

at the right time, and all the important measures of reform have been easily and naturally accepted by the people and assimilated as a part of our system. A good illustration of this is to be found in the reforms of our Courts and law practice. That, which in England gave rise to much confusion and clogging of the wheels of justice, was, by means of Sir Oliver Mowat's Administration of Justice Act of 1873, followed by the Judicature Act of 1881, experienced as a comparatively easy transition from what now appears to have been a mediæval to a common sense and modern system. The suitor no longer spends half a fortune with no better result than to find out that he is in the wrong Court, the best talent of the legal profession is no longer wasted in sharp practice and scientific hair splitting, multiplicity of actions has been discouraged in favour of expedition and directness as well as completeness of remedies, and law and equity, so far as the Administration of Justice is concerned, have become synonymous terms.

The enlarged powers of Division Courts relieving the County Courts, the increased powers of the County Courts relieving the High Court, and the limitations of Appeals, have all tended to abridge the "law's delays" and to make the redress of wrongs speedy, sure, and comparatively inexpensive. But the good work has not yet been completed. At the last session of the Legislature the Attorney-General introduced a Bill having further reforms in view, which, if it had met with even a half cordial support from the Opposition would, with some few modifications, have been of great advantage to litigants.

Constitutional Cases.

Each Attorney-General has been obliged to repel attacks upon the rights of the Province, both in the Courts and in the Canadian Privy Council. The success which has attended all the cases is the best proof of the vigilance and legal acumen of the Ministers who have held this Portfolio.

The following are some of the cases in which the rights of the Province have been fought for and maintained :—

(1) The Insurance Case.

In which the right of the Provincial Legislature to impose conditions upon insurance companies incorporated by Charters granted by authorities other than that of the Province was demonstrated.

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