

Osgoode Hall *Lore*

GEORGE A. JOHNSTON, Q.C.

OSGOODE HALL

TORONTO

Osgoode Hall *Lore*

Being an address given to

THE LAWYERS CLUB
IN CONVOCATION HALL,
OSGOODE HALL,
TORONTO

on April 14, 1955

by

GEORGE A. JOHNSTON, Q.C., B.A., LL.B.

Chief Librarian

THE LAW SOCIETY OF UPPER CANADA
OSGOODE HALL
TORONTO

I was given to understand that my duty tonight was to fill in for 15 or 20 minutes, to hold you here while your dinners settled. If I could find something of interest to say, or even manage mildly to amuse you, so much the better. By that time, it was felt, the ladies would have worked up strength for their tour around the Hall and the members of the Club would be ready for the fiercely contested election for the Board of Trustees, which is to take place tonight.

Now I find from the notice of this meeting that what I have to say "should be of extreme interest to the members of the Club and their wives". For some reason I am reminded of the story of a case from a little country town in Ireland, which had finally reached the highest court of appeal. One of the law lords at one stage interrupted counsel to suggest: "But surely, Mr. Sullivan, your client must be familiar with the maxim, *Volenti non fit injuria*". "My Lord", counsel replied, "in Ballygullion they talk of little else". So much for this extreme interest.

To talk about Osgoode Hall for 15 or 20 minutes is a difficult assignment because the old building has been here for 123 years and I have been around, man and boy, for over 40. I have, therefore, seen, read, and heard a great deal about the Hall. How am I to pick out 15 or 20 minutes' worth?

The first questions to answer are: "why Osgoode Hall?" and "who was Osgoode?" He was the first Chief Justice of Upper Canada, holding that office from 1792 to 1794. No satisfactory explanation of his appointment has ever been made. He was not a great lawyer and the source of his influence has not been found. It has been said that he was an illegitimate son of George II, who was 71 years old when Osgoode was born, or of George III, who was 15 years old. As to the latter, the late Mr. Justice Riddell says in his "Legal Profession in Upper Canada" that he "can find no authority for that scandalous story". I cannot imagine that George III, who was king in 1792, would have been at all anxious to look after an illegitimate uncle. Osgoode was a strong Tory and that *may* have been a reason for appointment as a judge in the 18th century.

The Law Society of Upper Canada was formed in a tavern at Newark, now Niagara-on-the-Lake, in 1797. It followed the government to muddy York two years later and met in various places in the little town. By 1820 the Benchers had tired of flitting about and felt that they should have a home of their own. In that year, they passed a resolution that £500 be spent in erecting a building to be called "Osgoode Hall" at Church and King Sts.

It should not be necessary for me to tell even the ladies, that the Benchers are those god-like men who govern the Law Society, provide our legal education, our library, our Discipline Committee and the bills for our fees, which come to us so unfailingly, every December. Some disrespectful person, but certainly not an employee of the Society, might comment on the 12 years which elapsed between the passing of the resolution and the completion of the building. Far be it from me to say a thing about this.

The Church St. site was presumably sold, committees were appointed, sat, deliberated and passed resolutions and gave way to other committees. Various properties were considered, including one on Russell Square at the corner of King and Simcoe Streets. Finally, in 1828, the Society bought from John Beverley Robinson, a lot 6 acres in extent, on the north side of Lot St. now Queen St. just outside the town. We are on that lot now. It is sometimes said that Sir John gave the lot to the Society but that is not correct. He was paid £1,000

for it. I imagine that it would fetch somewhat more today. Sir John's portrait hangs over the fireplace in the Great Library.

This purchase did not settle the matter. The barristers of York did not want to walk up here through the mud, from their offices on King St. Also, it was intended that court accommodation should be provided in the building and the Court, by statute, had to be held in the town. An attempt was made by some of the Benchers in 1830 to have the lot sold but the majority stood firm, the motion to sell was voted down, a statue was passed moving the town limit north, and the building was erected under the vigilant eye of Robert Baldwin, then a Benchers, later to be Treasurer of the Law Society and premier of the province.

