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LAW REFORM.

It has been recently announced that the Attorney-General contemplates introducing at the next session of the Ontario Legislature a bill for effecting further reforms in legal procedure.

We are accustomed to these measures, and in the course of the last fifty years have experienced the effect of them. They began with the Common Law Procedure Act, they were continued in the Administration of Justice Acts during the earlier days of the Mowat regime, and may be said to have culminated in the Ontario Judicature Act, in which, following, and in fact going beyond English procedure, we finally accomplished the feat of providing that law and equity should be administered by the same tribunal and that the suitor seeking for justice should no longer be driven from one Court to another.

All these changes which were thus from time to time made were supposed not only to simplify the process of obtaining justice, but also to lessen its expense; but we find to-day, after all the efforts of our Legislature in pursuit of cheap law, that it is found still to be as expensive a luxury as ever it was. The new machinery for discovery which was formerly one of the peculiar engines of the Court of Chancery for extracting the truth from the adverse suitor, has been made applicable in all cases, with the result that divers large items are added to every bill of costs. There is no doubt that the procedure of discovery is a very useful means of getting at the real merits of the question in controversy, but those who desire to reap its benefits find that they have to pay for it.

The idea of cheap law is a very seductive one. The poor suitor with the meritorious case appeals very strongly to the imagination as a person who ought to be relieved. Surely such