

a certain one of its courts shall be such Court of Admiralty. It is also provided by the Imperial Act that all Judges in Vice-Admiralty, Registrars, and Marshalls, who may suffer pecuniary loss by such abolition shall receive reasonable compensation by way of an increase of the salaries paid them by the Colonial Governments, or a capital sum, or otherwise, in respect of such loss, subject, however, to the performance, if required, of the like duties as discharged by them before such abolition. The Bill which will be introduced by the Minister of Justice next Tuesday meets the requirements of the Imperial Act, and provides for the administration of Admiralty jurisdiction in a manner that will prove entirely satisfactory to the Maritime interests of the Dominion. I hope to be able to give a *résumé* of the text of the Bill in my next letter.

No better memorial of his distinguished tenure of the office of Attorney General of the Dominion will probably be afforded than the criminal code which Sir John Thompson has given notice of his intention to introduce at an early Government Day of the present session. This is simply a methodical arrangement, or digest, of all Criminal enactments passed by the Dominion Parliament since Confederation, and has been prepared with great care by skilled draftsmen under Sir John's direction. The theory of legal responsibility is based upon the presumption that every man knows the law and intends to stand by the probable consequences of his acts; and to the unprofessional mind in England and her Colonies this has always stood in great need of justification, in view of the fact that the laws are in so chaotic a state that even those whose daily business it is to delve in the legal mine cannot be said to know every hole and corner of it. A great deal of nonsense has been talked about the genius of the English law being opposed to codification, but thanks to the practical efforts of such men as Sir James F. Stephen, Sir Frederick Pollock and Mr. Justice Chalmers, supplementing the writings of Maine, Bentham, Austin, and Holland, of late years a decided change has come over the mental habit of English lawyers. The Imperial Parliament has already codified such portion of the mercantile law as deals with bills and notes, and Sir James F. Stephen's draft criminal code has been intermittently before the House since 1878, awaiting a successful passage what time the turbulent waters of the Irish question subside, and the minds of legislators are free to turn to the peaceful pursuit of legal reform. It is not to be expected that Sir John Thompson's Code will pass the House this session, as the shape in which it will be presented is necessarily quite tentative, and many modifications will suggest themselves during its progress through committee. But its mere introduction will mark an epoch in our national advancement, and bespeak for its promoter the approbation of the more progressive and thoughtful portion of the community. The utility of a code, especially one of crimes and punishments, has always been eulogized by the continental jurists; and even in England, in the palmy days of "feudal fictions and mouldy precedents," philosophers were not wanting to sing its praises. Bacon said, "certainty is so essential to law, that law cannot even be just without it. If the law give an uncertain sound who shall prepare to obey? It ought, therefore, to warn before it strikes." Hobbes maintained that it is the duty of the Government to make the laws as accessible to the people as the Bible is. In 1793 Robert Hall wrote: "the laws in their present state are so piled into volumes encumbered with precedents and perplexed with intricacies that they are often rather a snare than a guide, and are a fruitful source of the injustice they are intended to prevent."

It is easier for Canada to effect such reforms than for England, which has to combat the traditions and prejudices of centuries in endeavoring to bring them to pass; and that our Parliament will adopt the draft code in the near future is assured beyond a doubt.

It has been the fortune of a young member to make so palpable a hit in his maiden effort as was made by Mr. Hazen, of St. John, in moving the address in reply to the speech from the Throne on Friday afternoon. He had not uttered a dozen sentences before the House recognized that the Maritime Provinces had added another to the long list of giants in debate that they have contributed to the Federal Parliament. Mr. Hazen is in every way qualified to distinguish himself in forensic life. Of tall and commanding presence, with a handsome face strongly stamped with intellectuality, and possessing a voice of that rare timbre that conveys every word to the listener without apparent effort, Mr. Hazen has undoubtedly all the necessary external equipment for holding the attention of the House and filling the galleries; add to these qualifications a well balanced mind strengthened by a liberal education, and a singularly felicitous command of language, and one has little hesitation in prophesying for the junior member for St. John a bright and useful career in the councils of the Dominion. He very effectively rebuked Sir Richard Cartwright for his wanton slander of the Maritime Provinces; and yet the unflinching gentlemanly tone of his address caused even the opposition press to praise it.

A debate arose in the Senate on Tuesday on the motion of Hon. Mr. Abbott to strike the Divorce Committee. Hon. Mr. Macdonald of British Columbia said that a committee of the House was not capable of dealing satisfactorily with actions for divorce, and advocated the establishment of a Divorce Court with jurisdiction to try cases in any of the Provinces not now possessing tribunals of that nature. Hon. Mr. Power opposed the establishment of such a court on the ground that it would give publicity to the evidence and would have a demoralizing effect upon the public. Hon. Mr. Abbott said that the question raised was one of great importance and at the same time of great difficulty. The constitution of such tribunal would create an additional burden and would meet with great diversity of opinions on the part of those who feel very strongly on the subject. He did not propose to take a definite stand on the question, but felt that it would soon have to be met and settled in some form. His motion to appoint the following gentlemen as a Divorce Committee was agreed to:—

Hon. Messrs. Gowan, Kaulbach, Longhead, McKiudeay, Macdonald

(British Columbia) Ogilvie, Read and Sutherland. There is quite a shoal of cases to be threshed out with all their unsavory details during the session.

