

his study, his research and his wisdom, rise to positions of eminence and influence in this and other lands.

The distinguishing characteristic of the Minister of Justice is the care which he invariably takes to master every question that is brought before him. He is not a man who jumps at conclusions, who is easily prejudiced, or who lets preconceived notions guide him. When he takes up a subject he masters it. When he masters it and comes to deal with it, either as Minister of the Crown, before students at the University, in a public lecture, in a magazine article, on the platform or in the arena of parliament, he has the quality, which ought to be much coveted, of being able to explain his views in simple, easily understood language. A case in point was the dispute between Canada and the United States with regard to the Alaskan boundary. Countless speeches had been made on the subject, magazine and newspaper articles had been written by the thousand, all professing to elucidate the question. But how few there were that, amid the technical and involved treatment of the question, could clearly comprehend what it was all about. Then the Minister of Justice gave an interview on the subject; short, concise, plain as could be. It was the Canadian side in a way that could not be misunderstood. It was the putting of the United States at once on the defensive, for it stated the Canadian contention so clearly as to leave no room for quibbling. Leading United States newspapers which, prior to Mr. Mills' statement, had been sceptical about the rights of Canada, candidly confessed that the case as put by the Minister of Justice was apparently unassailable, and unless met, it was conceded that the United States would be placed in a humiliating position.

This is but an illustration of the thoroughness, simplicity and strength of Mr. Mills' style of reasoning and of writing. The same scholarly and statesmanlike methods characterize the whole of Mr. Mills' work, whether as legal adviser of the Crown, as Government leader in the Senate, as Professor of Law, or as student of questions relating first to his own country, secondly to the widely-spread countries forming a portion of the British Empire, and thirdly, to all questions of an international character in which Canada or any other section of the Empire may have a near or remote interest. Mr. Mills has always been a strong believer in British connection and in the benefits derivable from British institutions wherever they are introduced, and in this