

meaning of the words "ipso facto," when they ultimately concluded that they signified "hand-saw, whip-saw." Now we are not sure that this would not be a very inappropriate interpretation, if given to the whole revised statutes, Latin and all. *Punch* says there is nothing like having plenty of Latin and other foreign expressions mixed up with our literature, especially the laws; it gives them a force and efficacy not easily gainsayed. Our laws are sufficiently confused and conflicting without having them expressed in a language not understood by more than one of a thousand of the people.

Leaving the general theme and turning to the enactments of 1860, we find that fifty of them refer to local and private affairs. Of these one third relate to the City and County of St. John. Of the remainder, the most important are,—An Act to provide for the prompt payment of all demands upon the Provincial Treasury; an act to provide for the attendance and examination of witnesses before the Legislature; two acts in amendment of the Probate law, empowering the Judge of Probates to cause the conveyance of property by an infant heir or the guardian of such heir; the Judge of Probates is also empowered to order provision out of the income of the estates of infants for their maintenance and education. Chap. 17 provides that £26,942 shall be paid out of the resources of the Province, for defraying certain expenses of the civil Government. Acts were passed providing for the repair and improvement of roads and bridges, regulation of the tariff; distilleries, and for the

protection of the revenue. In passing by several enactments of little importance, we arrive at Chap. 31, which provides that a written guarantee is not available because consideration not stated in writing;—Judge may order loss of a negotiable instrument, such as guarantees, bills of exchange, and promissory notes, not to be set up. The four following Chapters refer to amendments in the criminal law. One of the sections, under the head of summary convictions, is of much importance to Justices of the Peace; the latitude allowed, in instituting summary proceedings, is all that could be asked for, and may tend to prevent appeals in such cases on the ground of formality. Another section makes it a misdemeanour for any person to obtain the signature of any other person to any Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, or any valuable security, with intent to cheat or defraud.

Chapter 37 amends the law relating to Divorce and Matrimonial cases; this act provides for the establishment of a new court, entitled a *Court of Record*, and to come into operation on the first of July 1860. One of the Judges of the Supreme Court to be appointed Judge of this Court. An appeal may be had from this Court to the Supreme Court, whose decision shall be final. Chap. 41 amends the law respecting letters patent for useful inventions. Chapter 45 contains some amendments in reference to the law relating to highways; no private road shall be opened until the damages assessed shall be paid, unless consent is given, by the owner, in writing. Also,