You will have noticed, perhaps, that I mentioned the more important office first. I have always to explain to visitors from the United States, that the head of the Society, its chairman, is the Treasurer, although he never has the pleasure of handling its funds. Only a few years ago someone must have been misled by the gold lettered sign "Treasurer" on the door of his office for we found this door one morning completely ruined. The would-be thief, who must have expected to find a pile of gold inside, which Mr. D. L. McCarthy, then Treasurer, had not bothered to take home, had made a determined but ineffectual effort to cut the lock from the door.

The building was completed in 1832. It was only the front part of the present east wing, without its impressive facade. It contained, as well as the Benchers' quarters, chambers for barristers and students who might have board as well as rooms on the premises. The Committee of Oeconomy made regulations as to times and prices of meals. Room and board cost £37-10 per annum. Wine was 5/- per bottle or 2/6 per pint. Cards were not allowed. Boarders had to supply their own beds, towels and washing and had to be in their quarters by 10.30 P.M.

Mr. Cawdell, who acted for 10 years as Secretary and Librarian, was not allowed to live in, since he was not a member of the Society. And, by the way, I do not want to hear any suggestion that a new Committee of Oeconomy might be appointed to find another Mr. Cawdell to carry out Mr. Earl Smith's duties and mine. Mr. Cawdell's salary ranged from £50 to £100 per annum.

Students were lively persons in 1832 and Mr. Justice Riddell's book has directed me to a reference in the Convocation proceedings of November 1832 to a row between two students who occupied chambers here. The Treasurer at that time was Mr. W. W. Baldwin, and I think you will agree that he went to considerable lengths to see that the proprieties were safeguarded at Osgoode Hall. Here is the account as Mr. Cawdell wrote it:

Nov. 8, 1832.

Whereupon it was ordered to be read and it was read as follows: The Treasurer, W. W. Baldwin, regrets that from the report of the Steward, he has to complain to the Convocation of Mr. George Charles Ward and Mr. Alexander Grant, both students boarding at Osgoode Hall, who on or about the latter part of the last month, suffered some disagreement between them to amount to an actual assault to the great disorder of the House and evil example to the Hall.

On motion made and seconded it was ordered that Mr. George Charles Ward and Mr. Alexander Grant do attend the Convocation at six o'clock on Saturday evening next.

On the following Saturday the Treasurer reported a misunderstanding on his part, of the information received by him from the Steward, "he has erroneously stated to the Convocation that the assault said to have taken place between Mr. Ward and Mr. Grant was committed within the Walls of the House; which, it seems, was not the case, at least the Steward on explanation this day with him says he does not know of his own knowledge that it was so committed."

Anyhow the two gentlemen were admonished by the Treasurer at Convocation. After telling them that they were acquitted of the actual charge. he went on to say:

That it is not to be understood as necessary that an act of disorder should be committed within the walls of this House to subject it to the animadversion of the Convocation. It can make but a small difference whether the act of misconduct be done within the House or on the steps or at the gate. Surely if you reflect at all on your future prospects you must perceive how much your reputation on entering into public life will depend on the character of this institution and should its Hall unhappily be permitted to become the Scene of disorder, contention and noise, your own good sense must point out to you the injury to be thereby inflicted on that reputation which no doubt you hope for and which yet may elude your search unless secured by early habits of propriety in all your conduct.

It therefore becomes the duty of the Benchers of the Law Society as Governors, to look narrowly at all deviations from strict decorum in the Hall; by so doing we shall but serve the students and the public also and afford to the parents, friends and guardians that satisfaction and peace of mind which confidence in our care over their children can under providence alone inspire.

Again, under the direction of the Convocation I have further to observe that their authority over the moral conduct of the students of the laws resident in Osgoode Hall is not confined to the precincts of this square but extends to all parts of the province. Students not inmates of the Hall may possibly be left to abide the judgment of the Convocation on their application to be called to the Bar without any intermediate notice of their conduct in the interval of their studies; but that of all boarders in the Hall must be subject to the prompt animadversion and judgment of the Convocation for any irregularity or disorder which may compromise the Institution, an institution designed not so much for the mere personal accommodation of students and barristers but for the nobler end of elevating the character of the Bar and securing by early habits of honourable and gentlemanly conduct the respect and confidence of the public.

