

## LUDICROUS BLUNDERS.

General knowledge is unquestionably necessary for the lawyer. Ludicrous mistakes have frequently occurred through the deficiencies of some of them in this respect. We have heard an anecdote somewhere of an eminent barrister examining a witness in a trial, the subject of which was a ship. He asked, amongst other questions, "Where the ship was at a particular time?" "Oh!" replied the witness, "the ship was then in quarantine." "In Quarantine, was she? And pray, sir, *where* is Quarantine?" Another instance, given by Mr. Chitty, of the value of general knowledge to the lawyer, is worth citing. It is well known that a judge was so entirely ignorant of insurance causes, that, after having been occupied for six hours in trying an action on "a policy of insurance upon goods (Russia duck) from Russia, he, in his address to the jury, complained that no evidence had been given to show how Russia ducks (mistaking the *cloth* of that name for the *bird*) could be damaged by sea water, and to that extent!"

An anecdote has been told of a learned barrister once quoting some Latin verses to a brother "wig," who did not appear to understand them. "Don't you know the lines," said he; "they are in Martial." "Marshall," replied his friend, "Marshall—oh! I know—the Marshall who wrote on *underwriting*." When this anecdote was related to a certain judge of the Court of Review, he is reported to have said, "Why, after all, there is not much difference between an *underwriter* and a *minor poet*!"



## EDITORIAL.

There seems to be, just now, little of interest stirring the current of business sameness in the good city of Montreal. Owing to the unusual detention of spring vessels, trade has not come up to the brisk pace that it did last year. We are told that flour merchants have had the most to do, so far. The weather has been quite cool for the season, and vegetation wears a fresh and beautiful appearance.

Immense numbers of emigrants arrive here from Europe, and are forwarded to various places in the West. Many of them are in a state of great destitution when they land; and many only live to reach America's shores, look upon the rock-built city of Quebec, or land in the midst of these