

I need hardly say that the Consul General of the French Republic is bound to be a cherished guest at any meeting of the Montreal Bar. We owe much to the nation he represents, and we English speaking advocates gladly claim our share of the debt.

We are indissolubly associated together, France and Canada, by our history, by our jurisprudence, and by the language and derivation of the great majority of the population of the Province.

And now let me again welcome the representatives of the American Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association.

The exchange of visits between us really constitutes the highest form of international reciprocity, and the foregathering together of men concerned in the practice of the law, is, I believe, one of the best auguries for the perpetuation of international concord.

I can personally avouch for the hospitality extended by the New York State Bar Association to your delegates. Let me say to our brethren from the United States, that they find in Montreal, not only the French speaking but the English speaking members of the Bar, thoroughly devoted to that system of law whose encomiums have been so eloquently pronounced this evening.

We practice the civil law contentedly and happily—nay, even enthusiastically, and in our view, it only requires familiarity with that body of jurisprudence, emanating from ancient Rome and percolating through the ages until crystallized by the commanding genius of Napoleon into a Code, to convince the impartial student of its superiority and excellence.