It is therefore expected, young gentlemen, that although you stand acquitted of the charge as stated, you and all the students will accept with due regard this admonition intended with sincerity for your and their benefit. You may withdraw.

Mr. Ward and Mr. Grant then withdrew. I have checked the Rolls and find that both were duly called to the Bar later on.

A row of bedchambers was added to the building in 1833, to the west, but the Society consistently lost money on them. The beer bills were high and the students would fail to pay their board bills. In 1834 £27 had to be paid out to John Doel, the brewer and tavern keeper at Bay and Adelaide Streets. It was

at his tavern that William Lyon Mackenzie and his fellow rebels — or patriots, according to one's politics — planned the 1837 rebellion.

The rebellion broke out in December of that year and the government leased the Hall and used it as barracks for troops. In 1843, when the troops left, it was badly damaged. Mr. Justice Riddell says that the Society was very shabbily treated when it received from the government only £500, while repairs cost £700.

The Court of King's Bench had come to the Hall immediately after it was built and as the work of the Court increased and as the Law Society membership grew, additions to the building were made. In 1844 the west wing was erected and was connected with the east one by a "fine front arcaded on the lower floor and crowned by a parapet with a dome".

Just as in recent times, people have liked to grumble about our iron fence and our exclusiveness, efforts were made in the 1840's to spoil the property. An application was made by the Bishop of Toronto for a free site on the grounds for "an elegant church". He pointed out that there were 7,000 souls, members of the church in Toronto, and only one church. Mr. Justice Riddell writes, rather caustically, that the Bishop did not say why the 7,000 should not buy a site for themselves. But then Mr. Justice Riddell was a Presbyterian!

Proposals were made that the grounds be cut up into building lots and in 1846 the Society was asked to lease them for 999 years for a Court House and goal.

Strange as it may seem, there was some unpleasantness with King's College, which later became the University of Toronto. The College erected a lodge which blocked a right of way claimed by the Society. The College backed down and gave a deed of acknowledgment in 1840.

The greatest changes were made in the Hall from 1857 to 1860 when the present library section and the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas court rooms were built. Prof. Arthur calls this "a most ruthless job of interior gutting and external face lifting".

I should, I think, mention one more historical item on this historic occasion when we have ladies at a Lawyers' Club Meeting. This is the matter of the admission of Clara Brett Martin, the first woman to be admitted to the Bar in the Empire — as it then was. Mr. Justice Riddell comes into the story again. He was then a Benchler.

Miss Martin petitioned for admission as a student in June 1891. A special committee was appointed and reported in June 1892 that the Law Society had no authority to admit women. An Act authorizing the admission of women was then passed. In September of 1892 the Benchers resolved that it was inexpedient to frame rules for the admission of women. The acting secretary was instructed to communicate this resolution to Miss Martin. She was not over-awed and Sir Oliver Mowat, then Attorney-General and ex-officio a Benchler, took up the cudgels on her behalf. He moved in December that Convocation "do proceed to frame rules for the admission of women as solicitors". A delaying motion was made and lost. Sir Oliver's motion was carried 12 — 11. Now I read from the Minutes of Convocation as printed (Vol. 2, page 110):

Mr. Riddell entered after the question had been put and carried, and claimed the right to vote, having been in the building and in court, and having entered the Convocation room while the vote was being taken and before

being concluded. The chairman ruled against Mr. Riddell's right to vote. Mr. Riddell then asked leave to record his vote.

Mr. Kerr moved, seconded by Mr. Martin, that Mr. Riddell be allowed to vote. Ruled out of order.

It was then ordered by unanimous consent that Mr. Riddell be at liberty to state how he would have voted, and record the same. Mr. Riddell stated that he would have voted "Nay".

Moved by Mr. Osler, seconded by Mr. Moss, that it be referred to the Legal Education Committee to frame Rules respecting the admission of women to practice, and to report on the same at the next meeting of Convocation.

Mr. Martin moved in amendment that the motion stand adjourned until the 27 day of December instant for further consideration.

