

CORRESPONDENCE—FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

handling good material. I have had probates of wills written on this wretched stuff that were in pieces one year after issued.

This is all the more provoking to the profession as we put wills into the Surrogate Court on good paper and in return get probates miserably written and on miserable paper. Our ancestors believed in parchment, but surely we have gone to the other extreme with a vengeance. I am just handling a deed made in July last which is in pieces.

Yours, etc.,

November, 1885.

SOLICITOR.

UNLICENSED CONVEYANCERS.

To the Editor of the LAW JOURNAL:

DEAR SIR,—Below is a true copy of an instrument filed in the office of the clerk of the County Court here, as a chattel mortgage, prepared by an unlicensed conveyancer in our county. I think the instrument would look well in print:—

"THIS INDENTURE, made this first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, BETWEEN of the Township of Bayham, County of Elgin, Province of Ontario, of the first part; and of the Township of Bayham, County of Elgin, and Province of Ontario, of the second part,

WITNESSETH, that the said party of the first part, in consideration of the sum of \$13.51, to him duly paid, hath sold and by these presents, doth grant and convey to the said party of the second part the following described goods, chattels and property, namely: A black mare with one white hind foot, being the only horse

Now in the possession of the said party of the first part, together with all estate, title and interest, of the said party of the first part therein.

This grant is intended as a security for the payment of \$13.51, on or before the expiration of three months, from the date hereof, which payment, if duly made, will render this conveyance void.

In witness thereof, the said party of the first part, hath hereunto set his hand and seal, the day and year above written.

SEALED, SIGNED AND DELIVERED Seal.
in presence of, etc. sd.

There were no affidavits filed with this document.

Yours, etc., J. M.

[There is a silver lining to most clouds. That which a parsimonious layman gains by cheap conveyancing, he generally loses, with much more in addition, in expensive litigation. We trust this is the case in reference to the above amazing effort of genius.—Ed., L.J.]

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

VICE-CHANCELLOR BACON, one of the most incisive, but not most youthful, of the English judges, after listening, the other day, to three foreigners giving an immense mass of irrelevant and unintelligible evidence, exclaimed, in Mistress Quickly's words, "Here is an old abusing of God's patience and the King's English."—*Irish L. T.*

REPRESENTATIVE REED, of Maine, thus describes his admission to the Bar in California, adding that no one was ever admitted to the Bar with so simple an examination: "When I went up for examination the great question of the hour was the Legal-tender Act. Everybody was discussing its constitutionality. Some said it was constitutional, others said it was unconstitutional. The first question Judge Wallace asked me was, 'Is the Legal-tender Act constitutional or unconstitutional?' I didn't hesitate a moment. I said simply, 'It is constitutional.' 'You can pass,' said Judge Wallace. 'We always pass a man who can settle great constitutional questions off-hand.'"—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

THE JUDGE HAD BEEN THERE.—A laughable passage-at-arms occurred between Judge Armour and Mr. Garrow recently at an assize in Western Ontario.

On the question of the brevity of some legal documents, Mr. Garrow said that the modern practice was to cut them as short as possible.

"I don't know about that," said His Lordship, "I think it is the practice for lawyers to make them long so as to get as many folios as possible."

The law clerks present winked at each other, and grinned and chuckled.

Mr. Garrow (with dignity)—"My Lord, I don't think that it is fair to say that of the profession."

Justice Armour—"Well, I am speaking from my own experience!"—*Goderich Signal.*

THE addition to the House of Lords of four legal members at one time, is doubtless unprecedented in English history. Sir Hardinge Giffard, the Lord Chancellor, has already taken his seat as Lord Halsbury, and will soon be followed by Mr. Gibson, henceforth to be known as Lord Ashbourne.