

the bonds by which, as members of a great profession, they rejoice to be bound, but to so formulate and restate their obligations that the principles which in public matters and in their more domestic concerns they regard as essential may be clearly set before them.

The honour and dignity of the profession belongs to itself and it cannot delegate its responsibility by electing representatives to administer its concerns. And the support and countenance given by the Benchers to the various local county associations indicate that in their view there is not only scope but an actual necessity for some body which, outside themselves, will represent the Bar in some corporate manner in its relations to the public. The Ontario Bar Association has happily adopted the position that its surest support lies with these local associations. There are many subjects such as the relation of the Bench and Bar, the methods of procedure, the administration of criminal justice, the relations of solicitor and client and others which touch the public and the profession, and in which it is desirable that some body, not legally constituted, but yet thoroughly representative, should be able to keep alive an esprit de corps and what is just as important, its proper relation to the public at large.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The proceedings of the association, which was held in Toronto on the 17th and 18th of December last, were varied, comprehensive and of much interest. The chairman was the vice-president of the association, Mr. F. E. Hodgins, K.C., the president, Mr. A. H. Clarke, K.C., being unable to attend.

The chairman, after referring to the increase in membership, from 200 to 276, during the past year, announced that the council had decided to broaden the base upon which the association rested. This important step, he said, was really the natural outcome of the idea which underlay the formation of an Ontario Bar Association, namely, that it should be a federation of the county law associations. It has been decided to