

THE NEW DOWER ACT.—ITEMS.

shall have been before the said day entitled, and out of which Dower would, but for the said provision, be recoverable.

"2. This Act shall take effect upon, from and after the first day of February, A. D. 1869."

Whatever may have been the rights of widows under the former law in this respect, and they were shadowy enough, the evils of enactments having a retrospective effect should be carefully guarded against. Mr. Blake's bill was thrown out.

DEATH OF JUDGE DRAPER, OF KINGSTON.

We regret to announce the death of William George Draper, the eldest son of the President of the Court of Appeal, and Judge of the County Court of the County of Frontenac, on Thursday, the 17th December last.

He was a man of very considerable natural ability, and a universal favorite with all who knew him, from his generous and manly disposition. He was favorably known to the profession as the compiler of "Draper's Rules," and a useful handy book on the Law of Dower.

At a meeting of the Bar of Kingston, held on Friday, the 18th ult., Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick, Q. C., in the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by Mr. James O'Reilly, Q. C., seconded by Mr. Alex. S. Kirkpatrick,

Resolved,—That it is with feelings of the deepest regret that we have heard of the death of William George Draper, Esq., Judge of the County Court of Frontenac, and for many years a leading member of its Bar.

Mr. Draper, in the discharge of the onerous duties of Judge, won the respect and esteem of the community; and by his ability and courteous demeanour towards the Profession, gained their highest regard and confidence. The Bar of Kingston, therefore, with unfeigned sorrow mourn his loss, and sympathise with his widow in her affliction.

Moved by Mr. James Agnew, seconded by Mr. Daniel Macarow,

Resolved,—That the Bar, as a mark of respect, do attend the funeral of the late Judge Draper in costume, and do wear mourning for thirty days.

Moved by Mr. J. A. Henderson, D.C.L., seconded by Mr. Thomas Parke,

Resolved,—That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be sent to Mrs. Draper.

INCREASE TO SALARIES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES.

In response to a message received by the House of Assembly, from the Lieutenant-Governor, it was moved by Hon. Mr. Wood, seconded by the Attorney-General, that the sum of \$1,000 be granted to each of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Ontario, to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund. The motion was carried without debate.

It is unnecessary for us to say that we are especially pleased at this, as we have time and again spoken of an increase to the salaries of the Judges, as a matter of simple justice. If the increase had been double what it is, there would have been but a contemptible few to complain of it. But taking it as it is, the suggestion was an admirable one, and gracefully carried out by the Government, who have in this instance, at least, acted in a spirit of liberality which will be appreciated as an act of the truest wisdom and economy. Whether the increase would or would not have come more properly from the Dominion government, we need not at present discuss.

NECESSARY FUNERAL EXPENSES.—We find the following in the *Chicago Legal News*, as a part of the proceedings in the court held by the husband of the editress. In the county court of Cook county, of the 8th of October, upon the petition of Captain Wiley M. Egan, administrator of the estate of B. S. Shepard, it appearing that the deceased left four thousand dollars in personal estate, and that he was an old resident moved in good society, and had, in business matters, been the equal of our best business men, it was ordered that the administrator purchase, and place over the grave of the deceased, a monument, to cost not less than one thousand, and not more than fifteen hundred dollars. Some have doubted the power of the proper court to make an order of this character, but the judge said he had no doubt of his jurisdiction to make such an order, and that in the absence of friends, it was the duty of an administrator to bury the deceased, and pay the necessary funeral expenses, and that the word "burial" in the statute meant a decent burial, and that no person was decently buried who had means sufficient for that purpose, unless he had a monument or tombstone at his grave, and that the cost of furnishing the same would be a proper item to allow under the head of "necessary funeral expenses." *Wood v. Vandendur*, 6 Paige, 282; *Stag v. Punter*, 3 Atkyns, 119; *Willard on Ex.*, 272.—*Exchange*.