his at command.

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*The Ontario Legal Directory; a Complete Law List for the Province of Ontario.* Compiled by W. E. HODGINS, M.A. Toronto: Rowsell & Hutchison. 1879.

*The Canadian Conveyancer and Handbook of Legal Forms,* Comprising a Selection of Conveyancing Precedents, with an Introductory Treatise on the Law of Real Property in Ontario. By J. RORDANS. 3rd Edition. Revised. Toronto: J. Rordans & Co.

The literature of the professions has in Canada found more scope, and consequent encouragement, than that issued in the interest of the general reader. The range of native legal literature is an especially wide one, and does credit to the activities and importance of the profession. Mr. Hodgins' Legal Directory, though a mere compilation, is yet a worthy specimen, in its sphere, of the honest, laborious work now and again turned out by the legal fraternity. It may not rank very high as a piece of literary work, and it has no pretensions to originality; nevertheless, it has its manifest uses, and possesses a value all its own. Besides the roll of Provincial Barristers and Attorneys, the Agency Register, list of County and Judicial Officers, Division Court Clerks, &c., the present editor has appended a list of foreign correspondents and legal agencies, which must have been compiled at great outlay of time and trouble. Prefixed to the work are to be found the Rules of the Law Society, the Acts relating to the profession, and other matters of interest to the student and the practitioner.