The vote was taken on Mr. Martin's amendment, which was lost on the following division:

Yeas — Messrs. Martin, Watson, Teetzel, McCarthy, Shepley and Riddell—6

Nays — Messrs. Ross, Bruce, Blake, Hoskin, Britton, Mackelcan, Kerr, Barwick, Strathy, Meredith, Lash, Douglas, Bell, Hardy, Osler, Aylesworth, Robinson and Sir Oliver Mowat — 18.

The vote was then taken on Mr. Osler's motion and stood as follows:

Yeas — Sir Oliver Mowat, Messrs. Moss, Lash, Barwick, Douglas, Hoskin, Bell, Aylesworth, S. H. Blake, Osler, Hardy and Britton — 12.

Nays — Messrs. McCarthy, Martin, Watson, Meredith, Shepley, Teetzel, Riddell, Robinson, Kerr, Mackelcan, Strathy and Bruce — 12.

The chairman voted with the yeas and the motion was declared carried.

Miss Martin was finally admitted as a student-at-law, in June 1893, just two years after the date of her petition and was called to the Bar three years later.

So much for history. Now I want to talk about the Hall as it is. First, I should explain that we have dual ownership. The Law Society and Government partnership was not a happy one and was dissolved in 1874 by a long agreement under which the Society granted to the government the part of the building west of the west line of the original building and kept the east part, together with the right to the use of the library forever. The end of the corridor to the west of this room is the western limit of the Society's part of the building. We own the land to the south of the drive in front of the building and the government that to the west.

The Hall is a strange rambling old place on many different levels and built in many different architectural styles. There are two unconnected basements. I should say that there are 5 attics were it not that there are judges' chambers in one of them and it would not do to say that we house our judges in an attic. Distances in the Hall are great. For a time, when I had no stenographer, I had my typing done in the Students' Library and found that in making 2 trips there, I walked 1/8 mile. Temperatures vary from floor to floor and from room to room. One of the hottest places is, generally, the judges' library, perhaps because, years ago, the judges were elderly men. I do not know how our young judges of today can stand it. The number of rooms in the Hall must be somewhere between 100 and 150 and it takes years to learn where they all are and who occupies them. If any of the ladies stray from their guides tonight, I warn them that they may not be found for days.

A few years ago I would have suggested that you put on blue denim overalls and take a walk in the basement. It would have been a real adventure because the lighting was dim, there were low and very thick square beams to run heads into, and boxes full of papers from ancient lawsuits on the floor. The *piece de resistance* was a grim dungeon cell at the south end, without heat or fresh air, with mould on its thick wet stone walls. This was used by the Court of King's Bench 120 years or so ago. Unfortunately, some modernistic civil servants have reorganized and tidied up the whole centre basement and turned it, including the dungeon cell, into storage space. Now there is nothing worth seeing there.

One of the top floors you have seen. It is the lawyers' common room. In another are the offices of the judges' secretaries, a third contains judges' chambers and in the other two are thousands of old little used and dusty books. One of the latter attics, or perhaps it was a section of the basement, was, I have been told, used as living quarters a good many years ago. It is said that a minister, or perhaps a treasurer, under whose jurisdiction the Hall had just come, was being shown around the place and found a family having lunch there. The husband had been an employee but had been dismissed or had retired two or three years before. He had found it difficult to find another place and so had just stayed on.

The main floor on the government side is filled with offices and vaults for registrars, masters, the Accountant of the Supreme Court, the Public Trustee and their staffs. I must not forget the stamp vendor, for whom an office has been built, for lack of space elsewhere, in a corridor. Learned and good-looking as these ladies and gentlemen are, and much more gentle and polite with lawyers and even students who have business with them than the officials of old, they would not claim that their offices are sufficiently beautiful or striking to justify a visit. In fact, one of our important judicial officers, whose name I would not dream of divulging, has expressed the almost sacrilegious wish that the Hall might be torn down and replaced by a modern office building. Do I hear a loud "No!"?

