

it in their power, if I am considered worthy of any such distinction, to point to it as a proof that public services performed in a colony and by a colonist may lead to Imperial honors as surely as when performed in England under the more immediate eye of the Sovereign."

A short reference may here be made to what followed the abolition of the Court of Chancery. This can best be stated in the following extract taken from a paper read before the Historical Society of Nova Scotia on the "History of the Court of Chancery in Nova Scotia."

"Whether on the whole a mistake was committed in abolishing the Court of Chancery or not is fairly open to argument. Looking at the question in the light of experience I come to the conclusion that the administration of law and equity by one tribunal is the best and most conducive to the interests of suitors, and in so far as that was the object of the legislature it was wise. This object, however, was not accomplished except in name for our legislature of that day had not grasped the basis on which the fusion of law and equity could be brought about. Indeed it was not successfully accomplished in England for many years after, and then only after the most patient, and searching investigation by the greatest legal minds in the country. What it did effect was a serious muddle in the administration of justice, and its result was most injurious in its effect on the legal profession. It is easy to destroy an old existing institution, but it takes time, men of genius, knowledge, and experience to reconstruct. The best evidence of the mistake then committed was that in the very short period of eight years the Legislature found it necessary to reestablish the same Court under another name. the Court of Equity—to the Judge of which all equitable business was again exclusively assigned. Great injury was brought upon the legal profession by the abolition of the Court of Chancery in leading to the neglect of the study of equity jurisprudence. The lawyers of the succeeding generation, and until the Judicature Act was brought in devoted