

or appropriation by way of abstraction of the whole." But query, Does he not mean the converse; are not the rights intended to be reserved to the plaintiffs those of the lower riparian proprietor?) On this ground, therefore, he held the plaintiffs entitled to succeed; but he held that they had no cause of action, on the ground that the defendant was acting in bad faith, and with the object of compelling the plaintiffs to buy him off, and he therefore only awarded the plaintiffs one-half the costs of the action.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE CANADA LAW JOURNAL:

DEAR SIR,—Permit me, through the columns of your valuable journal, to ask if—in view of the heavy annual fees exacted from the profession by the Law Society, the Law Reports being hardly an adequate return therefor—it would not only be just that the profession be also supplied with the annual statutes, Provincial and Dominion?

The Ontario Government are every year giving to Justices of the Peace the statutes gratis. I have reason to believe that a large number of these men—on whom the statutes are thus thrown away—never exercise their functions. The statutes are by them laid by, to be taken down occasionally to be read with an untrained intelligence; sometimes to be misconstrued to some innocent yeoman who is seeking cheap advice instead of applying to one of the profession for it.

It seems to the writer manifestly unjust to compel the profession, under the circumstances, to buy their statutes, while the same are furnished gratis to those who make but comparatively little use of them. It would be better for all parties concerned that this matter be remedied as early as possible. Surely it calls for early redress. I am, yours faithfully,

A CLOSE OBSERVER.

[There is much to be said in favour of the suggestion made by our correspondent. Not only would this be reasonable from the point of view of the above letter, but a profession which is used by the Government for the obnoxious duty of collecting fees for the public benefit might well receive this small and inexpensive return.—ED. C.L.J.]