

ancing, common law, and Chancery should, as of old, be optional. Mr. G. B. Crook, of London, who attached no importance to university teaching, protested against the interference of any outside body in the educational duties of the society. The real duty of education lay upon the solicitors to whom clerks were articulated, and in the recognition of this obligation was the only solution of the problem. Mr. Grantham Dodd recommended an increase in the fees payable by articulated clerks, and opposed the exemption of students, however great their university attainments, from the final examination. Mr. Saunders, the venerable lawyer who represents Birmingham on the council of the society, pointed out that it was impossible for a solicitor in full practice to give his articulated clerks the whole of their legal education, and that if any such obligation were to be imposed no solicitor with whom it was desirable to articulate a clerk would think of accepting the duty, however high the premium that was offered. He was in favour of the certificates of universities being accepted, but a period of service in a solicitor's office would always be necessary to secure a proper knowledge of practice. He urged the institution of a joint system of education for both branches of the profession, such as existed in the medical profession for physicians and surgeons. He happened to know that Sir Frank Lockwood was strongly in favour of the proposal, and had understood that at his instance a paper on the subject would be read by a York solicitor, but this expectation was not to be realized at the present meeting. He hoped that the subject would be vigorously taken up by Lord Russell, whose forthcoming lecture would mark a return to the ancient practice of allowing the public to attend the lectures in the Inns of Court. He shared with the late Earl of Selborne the belief that a joint system of education would produce between the two branches of the profession a commendable spirit of ambition, and remove any feeling of caste that might exist. Mr. Pennington commented upon the absence of a plan from Mr. Saunders' speech. He was glad to know that the Liverpool educational scheme described by Mr. Ware had succeeded; but a scheme which was successful in Liverpool, where the articulated clerks could easily be reached, was not applicable to articulated clerks scattered in remote parts of the country. The system of education now carried on by the Incorporated Law Society was, he thought, the best that could be devised.