Senator Haythorne is lying very ill at the Grand Union Hotel at the time of writing. He was taken ill in his bath on Saturday evening last, and, it is said, he was unable to find his way back to his bed-room, and lay upon the floor of the bath-room until the next morning, when he was discovered by one of the attendants. It is improbable that he will recover.

On Tuesday evening, 25th inst, a grand ball was given at the United States Consulate, at which some 300 guests were present, including a party from the Vice-Regal household, Lady Macdonald, Mrs. C. H. Tuppor, Mrs. Chapleau, the leading state officials and their wives, members of the Commons and Senators. The ladies' toilettes were surpassingly beautiful. The ball-room was handsomely decorated, a noticeable feature of the decorations being the entwined flags of the Dominion and the Republic. The opening march was led off by Mr. Julian Lay, son of the Consul-General, and Miss De Garmond, of New York. The season promises to be a very giddy one until the hot weather of the "nineties" sets in.

Mr. C. C. Chipman, private secretary to the Minister of Marine, has been appointed Commissioner for the Hudson Bay Company to succeed Mr. Wrigley, who resigned some time ago owing to ill health. The post is worth \$5,000 per annum, and necessitates residence in Winnipeg.

Mr. Tarte's long and loudly-promised impeachment of Sir Hector Langevin and Mr. McGreevy, M. P., will be made on Monday next, unless Mr. Tarte's pent-up indignation explodes and disables his vocal apparatus in the mean-time.

Just at the time of mailing this letter I learn that Senator Haythorne, of whose illness I spoke in a preceding paragraph, died at an early hour this morning (7th May.) He will be buried at Beechwood cemetery in this city. *Ottawa.* *DIXIE.*

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A new blast furnace was put in operation at the Acadia Iron Mines on April 25th. The event was of an interesting character, the ceremony of lighting up being done by Miss Florence Leckie, daughter of the manager, R. G. Leckie. Mrs. Perrin, wife of C. P. Perrin, under whose superintendence the construction and the operation of starting the furnace were successfully conducted, set in motion the engines operating the blast. The new furnace is 75 feet high and 19 feet in diameter, being one of the largest on this side of the water. It is expected the output of iron will be about 400 tons a day.

NEW FOUNDRY.—F. H. Wilson & Co. have had the old foundry building torn down and are putting up an enlarged foundry and stove works on the same site. The framing is now up, and a big one it is.—*Yarmouth Times.*

1,500 men will be employed on the Chignecto Ship Railway next summer.

A large "Monarch" boiler for the factory of the Forest Milk Condensing and Canning Co., Kingston Station, went through on Saturday last. Messrs. A. Robb & Son, Amherst, were the manufacturers. We understand that work in the factory will be booming in a short time.—*Kentville New Star.*

With regard to reciprocity and what our manufacturers think of it, the answers to the circular of Mr. F. Nicholls, of Toronto, Secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, are of interest. The following is one of the answers received:—

"Frederic Nicholls, Esq., Sec'y Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Toronto.

Dear Sir,—We believe in free and unrestricted trade with the United States. We are paying \$2.35 for iron to-day that if the gateway was open we would get for \$1.90. Steel in like proportion, ditto paints, ditto lumber, (hard) ditto coal, ditto bolts and hardware. We could sell our machines much cheaper to the farmer and make more for ourselves under free trade. There is no guess-work about this, for the writer is an American and has had large experience in manufacturing in the States. We can meet the competition from the Americans successfully under free trade. Now we are restricted to a shoe-string shaped country 3,000 miles long. We want it shortened and widened. This is not a question which manufacturers can settle. The logic of events will settle it, and that speedily. It costs far greater effort to sell our goods now than for several previous years. This arises from the farmer's poverty. His poverty comes from his being unable to sell to the best customer. The stupidity of attempting to legislate prosperity to a country by fencing it in is too absurd to justify argument.

Yours truly,
Prescott, Ont., April 10, 1891. ST. LAWRENCE MFG. CO., OF ONT., (LTD.)"

Invention is just beginning to receive something like just appreciation at the hands of intelligent women. It has been the greatest of all helpers in the advancement of women in placing each successive generation on a higher plane.—*Inventive Age.*

PICOT'S BLAST FURNACE.—Will Produce 20,000 Tons of Pig Iron Annually, and Consume 40,000 Tons of Coal.—An engineer to lay off the grounds and locate the position of the furnace and the various buildings in connection therewith, is expected at Eureka in the course of three or four weeks. The *Journal* says the erection of the furnace will not be given out to contract, but will be built by the company's own employees. Only one blast furnace will be proceeded with meantime, but the laying out of the grounds will look to a duplicate furnace and duplicate adjuncts. The first furnace built will not be a very large one. The size will be some sixty-five