On the ground floor on the Law Society side, we have at the far east, the lecturers' offices where those very studious gentlemen may be found at work day and night, week-day and Sunday. You can tell that they are in residence by the presence of dense clouds of smoke in that section of the building. The Secretary, who with the assistance of Mrs. Huckle, Herbie Atwood and Alf Bennett, runs the Law Society, has a suite of offices at the south-east corner.

The Benchers' dining room is a very fine one but it should be seen with the table set for 26 persons and with the chandeliers blazing down on the cut glass and the Law Society's own dishes. On the walls are portraits of some of the early Treasurers. One of them, Mr. W. W. Baldwin, who delivered the admonition which I read to you, was a practising physician as well as a lawyer. It is told of him that he was arguing a case in court one day when a student brought him a message, that he asked for and obtained an adjournment because he had to attend a maternity case, and came back and resumed his argument after telling the court that is was a boy.

Handsome Robert Sympton Jameson on the west wall, was Vice-Chancellor, and never became Chancellor. He is better known now as the husband of Anna Jameson, author of "Winter Studies and Summer Rambles"; Anna came out to live with him but thought better of it, went on a trip to Detroit, and by canoe to the north end of Lake Huron, then back to England to stay.

In the entrance hall of the east wing, the entrance to the original Osgoode Hall, are two group pictures which look alike except that one is larger than the other. On examining them you will see that an end man in one is not the man at the same end of the other. The only explanation I have heard is that the smaller picture was probably a sketch for the larger, that the sketch remained for some time in the artist's studio and that another man, I believe Mr. Henry Boulton, saw it and offered to buy it if he were put in instead of Mr. Justice Draper. So "Sweet William" Draper, who had been prime minister, was painted out and Mr. Boulton put in. Perhaps it was the other way round. Sweet William may have had Mr. Boulton rubbed out of the larger picture and himself put in. In some way both pictures have come into our possession.

I could talk about the second floor for the rest of the night. This room is Convocation Hall, built, I think, some 60 or 70 years ago. The portraits are all of Chief Justices, from Osgoode to Sir William Mulock, who died in 1944 at the age of 100. Sir Glenholme Falconbridge was the father of our Dean Emeritus Dr. John D. Falconbridge. It is seemingly a tradition that the Law Society has portraits painted of all Treasurers and Chief Justices. Sometimes the Treasurers do not co-operate. I have heard that the late Mr. Tilley, after his fellow benchers had tried for years to persuade him to sit, told them that he had at last heard of a painter who might do. When they eagerly asked who it was, he said he thought his name was Sherwin Williams. This room has painful memories for every man here. It is the place where we all struggled with our law school examinations. On the other hand, in recent years, the newly begowned graduates have been called to the Bar here with the Treasurer, as many Benchers as could be collected, the Dean of the Law School and some very important main speaker from outside, sitting on a platform at the end of the room and with the proud fathers, mothers, wives and children of the new legal luminaries sitting behind them. It is an impressive ceremony and the speaker generally has something to say that is well worth hearing. On the other side of the corridor to the south of us, is Convocation Room, where the Benchers meet behind closed doors on the 3rd Thursday of each month except in July, August and December and arrive at decisions which affect all of us. It was in that room that we older members of the Bar received our calls while we stood behind the chairs of the Benchers who sat at the long mahogany table. They never thought of inviting a Lord Chancellor to address us, or of giving our parents a chance to gloat over our new importance — we had no wives or children in those days. The ceremony was very simple. I can remember that when I was called, the Treasurer, Mr. Hoskin, warned us that our study of the law had just begun. This was undoubtedly correct but I doubt now that it was an entirely original remark.

The term *Great Library* is modestly applied to our library as a whole, but also to the main reading room. Prof. Arthur calls this "a splendid room in its dimensions" but I shall not tell you how he criticizes it. It was built almost 100 years ago when the "job of interior gutting" was done. I hope that you will look at the rosettes on the ceiling and, of course, the "flamboyant fireplace of colossal scale and doubtful historic parentage" as Prof. Arthur puts it. Look for the roses, thistles and shamrocks around it in the decorative work. I do not suppose that the ladies will be interested in the thousands of volumes of Canadian, English, Scottish, Irish, South African, Australian, and New Zealand reports, the statutes, digests and encyclopaedias on the library walls and in the book-cases. They will perhaps appreciate their husbands more when I assure them that they are quite

familiar with all these books and know just which ones to use to impress the learned judges. My office at the northwest corner of the room is so incurably cluttered up and untidy that you had perhaps better ignore it.

