

Justice Richards was called to the Bar in Hilary Term, 1838; and his colleague, Mr. Justice Hagarty, in Michaelmas Term, 1840.

The Law Society of Upper Canada, though first authorized in 1797, was not incorporated till the year 1822. (2nd Geo. IV. Sess. 2, cap. 5.) The 4th Section of 37th George III. cap. 13, as to the admission to practice of English, Irish, or Scotch, or British Colonial Barristers, was then repealed, In lieu, it was enacted that it should be lawful for any person having been duly called to practice at the Bar of any of the Superior Courts not having merely local jurisdiction in England, Scotland, or Ireland, or in any of the British Provinces in North America, in which the same privileges would be extended to Barristers of this Province, on producing sufficient evidence thereof, and also on producing testimonials of good character and conduct, to the satisfaction of the Law Society, to be called by that Society to the degree of a Barrister. (*Ib.* sec. 2.) The 6th clause of the 37th George III. cap. 13, as to the enrolment of Attorneys, was in like manner repealed, and instead thereof, it was enacted that no person should be admitted by the Court of King's Bench to practise as an Attorney unless upon an actual service, under articles, for five years, with some Practising Attorney of the Province. (*Ib.* sec. 3.) In 1834, an exception was made in the case of the Attorney or Solicitor-General for the time being. (4th William IV. cap. 9.) It would seem, that at one time some Attorneys of the Courts were also engaged in mercantile pursuits, for the Legislature, in 1822, found it necessary to pass the Statute, 2nd George IV. Sess. 2, cap. 1, enacting, that after twelve months from the passing of the Act, no Attorney, being a merchant, or in anywise concerned by partnership in the purchasing and vending of merchandize in the way of trade as a merchant, should be permitted to practise during the time he was so engaged, nor for twelve months afterwards. (2nd Geo. IV. Sess. 2, cap. 1, sec. 44.) The population of the Province having increased to 150,000, the impolicy of combining the two pursuits of merchant and lawyer was, without injury to either calling, thus prohibited. When the population had increased to 360,000, the Court of Chancery was established; and it was enacted that Barristers or Attorneys admitted to practice in