

6 o'clock has recently been changed to 7 p.m. At the High Table certain of the Benchers dine each night. The junior Bar dines at a table specially set apart, paying for a capital dinner and excellent wine the very modest sum of 2s. 6d. The students, whose numbers alas! have been very much reduced of late, dine in the body of the hall. Every student in order to qualify for the Bar must have eaten 36 dinners spread over a period of 12 terms unless he gets a dispensation which may reduce the number to 24. Some wag once said that the reason a man eats dinners *before* he is called is that he runs a good chance of eating none afterwards! Time was when to eat his dinners was all that was necessary to qualify a man for the Bar but that has long since been changed. Examinations must be passed; which, by a strange anomaly, are not nearly so stiff and difficult as those to which candidates for the other branch of the profession must submit.

#### THE TWO TEMPLES.

To the south of the Law Courts the wanderer will find the Inner and Middle Temples—the two Inns where common lawyers have their chambers. To pass from the rushing traffic of the Strand into these quiet courts is to be transferred from the 20th century way back into the middle ages! Each Inn has its own dining hall and library; but they have a common property in the glorious old Temple Church—one of the marvels of London—with its recumbent figures of the Knights Templars and its matchless organ. Although the greater part of the two Temples is given up to practising barristers, there are a number of sets of residential chambers especially on the top floors. Here, too, amongst the common lawyers the practice of dining is observed. At 5.30 every evening during dining term a curious sound may be heard. It is the porter who with a genuine horn—a cow's horn—is reminding members of the Inn that dinner will be ready at 6 o'clock. No one who has a few minutes to spare should miss the opportunity of taking a peep into the hall of the Middle Temple, and on his way thereto or therefrom he must inevitably pass the beautiful Temple Fountain where Tom Pinch and his sister used to spend their idle hours.