To the west of this main room is the American Room with its spiral iron stairway and cat-walk. It was a light well until sometime in the 80's or 90's when more room was needed, as it is periodically, for our library. It now contains over 12,000 volumes of American law reports from all the states in the Union. Still farther to the west, in fact the westerly room on this floor, is the Old Robing Room. This was the Chancery court-room a hundred years ago, presided over by Chancellor Blake or Jameson, V.C. After the amalgamation of the courts in 1881 by the Judicature Act, the old court-room came down in the world. It became the barristers' robing room. It was filled with ugly lockers, up till 1937, where we kept our gowns. Before 11 a.m. on court days, lawyers were to be seen in its narrow corridors hastily fastening dickies over their shirts and tying on their tabs. In 1937 the new east wing was built by the Law Society, the lockers were moved into it and the old court-room became part of the library.

The Lending Library, a few feet away, has a history too. Forty years ago, when I first knew it, the taxing officer, a Mr. Thom, had his office there. Laymen are always surprised but pleased to hear that clients may have their lawyers' bills taxed or pared by a court officer, but so it is. Some time after this, the room was occupied by the Chief Librarian and the Editor of the law reports, with a partition between their offices. My predecessor sat by a window overlooking the grounds and I moved away from this room somewhat reluctantly. I felt that it was too far from the main library and might easily become my ivory tower. The two offices were again, in 1940, turned into one room and in it we have our Lending Library, which contains what the Rules call "Works of general literature" — the books which lawyers like to read for fun. We have in this room our old folio reports, some old texts, such as our first edition Blackstone, accounts of famous trials, biographies, reminiscences, and even a few Chinese books. There is a large oak table here and I have set out on it some of our most unusual books. The oldest is one on Roman law, printed at Nuremberg in 1531, the year in which Henry VIII was acknowledged as head of the Church of England. You will see two books in Norman French, the language then used in the courts, printed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth the First, also a copy, in abbreviated Latin, of the Domesday Book of William the Conqueror and one of the Year Books which contain notes of cases heard as far back as the reign of Edward I, who reigned from 1272 to 1307. Also I have brought down a couple of volumes of the Times newspaper which we have from 1805 to date. In one of these I have looked up the account of the battle of Trafalgar, appearing two weeks after the battle was fought, when the news reached England by sailing-ship. There were no steamships, no telegraph — and no 6-inch headlines then.

At the east side of the Hall is the Riddell Library. It contains about 6,000 volumes given to us by the late Mr. Justice Riddell, whom I have mentioned so often. About one-third of these books are by Canadians or have something to do with Canada; the others may be about any subject at all. Mr. Justice Riddell was an authority on Canadian history, and wrote essays and delivered addresses on that and particularly on the history of the courts of Canada, on medicine, botany, and many other subjects. He was a mathematician, and had considerable knowledge of Greek and Latin, Italian and French. How he found time to be a judge — and a very active one — from 1910 to 1944 when he retired, to prepare

and deliver hundreds of addresses on many subjects and write hundreds of essays for various periodicals, not to mention ten or a dozen books, is a mystery to me. He would always have a number of library books in his most untidy room and when he had finished some research on which he had been working, he would telephone me and say that if I did not want to have a murder committed, I had better send for these books. I have heard that when he borrowed books he had no intention of returning them, and in fact was outraged if the lender asked for them, so much so, that if the lender insisted that they be returned, he would say that they would be on his chair, but he would not return them himself. It seemed to be his idea that any books that came into his hands were intended for the Riddell Library. When he left the Hall we lost perhaps our most colourful character. He died in 1945 at the age of 93. I wish that all the stories about him could be collected.

Before I leave the library, I should mention that we shall, before the end of 1955, have 100,000 volumes.

