

heretofore given, careful and thorough as to facts, and replete with critical research of law and authority, is at once the best assistance you can offer to the Bench, and, at the same time, is the truest devotion to the interests committed to your charge. As to my own duties, it was Socrates who said: "Four things belong to a judge; to hear courteously, to answer wisely, to consider soberly, and to decide impartially." To the attainment and practice of these qualities, I will strive to bend the best energies I possess. My task is all the greater from the fact, to which you have alluded, that all my predecessors have been men of high attainments and of distinguished ability. That I will fall far short of many of the high expectations you have formed may, indeed, be probable, but I will fain hope and trust never to forfeit your confidence in the integrity of my motives, or your respect for the earnestness of my endeavors. Gentlemen, accept my grateful thanks for your address. It will ever be preserved and cherished as a sacred memento of our past intercourse.

Gentlemen, I have to thank our honorable friend, Mr. Justice Brooks, for his compliance with my request to be with us this morning. I knew it would be a gratification to you, as it is to me, to have his Honor introduce his successor to the seat so long and ably occupied by him. We will now permit his Honor to retire, and the sitting of the court will be immediately resumed, for the reception of motions and the transaction of any other business, which may be on the roll, ready for hearing."

CODIFICATION OF PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW.

Two conferences of official delegates of the principal States of Europe, with the exception of Great Britain, says the *London Law Journal*, were held at the Hague, on the invitation of the Dutch Government, to adopt rules for the codification, by means of an international treaty, of the chief topics of private international law. These conferences were held, the first between September 12 and 27, 1893, and the second from June 25 to July 13, 1894.

The rules adopted by a unanimous vote of the congress constitute an important step towards the realization of the object pursued for many years by Mancini, founder of the Italian School of International Law. They deserve special notice in England, where the current Austinian theory denies that there is any real connection between private international law and the law of nations. Regulated by a general international treaty, the validity of the connection can hardly be denied, and the description of private international law as being neither private nor international—given by one English writer, followed by the statement of