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DECEMBER 1, 1801.

No. 19.

THE Torrens System of land registration has certainly taken kindly to the Prairie Province, and the latter to it. The Western Law Times in its last issue gives a short statistical summary of the results since its introduction on the 1st of July, 1885, when the Winnipeg office, originally the only one, and having jurisdiction over the whole province, was opened. In March, 1889, Land Titles Districts were established, and there now remain only six registration divisions under the old system. In the five years succeeding the inauguration of the new system, 7071 applications were received. There were 7653 registrations by way of transfer or mortgage and 10994 certificates issued. The expenditure during that period was more than one hundred thousand dollars, but the receipts were considerably over that sum; and the offices are now not only self-sustaining, but yield a revenue to the Government. Our contemporary estimates the value of the land brought under the system at considerably over fifteen million dollars. It is stated to be the intention of the present Government, as soon as it has been recouped for the expenditure of past years, to reduce the fees, thus making the offices self-sustaining only.

We think, however, that there is a line beyond WE believe in economy. which economy is unnecessary, and we have an instance in point which immediately concerns the profession. Until about the year 1884 the Law Society considered, naturally enough, that it was proper and essential that the profession should be supplied with the reports of the Supreme Court of Canada, as well as with those of this Province. About that year the society became imbued with a desire to economize-some have, indeed, called it parsimony-and in consequence thereof, the supply of Supreme Court Reports was cut off: the profession apparently being given to understand that if they should require the decisions of the court of last resort in this country, they must not expect their The old arrangement between annual fees to cover the expense of the issue. the Dominion Government and the Law Society enabled the latter to obtain copies for the profession at the low price of one dollar per volume. As the reports of the Supreme Court now cover so wide a field, every member of the profession must continually turn to them for the latest and, usually, the ultimate decision on the point in question. True economy is avoidance of unnecessary expense. This expense is, we think, fully warranted. The newly-elected benchers have inaugurated numerous reforms and curtailed needless expenses; let them curtail more-if, indeed, it be necessary-in order to have in hand the funds required to provide all barristers and solicitors whose fees are not in arrear