

often follows the litigation of questions in courts of law." This statement from the late Lord Chief Justice may fairly be regarded as the foundation upon which "the men of London" stood in their endeavours to oust the jurisdiction of the Queen's Courts in certain matters of dispute. The entire failure and complete collapse of this endeavour is now agreed upon by all, even by those who have been, and still are, the most earnest advocates of arbitration.

The key note of Mr. Pickstone's article is perhaps best expressed in the following passage, taken from it:—

"But the most striking refutation of the efficacy of arbitration, and its strongest condemnation, is that it never satisfies either party. No one who has studied the faces issuing from a law court—whether it be the great tribunal of justice in the Strand, or the humblest of County Courts—can fail to distinguish the victors; their beaming countenances and animated conversation betray them, and I know of no more exuberant joy than that of the litigant who has successfully vindicated his right against another's might. But let an observer study the faces that emerge from the arbitration room, and what does he see? Instead of the beaming countenance of a victor and the plucky, grin-and-bear-it air which in my experience has ever been characteristic of the Englishman fairly beaten, there emerge

two crestfallen and utterly woe-begone individuals, endeavouring to look pleasant, though obviously consumed with a devouring longing to swear. And why? Because neither side has won—no "side" ever wins in the arbitration room."

Truth, as well as Providence, is always on the side of the strongest battalions, and after all the world is, or certainly should be, governed by logic. The world wearies of middlemen, for we soon tire of explanations for the solutions of vexed questions, and forget apologists. The *via media*, alluring as is its direction, imposing as are its portals, is after all, only what Londoners call a blind alley, leading nowhere.

It has been said that an Englishman's creed is compromise; it can be said with greater truth that his *bête noir* is extravagance.

It is true that the spurs of the arbitration advocates in England have been applied to the broken-winded sides of the arbitration steed; but all to no avail, for there the Queen's Bench still holds first place in the hearts of the people; the preservation of this relationship between the law and the people rests with the profession.

In Ontario we have experienced our full share of arbitration mania. Let us profit by English experience. Every question, apart from its serious aspects, has its ludicrous side, and arbitrations in this Province, and especially in the city of