

will readily occur to all of you. The great work done by the American Bar Association aided by the State Bar Association, in initiating and promoting uniformity of legislation in the United States, proves what can be done by bar associations. Every business man at once admits the pressing need of the business world, to remove as far as possible the uncertainty and vexation arising from the sometimes widely different laws of the Provinces on matters of daily importance. Yet the business man is usually so fully engrossed in his own business affairs that he will not give the time to bring about reforms or improvements in the law which would mean to him, in many cases, the opening of a very extended market with largely increased earning powers. It invariably rests with lawyers or law associations to inaugurate and advocate great improvements in the law and to press them to a successful issue.

“It will, perhaps, not be out of place here to mention a few of the matters dealt with by the Association during the past two years. The Supreme Court of Canada held in *Clarke v. Goodall*, 44 S.C.R. 284 and *Crown Life v. Skinner*, 44 S.C.R. 616, and in other cases, that where a trial judge found a party to an action liable and then directed a reference, or ordered an account to be taken, on the footing of such finding or judgment, there was no right of appeal from such finding or judgment, because the finding or judgment was not a ‘final judgment’ within the meaning of sub-section (e) of section 2 of the Supreme Court Act.

“It was deemed advisable that there should be a right of appeal in cases such as I have mentioned to the Supreme Court, either on a question of liability irrespective of amount, or on a question of amount irrespective of liability, or that there should be a right of appeal on both questions. In order to procure an amendment to said sub-section, members of the Association attended at Ottawa on two different occasions and interviewed the proper authorities there with a view of having the Supreme Court Act amended so as to give a right of appeal in cases such as I have referred to.