

## LEGAL NOTES.

Court considered that the question was not brought up in such a way that they could properly discuss it. It was, however, discussed by the counsel in the case, and the court remarked:

"We have looked into the authorities, English and American, on the main question, together with the remarks made from time to time by our own Law and Equity Judges, and are prepared to express our opinion whenever the question is fairly presented to us."

Under these circumstances it may perhaps be a matter of regret that no opinion was expressed.

On the opening of the Court of Queen's Bench in Manitoba on a recent occasion, the Chief Justice of Manitoba, the Hon. Alexander Morris, delivered the following excellent charge to the grand jury:—

"GENTLEMEN:—It is my duty, and, I may say, my privilege, now to open the first term of the Court of Queen's Bench for the Province of Manitoba. The occasion is an interesting and important one. In years to come it will be looked back upon as one of the landmarks in the history of the rise and progress not alone of this Province, but of the North-west, to which it is the portal. The establishment of social institutions, the laying the foundation of law and order, are always eras in the history of a new country; and respect for the laws, and due and orderly regard for the requirements of the civil power, are prominent characteristics of the races who are under the British supremacy. Such respect I look for in Manitoba, and in discharging the functions I am called to exercise, it shall be my anxious desire to know neither race, creed nor party, but to administer the laws without fear, favour, or partiality; and, so acting, I am confident that the Court will be supported by the community. Every man who has a stake in the country, has a direct interest in the impartial administration of the law, and all such will rejoice that a Court, fully equipped, will henceforth interpret those Common, Dominion and Provincial Laws, which regulate and control all the relations of social life. There is, beyond question, and I am enabled to speak from an extended observation of various sections of Manitoba, a brilliant future before British North-western America. As an agricultural country, it must take the highest rank. But, to secure that rapid development which its advantages entitle it to, and to attract that great influx of population which its natural resources fit it for, there must be stability in the institutions of the country,

and there must be confidence that British law and justice will be found in full and entire force. To aid in giving that assurance will be my duty, and I have all confidence that the people of this Province, of all classes, will rejoice that the Court of Queen's Bench is now in full operation. And here, before passing to other subjects, I would remark incidentally, that I look to the Bar of Manitoba for their aid in the discharge of my duties. The *esprit de corps*, inseparable from over twenty-one years at the Bar, will naturally lead me to respect and uphold the privileges of the Bar, though I will be ready, at all times, while treating the Bar with all courtesy, to uphold the dignity of the Bench; and I therefore look for the most kind relations as likely to prevail between the Bench and the Bar."

After alluding to the recent disturbances there, when certain printing offices were attacked by a mob, and much property destroyed, he continued:—

"If Manitoba is to be prosperous, there must be peace and order, there must be confidence in the administration of the laws, and there must be a fearless execution of these laws against all offenders, be they whom they may. I trust that, henceforth, British subjects in this Province will remember that free men are freest when they yield a ready obedience to the law; and that men of all classes in the land will resolve to work out the destiny of the Province, by the use of the free institutions of the country, without resort to acts of violence, which only bring disgrace on those who commit them, and discredit on the fair fame of the British Empire."

On the occasion of their late visit to Toronto, His Excellency the Governor-General and the Countess of Dufferin paid a visit to Osgoode Hall. After due inspection of the building, the Courts and the Library, they were entertained at luncheon by the Benchers; the reception was quite private. This reminds us that we have received from Messrs. Notman & Fraser, photographers of this city, two likenesses of Lord Dufferin. We presume we are indebted for the compliment to a very proper concatenation of ideas, running somewhat in the following train, thus: The Queen's representative—the Queen herself—the Fountain of Justice—Courts of Law—Lawyers, and so to the *Law Journal*. However this may be, the photographs are gems in the way of art, as well as perfect likenesses of the Governor-General, who in his gracious manner and lavish hospitality is the best repre-