

OUR LAWS AND LAWYERS.

Christopher Robinson (father of the late Sir John), Allan McLean, William Dummer Powell, Alex. Stewart, Nicholas Hagarman (father of the late Judge Hagarman), Bartholomew C. Beardsley, Timothy Thompson, Jacob Farrand, Samuel Sherwood (brother of the late Judge Sherwood), and John McKay. During the next term, same year, William Weeks was called.

In Easter Term, 1801, James Woods only was called, and in Trinity Term of that year, Thomas Scott. The next was Levis P. Sherwood, afterwards a judge of the Queen's Bench, who was called in Hilary Term, 1803. The number of entrants after this gradually increased. In Easter Term, 1803, eight gentlemen were called. The first six of the original fifteen, with Messrs. White and Gray, the chief law officers of the Crown, at their head, were the first benchers under the Act of 1807. Mr. White was Treasurer the first year, Mr. Gray from 1798 to 1801. After them we find the names of Messrs. Angus McDonell, Thomas Scott, D'Arcy Boulton, whose sons, the Hon. H. J. Boulton and other well-known gentlemen, are still residing in the Province; then Dr. Baldwin Sir John B. Robinson, Hon. H. J. Boulton, Geo. Ridout, Judge Sullivan, V. C. Jamieson, Sir Jas. B. Macaulay, and others, the office being now held by the Hon. J. Hillyard Cameron.

Some of these gentlemen afterwards appear in the list of our chief and other judges, as will be seen by calling their names to memory. The chiefs of the Queen's Bench were Wm. Osgoode, John Elmsley, Henry Alcock, Thos. Scott, Wm. Dummer Powell, Sir Wm. Campbell, Sir J. B. Robinson, Archibald McLean, and Mr. Draper."

We have often thought it a great pity that history should lose any facts or incidents which are interesting, as well in themselves as in relation to the early settlers in this country, or the knowledge of which would tend to throw any light upon scenes now rapidly fading from the memory of even "the oldest inhabitant," and especially so when we remember that, with few exceptions, the men who were of note in the early history of the colony were members of our profession. We are glad, therefore, to see the following notice of two of the gentlemen already referred to:—

Attorney-General John White.—This gentleman's law office was in a log house at the corner of Caroline and Queen streets. He resided afterwards in the house since occupied by the late Samuel Ridout. A dispute which arose between him and another legal gentleman brought them to the so-called field of honor. Pistols were used, and Mr. Attorney's life was the forfeit. This was

in January, 1800. Mr. White was appointed Attorney-General, of course, by the Imperial Government. He had a lodge, built of logs and branches, covered with vines, in the woods to the north of his residence, where he used to retire for study and meditation in summer. Here, by his direction, he was buried. His grave was, till lately, visible, though not marked with a tombstone, in the Commons between Seaton and Parliament streets; but an old resident, Mr. John Ross, to whom I am indebted for some of these facts, now living on Adelaide street, informs me that he was unable to find it when passing the locality some few years since.

Solicitor-General Gray.—Several matters of public interest are connected with this gentleman's history which, for lack of records and the failure of memory in the few survivors, are fast falling into oblivion. I have learned the following, after some inquiry: He lived where Dr. Beaumont now resides, on Wellington-street, near York-street. Mr. Gray came from Cornwall, U. C., where his father and mother, as appears from passages in his will, were buried, and he there stated his desire to be buried beside them. Another fate awaited him. A man called Cosens had killed an Indian, whose brother, failing to find Cosens, killed another white man, John Sharpe, a tailor, in true savage revenge. The Indian being apprehended, a court was directed to be held at Presque Isle, near Brighton, for his trial. Judge Cochrane, Sol.-Gen. Gray, Mr. Angus McDonell, Sheriff of York, Mr. Fiske, the high bailiff, the prisoners and others, embarked at this city, then the town of York, in the schooner 'Speedy,' captain Paxton, for the place of trial.

The captain remonstrated with Governor Hunter, as the weather was threatening and the 'Speedy' was unseaworthy, but was over-ruled. A gale came on off Presque Isle, all went down, and were lost. Nor were the bodies of any on board ever afterwards found. The Solicitor-General had premonitions of his end, and stated his fears before embarking. Mr. Gray was a very extensive landholder in the Province. He had also valuable interests in a species of chattel property, for some time, fortunately, unknown among us. By the will already referred to, dated August 27, 1803, and made shortly before his death, he 'manumits and discharges from the state of slavery in which she now is, his faithful black woman servant Dorinda and gave her and her children their freedom; and, that they might not want, directed that £1,200 should be invested and the interest applied to their maintenance. To his black servants Simon and John Baker he gave, beside their freedom, 200 acres of land each and pecuni-