

ional Court. Ellis was quite willing to accept \$1,000, but through the exertions of his solicitor he actually got nearly double that sum after deducting the amount in dispute; yet he proceeded to rend his solicitor.

The Chancellor, however, suggests that the solicitor "might well have undertaken the case as a matter of professional benefaction!" A kind suggestion truly. He "might have done" so, but should he? He has to live by his profession, and his client has nothing to complain of.

The report does not set forth "the true method of dealing with impoverished clients laid down by Lord Russell of Killowen." He seems to have forgotten that the Osgoode Hall library is not readily available to most country practitioners.

The learned Chancellor invokes the ancient law regarding champerty, and he may have been justified in so doing, although some in the profession think that the recent legislation as to costs has abrogated it, at least to a considerable extent. But a law suit, especially for a pauper client, involves no slight risk. The Court of Appeal recently overruled the trial Judge and a Divisional Court, and unanimously held that a father instead of recovering from the C. P. Ry. Co. for the death of his son was really under a deep obligation to defendants for releasing him from a bargain the Court considered to be improvident by killing the son. See *Moir v. C.P. Ry. Co.*, not reported.

A solicitor should either not listen to an "impoverished" client at all, or take the case "as a matter of professional benefaction," run all risks of success or failure, time, labor and money spent, of a settlement behind his back, and of being cast aside and some other solicitor employed in his stead by a client who has nothing to lose. If he wins out, he should then go to his client and say: "I'm in your power; what are you going to do with me?" Otherwise, he is in for a scathing from a judge and probably an investigation by the Law Society by his Lordship's direction.

Let it be noted, too, that the cost of living has of late greatly increased; even judicial salaries have, very properly too, been raised; but for solicitors there is the same old tariff of half a century ago, and they are under the invocation of the ancient champerty statutes passed upwards of 600 years ago. Moreover, it is a common remark amongst the profession that when a solicitor becomes a judge he seems to lose all remembrance of the difficulties under which his late brethren labor; and if he has to order costs, he faithfully reduces them to the lowest notch.

A SOLICITOR.