

of the Leeward Islands, proclaimed on 30th March last, was the extinction of grand juries in that colony. The learned Judge "regrets the cessation of an institution which history tells us has often done good service in the cause of liberty and justice;" and he thus continues: "Its value has been most apparent in troublous times. Often and again, in England's stormy story, in her many fits of political and religious frenzy, have Grand Juries—those of London and Middlesex especially—thwarted the vengeance of an angry monarch, an unscrupulous government, or of a victorious faction, and interposed between them and their intended victim."

LAWYERS IN PARLIAMENT.

The elections for the Dominion House of Parliament being now over, it may not be out of place to see how the legal profession in Ontario is there represented. We find on looking at the list, that out of the eighty-eight members for Ontario, some twenty are barristers, and of these seven are Queen's counsel. It would be highly uninteresting to discuss the question as to the propriety of having a large number of lawyers in Parliament, and we presume the usual number of "clap-trap" speeches have been made on that subject whenever a suitable occasion was presented by a member of the legal fraternity being a candidate, without in the slightest degree affecting the result of his election. But it is interesting to note the classification of those who have been elected.

Of course the first on the list is the statesman and great constitutional lawyer, who has for so many years ruled the destinies of this Dominion, but who has during that time been separated from the practice of his profession. The most prominent figures next to the Minister of Justice are, on one side of the House, the veteran and eloquent leader of the Bar in Ontario, the Treasurer of the Law Society, and on the other, one who, though his junior by many years, has in a short period of time, by his high talent and great learning, obtained a reputation at the Equity Bar of this Province which has never been equalled, and who is as well known to the country at large as he is in the profession. Of the rest, however, there are not very many whose names are familiar either on circuit or at Osgoode Hall. This may be to some a matter of surprise, but a little consideration will easily explain the

reason. In fact, we need not recapitulate in our own language what has already been stated publicly by lawyers in Parliament on this subject. Mr. Blake, in one of his speeches, said, when replying to some attack made upon him:

"When I went into public life, I was an active member of a large firm, and had a large and increasing share of the profits, producing to me at that time over £3,100 a year. Now my position is very different, for I have a fixed income from the firm of £1,200 a year only, while I should be receiving over £3,000 if I had remained in private life. I can gain nothing from the increased profits of the firm," &c.

Small encouragement this to ruin one's health in the public service. Even if in receipt of an official income in addition, Mr. Blake's salary would be considerably less than what he would receive from his profession. Of course, professional men who enter public life do not do so (at least we do not care to discuss the standing of those who do, if such there be) for the purpose of increasing their incomes; but those who thus devote themselves to their country, have other ills to bear than the mere loss of incomes. This part of the subject has been amplified by Mr. Harrison, when replying to an address of his constituents asking him again to become a candidate for West Toronto. His observations contain so much sound common sense, and so fully cover the ground, that we reproduce them. He says:

"I cannot longer owe a divided allegiance, part to professional and part to parliamentary duties, * * * and I cannot, after mature deliberation, hesitate as to the choice.

"What is it to be a member of the Parliament of Canada? It is yearly, at a most inconvenient time, to leave one's home, to neglect one's business, to work hard for the public, with the prospect of little or no thanks; to be abused when honestly doing what one's conscience conceives to be for the public interest; to have the worst possible motives imputed; to work day by day in committees of the House, considering all manner of details; to pass sleepless nights in an unhealthy atmosphere; and so to continue from year to year, and in the end, to be cast aside or elevated to office—and, if so elevated, to live life of great drudgery and respectable poverty.

"What is it to be a member of the Canadian bar? It is to attend to one's business, to be well paid for what one does, to be praised for the honest discharge of duty, to be free from the imputation of unworthy motives, to work when and so often as one pleases, to have one's rest