

from circuit to sessions, and from sessions to circuit, in one unsuccessful round for years, and he ought, before he take this course, to answer well these questions: Can you live alone? Can you keep away from temptation in the midst of forced idleness, or can you create occupation for yourself? Can you live for years without the daily solace of household affections? Can you bear up against trial and sorrow without aid or sympathy? Can you sit patiently for years in court or chambers, and see younger men passing you? Can you bear to see inferior men succeed, when you, a man of talent, have never been afforded an opportunity? Can you go on believing, until you are grey-headed, "that there is a good time coming, wait a little longer?" Can you do all this without becoming intemperate, bitter, soured, or misanthropical? If you can do all this, you may safely go to the bar, for with such qualities you might conquer an empire."

It may be curious to compare the foregoing with the remarks of Oliver Wendell Holmes on the prospects of the medical student, in the course of an address before the Boylston Medical Society of Harvard University;—

"Some plain truths have been recently laid before the student as to the time during which he must, in most cases, be content to live on his future expectations. If fifteen years, as it has been said, are required to obtain a good city practice, of course, where no accidental aid or peculiar good fortune conspires with the requisite industry and ability, a long and dreary blank separates many of you from the object of your ambition. What becomes of medical men during this long period? The answer is not a flattering one. Many of them lose their impulse and ambition, shrink in all their intellectual dimensions, become atrophied and indurated, so that at the period when they have attained success, the sunshine comes too late for their development into their natural proportions. Many are worn out with long waiting, and seek for some other pursuit where their faculties may be called into active service. A few only, like the steady oak, add a new and wider ring to their mental growth with every year that creeps torpidly by them."

Both of these pictures are possibly highly colored, and of course are not applicable to our small cities, where the avenue to practice is comparatively easy, though the emoluments awaiting success are proportionably small. In England,

on the other hand, the wealth and the grandeur of the honors that generally attend success, are calculated to attract and dazzle. To take one or two instances. The emoluments of Lord Eldon, during the six years he was attorney-general, varied from £10,000 to £12,000 per annum. The office of attorney-general is now understood to be worth £12,000 a year, independent of private practice. Sir William Follett, after a few years' practice, is said to have left £200,000 behind him. During the railway excitement in England, it is stated that the leader of the Parliamentary bar received 2,000 guineas for making a single speech. Then there are the legal appointments with high salaries attached;—the lord chancellor, the lords-justices, master of the rolls, three vice-chancellors, and twelve masters in chancery, fifteen common law judges, ecclesiastical judges, &c. "Such a glittering array (Warren's Law Studies,) of substantial honors and distinctions, while dazzling the aspiring eye which contemplates them, cannot fail in the case of a thoughtful observer, to suggest the certainty that they cannot be obtained without the greatest difficulty. The best and most highly trained intellects in the kingdom are, with their utmost energies, constantly competing for them; and numerous as are the prizes, they must ever bear a small proportion to the constantly increasing number of candidates."

In Lower Canada the grandeur of the legal prizes is far from dazzling, and their number is easily summed up. It is true that a considerable number of appointments are filled up by members of the bar, but the salaries attached are moderate. Thus there are two chief-justices, (Court of Queen's Bench and Superior Court,) at \$5000 each; four puisné judges of the Court of Queen's Bench at \$4000, and seventeen puisné judges of the Superior Court at from \$4000 per annum downward; a judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court; Prothonotaries, Sheriffs, Clerks of the Crown, Crown prosecutors, &c. It would be difficult and perhaps uninteresting, to form any accurate estimate of the incomes derived by Canadian advocates from their practice, but it may,