

interested, or have the same zeal in individual cases as if personally interested in the result. Let, then, the public machinery of justice be paid for out of the public treasury; and let private suitors retain their own legal advisers. But this will encourage useless and annoying litigation, some will reply. Not at all. No doubt many more cases will be tried, but justice demands that there should, for many are now debarred from prosecuting just claims. If the sole end of administrative law be to do away with litigation, why then shut up the courts of justice at once; but if its aim be to establish right, what matter a few more cases in the courts, and a little more work for the legal functionaries, provided justice be done; and the loser in the cause having to pay the retainers on both sides, and a stringent law against the common barrator (annoying litigator) will always be a sufficient check against useless litigation.

In Lower Canada the administration of justice is sadly trammelled by law costs, and, as I have attempted to prove, there is a crying need of a reform. Let, then, some practical legislator, at the next session of parliament, take the matter in hand, and introduce a bill to do away with, or at all events lighten, the burden of the existing tariff of law costs; and, if he succeeds in carrying it, he will have the satisfaction of feeling that he has attained the proudest position that a statesman can reach, that of a real benefactor of his country; while let every one who opposes it remember that to him may be applied these powerful words of Jeremy Bentham:—"The statesman who contributes to put justice out of reach, the financier who comes into the house with a law-tax in his hand, is an accessory after the fact to every crime: every villain may hail him brother, every swindler may boast of him as an accomplice. To apply this to intentions would be calumny and extravagance; but as far as consequences only are concerned, clear of criminal consciousness, it is incontrovertible and naked truth."

WYVANT.

NOTICES OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE AMERICAN LAW REVIEW.—The first number of this new legal Quarterly, published by

Messrs. Little, Brown & Co., of Boston, augurs well for the success of the undertaking. The editorial labour has been performed with great care and ability, and the contents are such as to render the *Review* a welcome visitant. The October number embraces articles on legal subjects, United States Cases, Digest of English Law Reports, Notices of New Publications, Summary of Events, Lists of the Judiciary, and other interesting and valuable information. We cordially commend the *Review* to the reader who wishes to be well informed of what is passing in the neighbouring republic.

SECRET INDICTMENTS BY GRAND JURIES.—We have barely had time to glance over this pamphlet, written by Mr. ASHLEY HIBBARD, of Montreal. It is mainly a narrative of the proceedings in cases in which Mr. HIBBARD was personally concerned, and which the writer uses to illustrate the evils of secret indictments by grand juries—a system which, he believes, affords facilities for carrying out conspiracies.

CHANGES IN THE LAW EFFECTED BY THE CODE.—We have before us two treatises on this subject; one by Mr. GIROUARD, published in the *Montreal Gazette*, and the other, a pamphlet published by Mr. McCORD, who for some time acted as English secretary to the Codification Commission. These treatises will be found useful in assisting the student to comprehend and master the changes which have been made in our law by the Civil Code now in force.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS.

QUEEN v. BURROWS.—An interesting trial for manslaughter took place, at Montreal, on the 16th and 17th of October. The facts were these:—During the night of the 30th August, Mr. John G. Burrows, a gentleman residing with his sister in Montrose Terrace, Drummond Street, was twice called up by his sister, who was informed by the servant maid, that she had heard a noise as of some one scraping at her window in the basement, and had observed a man outside working at the wire screen. On the first occasion, Mr. Burrows took a lamp and searched the house, but saw no one. On the second alarm, Mr. Burrows armed himself with a revolver, and again de-