

THE LEGAL NEWS.

VOL. XVII.

APRIL 16th, 1894.

No. 8.

CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES.

The "confessions of a chief justice," which will be found in the present issue, are an interesting leaf from the past, but we cannot recommend our younger readers to follow Mr. Scott's resolutions without some reserve. The day is past, indeed, when students are disposed to rise at four, for preparation for the day's tasks. Early rising was more characteristic of the last century than of the present, and except in the case of those blessed with an unusually vigorous constitution the result would probably be injurious rather than beneficial. In maturer years a man may put greater constraint upon himself without hurt, especially if the strain be followed by judicious relaxation. Mr. Scott, it will be observed, proposed at first to follow this regimen for five years only, and then to retire from practice. He fails to record how far he observed the rules set down for his daily government, but he does not appear to have retired. His diary indicates an ambitious and restless disposition, and ambition probably tempted him to continue in the arena, and made him resolve later upon that "perpetual state of rivalry" with his brother judges, mentioned in the concluding portion of the diary.