

community in general that our Province thus takes a foremost place in the world in its regard for the welfare of our artisans. We hope and believe it will prove to be a "monument more enduring than brass" to the heart and brain of the great Canadian who, regardless of the weight of years, spent much time in gathering information, exchanging ideas, and ascertaining results in Europe and America that the outcome of his labours might be worthy of his native Province. When representing our Association at the annual meeting of the New York State Bar Association in January last, I had the great satisfaction of hearing Sir William Meredith's draft bill (not then enacted into law) described by an expert as the most advanced measure of relief ever laid before the legislature of any country. It has relegated to the realm of limbo the intricacies and subtleties of the law of contributory negligence and proximate cause in the vast majority of cases that have heretofore engaged the attention of the Courts and the legal profession in that branch of law. The *Toronto Globe* of January 1st gave this statute a New Year's greeting in these terms:—

"At 12 o'clock last night the new Act to provide for compensation to workmen for injuries sustained and industrial diseases contracted in the course of their employment came into force. After years of waiting what it is hoped will be the most effective piece of social legislation of its kind in this country is now operating to protect the lives and dependents of those whose earning capacity is impaired through accidents which happen in the daily pursuit of a livelihood. Notwithstanding all the protest and argument that has been occasioned by the promulgation of the rates of assessment to be paid by employers of labour in the Province, the Act will start with an accident fund of about \$100,000."

This has been a strenuous year in the history of this Association. There have been five meetings of the Executive Council; the first, on 8th January when we were the guests of Vice-President W. J. McWhinney, K.C., at his residence; the second, on 10th February, at the University Club; the third, on 24th March, in