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EDITORIAL.

Turning Up New Ground.

Colonial customs, tastes and sentiments are naturally patterned upon those of the motherland; and in Canada we have a large share of old conservatism and reverence for conventionalities. We cling much more tenaciously here to the less material requirements of professional etiquette than in England, and we have an awe of ever losing sight of the eternal fitness of things in regard to the dignity of our profession. Perhaps in this direction we outdo the model upon which we have been fashioned; and perhaps, too, we allow the motherland to set us an example in up-to-date common sense and progressive improvement. Few of our readers will think that there is more of the old-fashioned and the straight-laced about the legal profession in Canada than in England. Yet we think we can make the fact apparent. The mission of a legal

journal is to keep the profession apprised of what is going on in the legal world, and we are trying to be a legal journal in more than name. It may shock the profession in Canada to learn it, but we think it is worth knowing, that in England there is an association known as "The Solicitors' Benevolent Association," to assist lawyers in distress and their wives and families. We can imagine the pious horror with which some of the Ontario Bar would have viewed the proposal to get up such an organization here. The idea would have been distasteful to the refinement and sensitiveness of a profession at once elevated and aristocratic. But when we see what others are doing, we may well begin to think that lawyers are but men, and that the profession does not exist by divine right, and is really grounded on foundations quite as human as a trade or an industry. It will not, we trust, be thought that we favour revolu-