

distinction if none existed but we find it come down to us from the past as an existing institution and we find it does no harm, and accordingly we retain it.

But whatever the form, there must always be in fact a marked distinction in function. There must always be in fact abilities, acquirements which tend to enhance proficiency in one or the other capacity, and often the acquirements or abilities most useful in one are not so but perhaps rather the reverse in the other. On that I need not enlarge, but content myself with saying that nothing but good can be the result of a specialization as Counsel of a sufficient number of lawyers whose talents lie in that direction, and the liberal employment of these by practitioners less well qualified in that regard.

In conclusion permit me to say how glad I am to meet the Society, to wish it a long, prosperous and useful career and to add that I shall most gladly do all that is in my power to further its objects and enhance its usefulness.

WILLIAM RENWICK RIDDELL.