

back as the 13th century or before, when there were no permanent judges and no recognized system of juries. Sir Frederick then traced the history and development of the common law, dealing especially with four features by which it has been continuously characterized: publicity of procedure; the neutrality of the trial court; the interpretative and legislative functions of the Court, and the absence of privilege on the part of the officials of the Court. He did not regard these features of the common law as by any means obsolete or likely to become so, the art of jurisprudence being like the art of war—the nature of the contest remaining the same, though methods and devices might change from age to age. He concluded by saying that the common law was bound up with the destinies of the English speaking nations.

As the profession of the law is somewhat prosaic in its character, it is refreshing occasionally to refer to the comical side of things. Statutes frequently afford some recreation in this respect and we are indebted to the last volume issued by the Ontario Legislature for some items of that nature. Sec. 2 of the Statute Law Amendment Act provides that "whenever a holiday falls on a Sunday, then the day next following shall be in lieu thereof a legal holiday throughout Ontario, and shall be kept as such under the same name". By the Interpretation Act, s. 8 (16), which applies to all acts passed by the Legislative Assembly, the word "holiday" includes Sundays. Ergo, whenever a Sunday falls upon a Sunday, which it is pretty sure to do every week, the next day to it, Monday, must be kept and observed as Sunday. Whether there is any judge on the bench with a mind sufficiently cribbed, cabined and confined by strict rules of logic to so interpret this section, we do not undertake to say, but, would commend this interpretation to the consideration of the officials of the Sunday Observance Association. Again; sec. 17 makes "all rights under letters patent or any equitable or other right property interest or equity of redemption therein saleable under execution." As we have no impecunious peers, &c., in this country, that class of patent can be eliminated from the discussion. Possibly, however, it might be well to warn His Majesty's Counsel to pay their debts for fear of having their silk gowns, and all other their rights and interests under their patents, sold to satisfy rapacious creditors.