

his fellow countryman, Lord Chancellor Campbell, in 1859, though he was at that time practically unknown to the public. Objection was taken at the time that he had not worn a silk gown, a fact of some importance in England, though of none in Canada. But the Chancellor said, "I knew nothing of Mr. Blackburn, except of having seen him at the Court over which I preside. I have no private intimacy, and I declare on my word of honour, I don't know what side he is on in politics, but I have known him as a sound, good and able lawyer." This appointment, made without regard to politics, reflected as much honor on Lord Campbell as it did upon Mr. Blackburn. It is a pity such an example is not more often followed in this country. In 1876 he was created a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, and on this occasion the approval of his appointment was general and emphatic. He retired in 1886. Our English namesake says that "when Lord Blackburn, one of the greatest exponents of mercantile law of this generation, passed away, he was superior as a mercantile lawyer to Lord Hannen, and if inferior in original ability to Lord Bramwell, far exceeded him in stability and evenness of judgment."

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#### *DELIVERY OF SOLICITORS' BILLS.*

The statutory obligation imposed upon solicitors requiring them to deliver their bills of costs to their clients one calendar month before they can be permitted to sue for the recovery thereof, places them in a somewhat unique position. No other creditor is required to go through any such preliminary; on the contrary all other creditors may demand payment of their bills when due, and in the event of non-payment, may on the same day proceed to enforce the demand by action at law. Perhaps it is because no layman can be expected to understand a lawyer's bill in less than a month, that this lengthened period between demand and suit is considered necessary, but we fear even after a month's consideration a solicitor's bill will still appear to most lay minds an altogether incomprehensible affair, with its minute details of attendances