

greatest lawyers in the Empire, absolutely free from any bias or prejudice—should not be interfered with; and this, apart from any question of sentiment, which, however, cannot and should not be entirely ignored. Possibly some change in procedure might lessen expense, but after all, as has been shewn, the cases that go to England are so few and of such large interests as to make the question of expense of minor importance.

When speaking of the Ontario Bar Association one's thoughts naturally turn to the Law Society of Upper Canada, and it might seem that because the Benchers are elected by the Bar they thereby become its representatives as to all its interests. The procedure at the recent meeting of the association would seem to shew that its mission is to occupy a field not open to the Law Society as a corporation, and yet one in which Convocation is greatly interested. The legal profession has always acknowledged the duty of the Benchers in regard to the education, admission and discipline of the Bar: to properly care for those who are preparing to enter its ranks, to examine into their fitness and admit them when qualified, and when in practice to see that they honourably and faithfully discharge their duties, and discipline them when they do not. Hence the incorporated Law Society of Upper Canada has for 100 years elected its Benchers and has confided to them (1) legal education, (2) calls to the Bar, (3) discipline, (4) reporting of cases. Beyond these it has not gone; nor, possibly, is it necessary or advisable that it should go further.

Many questions, however, lie outside these somewhat scholastic limits. The profession has to practice in the light of day and it finds itself inseparably bound up with and interested in numberless public questions, municipal, public and social as well as legal. It possesses a body of men who are better equipped in these directions than those in any other profession or calling. But it owes a duty to itself and that is so to conduct itself that its individual members may not fall below the high standard which is demanded of lawyers. Hence, it is necessary that they should find means of coming together with intent not to loosen