On the government side on this floor, are four court-rooms, still called the King's Bench, Common Pleas and Chancery Court-rooms, although these Courts disappeared many years ago, and the Court of Appeal room. Over the door of the Court of King's Bench, the word "King's" has obviously been placed over an earlier word, presumably after the death of Queen Victoria in 1901. Perhaps it will be taken off again some time during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

On this floor are a great many judges' chambers. When a judge is appointed, a room is assigned to him and I understand that it is furnished as he wants it, and at the expense of the government, an eminently proper and equitable arrangement. It follows that the Chambers must show the tastes of their occupants. I hope that the ladies will be shown a few of these rooms, the Judges' Library and the Judges' Consultation room as well as one or more of the court-rooms.

I shall close by reading a little account of the reception at Osgoode Hall of the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, on his visit to Canada in 1860:

In the afternoon, His Royal Highness and suite attended the evening reception given by the Benchers of the Law Society of Upper Canada, at Osgoode Hall (The Court of Law).

On His Royal Highness stepping from his carriage, he was met at the entrance of the Hall by Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron, Treasurer of the Law Society; who welcomed him and escorted him to the Centre Hall; the band of the Royal Canadian Rifles and a band from Buffalo (U.S.) playing "God Save the Queen."

Here, on a dais, His Royal Highness received the following Address from the Law Society; which was presented by Mr. Cameron, surrounded by members of the Bar of Upper Canada:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,—

We, Her Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects the Law Society of Upper Canada, beg leave to offer to Your Royal Highness our warmest congratulations upon your safe arrival in the capital of Upper Canada, and our most earnest gratitude for the kindness you have manifested in permitting us to welcome you at Osgoode Hall.

This Hall, now dignified by the presence of Your Royal Highness, contains

within its precincts the new Superior Courts of Law and Equity, which have been lately opened in Her Majesty's name; and it is with pride and gratitude that we acknowledge the condescension of Her Most Gracious Majesty's goodness in affording to Your Royal Highness the opportunity of inaugurating the event in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty.

In this new country, our Society, with but little more than half a century of existence cannot exhibit to Your Royal Highness those many memorials of eminent servants of the Crown, who have passed away, which adorn the Halls of the Inns of Court at home; but we offer (in their stead) to Your Royal Highness, in the dignity and purity of our Bench, in the just and impartial administration of the laws, and the respect of the people for constituted authority, a living testimony of the exertions which have been made among us for promoting sound legal education, and aiding in giving stability to the system of Jurisprudence which we have adopted from the Mother Country . . . His Royal Highness replied as follows:—

GENTLEMEN — I have accepted your invitation to this Hall with very great pleasure, and must thank you warmly for the Address just presented to me.

The purity of the Bench and the independence of the Bar are the proud characteristics of the legal profession in England; and I rejoice to think that this Province equally with the mother country enjoys these great securities for liberty and order.

I hope that this Hall may in future generations continue to have enrolled in its list of members, men as illustrious as those whose names are loved and venerated in the United Provinces.

The Prince was then escorted to the Society's magnificent library; and here, on being requested, and amidst great cheering, became an honorary Member of the Society, as did also the Duke of Newcastle and Earl St. Germain.

The Hall was crowded with fashionably-dressed ladies and gentlemen, together with most of the Officers of the City in uniform. These did not fail, and especially the ladies, to show their appreciation of the honor conferred on Toronto by the visit of His Royal Highness.

Dancing now commenced; the Prince opened the reception by dancing with the Hon. Mrs. J. H. Cameron, and afterwards with the following ladies: Miss Boulton, Miss MacNab (daughter of Sir Allan), Miss Widder, Miss Robinson, Miss McCaul, Miss Draper, and Miss Powell (of Niagara).

After partaking of supper at half-past eleven o'clock, the Prince danced until twelve. It then being Sunday morning, the party broke up, and the Prince and suite retired, the band playing the National Anthem.

At Montreal His Royal Highness had "danced incessantly until half-past four in the morning."

I think that I should correct the over-enthusiastic rating which the President gave to our library. It is only the second largest law library in Canada, the largest being that of the Supreme Court of Canada. There are at least thirty-five in the United States larger than ours.

Published by
THE LAWYERS CLUB
TORONTO

October 1st, 1955