

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY.

1. Tuesday.... Chancery Examination Term, Toronto & Cobourg, commences
Last day for notice of Examination Chatham & Kingston.
2. Wednesday Chancery Examination Term, Goderich commences.
6. Saturday... Chancery Examination Term, Cobourg and Goderich, ends.
6. SUNDAY... 5th Sunday after Epiphany.
7. Monday... HILARY TERM begins.
8. Tuesday... Chancery Ex. Term, London & Belleville com. Last day for
notice of Examination, Niagara and Brockville.
11. Friday..... Paper Day, Q. B.
12. Saturday... Last day for service of Writ County Court. Paper Day, C. P.
13. SUNDAY... 6th Sunday after Epiphany.
14. Monday... Paper Day, Q. B.
15. Tuesday... Chancery Examination Term, Chatham & Kingston, commences.
16. Wednesday Paper Day, Q. B.
17. Thursday... Paper Day, C. P.
19. Saturday... HILARY Term ends. Chancery Ex. Term, Chatham & Kingston ends
20. SUNDAY... Septuagesima.
22. Tuesday... Chancery Ex. Term, Niagara & Brockville, com. Last day for no-
tice of Ex. Barrele & Cornwall. Last d. for decl. for Co. Court
26. Saturday... Chancery Examination Term, Niagara and Brockville, ends.
27. SUNDAY... Octavesima.

"TO CORRESPONDENTS."—See Last Page.

IMPORTANT BUSINESS NOTICE.

Persons indebted to the Proprietors of this Journal are requested to remember that all our past due accounts have been placed in the hands of Messrs. Pitton & Ardagh, Attorneys, Barrele, for collection; and that only a prompt remittance to them will save costs.

It is with great reluctance that the Proprietors have adopted this course; but they have been compelled to do so in order to enable them to meet their current expenses, which are very heavy.

Now that the usefulness of the Journal is so generally admitted, it would not be unreasonable to expect that the Profession and Officers of the Courts would accord it a liberal support, instead of allowing themselves to be sued for their subscriptions.

The Upper Canada Law Journal.

FEBRUARY, 1859.

THE LAW JOURNAL AND THE PROFESSION.

It is with unfeigned pleasure we announce the fact that day by day the *Law Journal* is more and more acquiring the confidence and support of the legal profession.

When first the *Journal* was commenced in Barrie, it was looked upon by the profession as an organ for the local Courts, and nothing more. The place of publication rather favored the idea than otherwise, and this, added to the prominence then given to Division Court matter, no doubt was the origin of the prejudice.

When in 1857 the place of publication was changed from Barrie to Toronto, and an increase made in the Editorial staff, we explained to the profession that we were as much their organ, as that of any other body of men engaged in the administration of justice in Upper Canada; we offered them, as a guarantee in confirmation of our statement, the name of a gentleman who had even then made himself known far and wide as an able and industrious law writer. We, in addition, considerably enlarged the size of the paper, and carried into effect a new arrangement of its contents, so as to display to the best advantage the varied subjects from time to time appearing in its columns.

All this we did without curtailing the privileges of any one class of subscribers. We explained that from Clerks and Bailiffs of Division Courts we received a large support;

that without their support we could not successfully conduct the *Journal*; and that to hold that support, there must be as before, a fair proportion of matter of interest to them. So from Municipal Councils we derived support of a gradually increasing description, which it was our interest to encourage, and which, with some effect, we are glad to acknowledge we have encouraged. So from Magistrates and Coroners we expected a certain support, in which we have not altogether been unsuccessful. To furnish information of a practical kind for all these different classes of readers, has ever been, and in all probability shall ever be a leading object in the management of the paper.

But while doing so, we never have lost sight of the fact (and do not intend to do so) that a general support from the legal profession is much to be desired, and that to acquire their support, the *Law Journal* must be made worthy of their patronage. The more we considered the prejudice against the *Journal* borne by many of that class of its readers, the more we strove to undeceive them, and at length our labors have in this, as in other directions, produced good fruit.

Since Mr. Harrison became connected with the *Law Journal* as an Editor, it has, we know, risen much in the esteem of the profession; and the letters which we have from time to time received in testimony of this belief, have been very gratifying to us.

PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS.

In our January number appeared the names of four new Queen's Counsel. We do not notice the fact to animadvert upon it in terms of dispraise (for we believe each of the gentlemen appointed deserves the distinction), but to make it the occasion of some remarks on the dignity conferred. It is in our opinion only proper that in the profession of the law there should be distinctions for men of mark. The effect of such is to encourage a laudable spirit of emulation, and proportionably to elevate the standard of the profession.

From the earliest times, distinctions of some kind have in England prevailed among counsel in the several courts. The distinctions, to be at all prized, must be given only to worthy objects, and confined within reasonable bounds; and when they carry with them privileges of pre-audience, or such like, they should not be so frequently conferred as to prejudice the rights of suitors.

In England, the greatest distinction which could be conferred upon a barrister, was that of the *coif*, or of being made a serjeant. Barristers were styled *apprenticii ad legem*, or *mere learners*; whereas serjeants, or barristers of sixteen years' standing, were called *servientes ad legem*.