

the laws in force on the subject in the several provinces, except only in Quebec under the civil code, are given in full; and in vol. 3 that portion of the law which is contained in the civil code is given in like manner; so that the committee examining the Bill will have all the statute law in force in Canada on the subject before them, and can make any correction in the Bill which may be seen to be required by the special circumstances of any province. There are appended to the Bill the tariff of fees before mentioned, and a number of forms, which are not appended to the English Act, and which have been taken chiefly from the statutes in force in Quebec, where it is believed they have been found useful. These of course will require consideration. It seems to us that Sir John Thompson has given our Parliament the opportunity and the material for a codification of a most important portion of the statute law of the Dominion, and that the people of Canada will be deeply indebted to him for so doing.

SOLICITOR AND CLIENT.

OF all the business relations of life, perhaps the most important is that which exists between solicitors and their clients. These relations are often of the most intimate character. To the solicitor is confided not only the management of his client's business, but family secrets and difficulties which are hidden from the rest of the world, are often of necessity confided to him. The intimate relations thus established naturally in some cases beget feelings of friendship and gratitude on the part of the client, and enable the solicitor to exercise a degree of influence over his client, which might often be exercised to the prejudice of the latter, did not the law very wisely guard the interests of the client, so as to practically invalidate all transactions between solicitor and client whereby the former gains any benefit beyond his legal fees. Lawyers are like other men, and are liable to form an extravagant estimate of the value of their services, and sometimes may think themselves deserving of, and justified in accepting from their clients, gifts over and above their legal fees for services rendered. The law has, however, imposed a very strict rule to guard both the client from making improvident gifts to his solicitor, and the solicitor from the temptation to use any influence he acquires over his client for his own benefit. All dealings between a client and his solicitor, whereby a benefit over and above his legal fees results to the solicitor, are regarded by the Courts with the greatest jealousy. In many cases the transaction will be altogether set aside, and in others absolute transfers of property will be treated as mere securities for the actual indebtedness from the client to the solicitor; and in all such cases the onus is upon the solicitor, in the event of litigation, to establish by the clearest evidence that the transaction is one which is perfectly fair and reasonable, and that it was entered into free from any influence on his part. This jurisdiction, as was remarked by Turner, V.C., in *Billage v. Souther*, 9 Ha. 540: "Is founded on the principle of correcting abuses