

Bench and Bar.

OSGOODE HALL, TORONTO.

The formal opening of the addition to the buildings which are the headquarters of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Law Courts of Ontario, was the occasion of an address of welcome to the Bar of that Province, by Sir Charles Moss, Knt., Chief Justice of Ontario, at the first sitting of the Court of Appeal in their magnificent new court room.

Addressing Sir Æmilius Irving, Treasurer of the Law Society, and the members of the Bar who were present, the Chief Justice said:—

"My colleagues and I think that before proceeding with the business of the court it would be proper to make a brief reference to the new conditions and surroundings in which the court is about to enter upon the work of the sitting now commencing. It is, we think, of some interest to the members of the profession who frequent the Court of Appeal, as well as of moment to the judges themselves, that after a considerable period—a somewhat long-drawn-out period, at all events—of comparative unrest, we are to be hereafter housed in these comfortable rooms; and that we are for the future to hold the sittings of the court in this commodious and handsome chamber. It is nearly a quarter of a century now since the court, constituted substantially as it is to-day under the legislation of 1874, took up its quarters in the chambers which lay almost immediately to the south of where we are to-day; and there it continued its work until the manifest inconvenience from want of proper light and ventilation—and lately from want of even sufficient space—led the Government of Ontario to decide upon the erection of this present building, into the possession of which, after a temporary lodgment elsewhere of nearly two years, we enter this morning. It may be assumed, I suppose, that this building, which we trust remedies the defects complained of—well lighted, well ventilated and spacious as it is—will continue hereafter to be for many years the domicile of the court, so that it may be truly said that to-day marks the entry upon a new stage and the commencement of a new epoch in the history of the court. My colleagues and I entertain the belief that the relations between the Bench and the Bar, which have ever been of the most cordial and satisfactory nature in the