

Bar Associations.

It is stated that the Lord Chief Justice of England has accepted an invitation from the American Bar Association to attend its annual meeting, to be held at Saratoga Springs, New York, on August 19, 20, and 21 of the present year. The association, which has been in existence for eighteen years, is composed of members of the Bar associations of nearly all the states and territories of North America, its objects being to "advance the science of jurisprudence, promote the administration of justice and uniformity of legislation throughout the Union, uphold the honour of the profession of the law, and encourage cordial intercourse among the members of the American Bar." Lord Russell of Killowen will be accompanied by Sir Frank Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Montague Crackanthorpe, Q.C.

It will be remembered by readers of *The Barrister* that Sir Frederick Pollock attended a dinner given last year by the law faculty of Harvard. These two instances show how close and cordial the relationship is between the English and American Bar. It is a great pity that we have not a Canadian Bar Association. If we had such an association meeting annually, it would bring the lawyers from all the different Provinces together, and would be productive of no end of good. It would, first and foremost, cause

the lawyers of the different Provinces to agitate for uniform legislation, and would, secondly, cause the lawyers to become better acquainted with the laws of each Province. We have called the attention of the profession time and again to this question, which, in our opinion, is fraught with more good than any other question now mooted. The great drawback to the average practitioner is that he mingles too little with his brethren, and is not stimulated like a man is who is continually rubbing up against bright minds. The old adage holds good that "iron sharpeneth iron." It is impossible for five or six hundred lawyers to meet together in convention for two or three days a year without it being a great benefit to them all, and to the country in general. If all who believe in this as we do would only write to us saying they would be glad to act on a professional committee to work it up, we would soon be able to start up the movement in real earnest.

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We regret that the effort made by the various towns to elect new Benchers in the late Bencher elections was not more successful. The position is largely an honorary one and should be passed around. At present it seems to be considered too good a thing to let go, and we have no doubt power will be asked of the Legislature to make it a life appointment with power of demise.