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butes to the settlement of a new Country as the erection of Court-Houses and the regular administration of Law. In some parts of Upper-Canada, and indeed in all the new settlements of the United-States, the Court House and the Church is the same building, and while Justice is considered as the safe-guard of property, the certainty of being able to obtain it holds out one of the principal inducements for settlement, next to the quality of the soil, and even this is not always paramount.

According to the *present system* of paying so large a sum for the circuit money of the Judges, this object, however desirable or beneficial to the Province in general, could not be obtained. But if necessity point out the propriety of its adoption, prudence and economy can without any injury to the Judges curtail a great part of this expense. If the charge of £75 Stg. or £83 Cy. can for a moment be imagined not to exceed the actual disbursements of a Judge going to Three-Rivers or Montreal, then indeed no saving can be effected. But in a Country where travelling affords scarcely convenience, and where the Roads and Inns prevent the splendour of equipage, it appears not a little unreasonable that the Revenue shall incur a charge of £83 for a service on which one would imagine it would be rather difficult to expend 20.

The grave Assembly whom I have the honor of addressing, will, perhaps, readily allow that the dignity of justice is supported more by conduct than parade.

A Judge ought to be reimbursed for the actual expenses of travelling but no more: upon this plan the increase of Court Houses and Courts in circuit, would not cost the Province more than the present circuit money amounts to, and probably not half so much. Without incurring the charge of prolixity I have, perhaps, dilated as much on this part of the subject as the circumstance requires, at present.

The next item that comes under observation is the sum of £2560 Stg. paid to the Attorney and Solicitor General for the Crown prosecutions.

Two causes can alone account for the great amount of this charge; the *double fees* of the two Crown Officers, and the *trivial grounds* upon which the prosecutions of the Crown are too frequently and perhaps unavoidably founded.

Though the defence of the Public morals requires the Prosecution of all Public offences that are likely to endanger them, it does not appear equally necessary that individual misery should be a too profitable source of revenue to the Crown Officers, or that it is indispensable to the prosecution of guilt that they should both divide the spoils of one poor victim.

Their joint efforts are not only perfectly unnecessary but they are extravagantly expensive to the Crown, nor is it likely that this sum will ever be lessened while it affords such a very profitable employment; by a reference to the first charge in the contingent accounts of these Officers, this enormity will be better exemplified than by the most elaborate dissertation upon it.

The Attorney General for prosecuting 17 Prisoners and drawing 38 Drfts. and copies of Indictments at the Criminal Court of Montreal in March, 1818, with an allowance for travelling expences of 45 Pounds stg. charges the Crown £ 240, 5.

The Solicitor General for the same Pri- } 189. 18.
soners and at the same Court Stg. } 430, 3. £478, 0 H. C.