

tion of a Civil Code for the Province of Quebec. Before the completion of this task he was named a member of the Commission which, acting under Section 142 of the British North America Act, determined the amount of Provincial debt to be assumed by the Dominion. Hardly had he discharged this special duty when he became chairman of the Royal Commission which was appointed to investigate the details of the Pacific Railway scandal. He was also a member of the Commission which settled the amount of subsidy payable to the railroads for carrying the mail; he helped to prepare our case in the negotiations for the Webster-Ashburton treaty; and after his retirement from the Bench he assisted the Hudson Bay Company to prosecute its claims against the United States under the treaties of 1846 and 1863.

While the middle and later days of Judge Day's life were filled with such activities as these, he always had time to expend upon educational questions. Besides being Chancellor of McGill he was one of the founders of the High School. Nothing which made for better citizenship and a maturer culture found him irresponsive. As Fennings Taylor says of him in somewhat rotund phrase: "He seemed beset with a propensity to be useful and to do good." The nature of our views on the subject of helping one's generation may be gathered from the following passage, which occurs in the address he delivered at the opening of Molson Hall in 1862: "This University is but entering upon its career. Its work must grow into a higher and wider scope of usefulness—and its wants must grow with its work. One meets us now. Here is the Library Hall, complete in its appointment—but where is the Library? In the experience of the past let us find hope for the future: these empty shelves must be filled, but how is it to be done? By another combined movement of our citizens generally? Or, better still, by the gift of some one among us, who, comprehending the true use and luxury of wealth, will take to himself the privilege of providing for this urgent want, and thus ally his name inseparably with the cause of education? The names are not rare in the Old World and the New which have thus embalmed themselves in perpetual and grateful remembrance; and as years grow into decades, and decades swell into centuries, an increasing reverence will gather also around the names of our early benefactors, thus interwoven in the history of the country, and in that best portion of it—the history of its progress in knowledge and virtue—the history of the philanthropy and public spirit of its