

UNLICENSED CONVEYANCERS—JURISDICTION OF DIVISION COURTS—LEGAL LEGISLATION.

UNLICENSED CONVEYANCERS.

We are pleased to know that our exertions on behalf of our brethren in the country who are afflicted with a plague, not of locusts, but of something almost as numerous, and, in their way, quite as destructive, to wit, "unlicensed conveyancers," is fully appreciated. We have before us two letters on the subject, one of which we publish on another page. The other must stand over until next issue. The writer says: "I am glad to see that we have a staunch friend in your paper." He certainly has, and we only hope that our efforts will some day help to place matters on a proper footing. We should recommend our friends to take united action at once, and bring pressure to bear upon their representatives in the Local Legislature, so that the hands of the Attorney-General may be strengthened to give some measure of relief to those whom he must feel have been cruelly wronged.

JURISDICTION OF DIVISION COURTS.

We are indebted to our valued correspondent "R" for the following note of a case which lately came before Judge Ardagh, in the county of Simcoe, in which an amount exceeding \$100, upon an open account, was sought to be recovered. No objection to the jurisdiction had been filed by the defendant, and it was contended for the plaintiff, that the case could therefore be tried, as in the absence of the necessary notice, defendant was now precluded from objecting to the jurisdiction. High authority was quoted in support of this view, but the judge held that such an interpretation of the Act was not warranted, and he refused to try the case. His reasons, shortly, were, that the sections in question were only intended to cover a case entered in the wrong division, that the jurisdiction spoken of in section 4 was one of place, and not of amount, and that no consent, or rather absence of objection, could confer upon the Court a jurisdiction beyond

that prescribed for it by Act of Parliament. He considered also that the words in section 10, "any suit without the jurisdiction of the Division Court," extended by necessary implication to section 14; and that this section 14 was intended only as a modification of section 62, of the D. C. Act, and not in any way intended to override sections 54 and 56 of the same Act. We shall refer to this case at further length in our next issue.

LEGAL LEGISLATION.

We shall shortly have two mills hard at work manufacturing laws for this much-governed and much-legislated-for people of Canada.

The measure of most interest to the profession in this Province will, of course, be the Judicature Bill. We are compelled to defer any remarks we have to make upon it until next issue. It was, however, discussed at some length in these columns (16 C. L. J. 45), when introduced a year ago. It was then urged upon the Attorney-General to let it lie over for further consideration. This course was adopted and has doubtless borne good fruit, as numerous suggestions have been made, some of which have been drafted into the proposed Act.

In the Dominion Parliament the Government promise to bring in measures for the winding up of insolvent banks and incorporated companies, for the improvement in certain respects of the criminal law and in reference to railway legislation. The Minister of Justice gives notice of a bill to provide for the salaries of two additional judges in Quebec. The following bills have been introduced: A bill to abolish the Supreme Court; a bill to amend the law respecting documentary evidence in relation to public proclamations, &c., and an Act for the better prevention of fraud in relation to contracts involving the expenditure of public moneys.

An enquiry has been placed upon the paper as to whether the Government intend to bring in any measure for the relief of