

DIARY FOR OCTOBER.

1. Friday University College, Michaelmas Term begins.
2. Saturday... Chancery Examination at Niagara and Brockville ends.
3. SUNDAY... 18th Sunday after Trinity.
4. Monday... County Court Term commences.
5. Tuesday... Chancery Examination at Hamilton and Ottawa commences.
6. Saturday... County Court Term ends. Chancery Ex. at Hamilton & Ottawa [ends]
10. SUNDAY... 19th Sunday after Trinity.
11. Monday ... Toronto Fall Assizes.
12. Tuesday ... Chan. Ex. at Barrie & Cornwall commences.
16. Saturday... Chancery Examination at Barrie and Cornwall ends.
17. SUNDAY... 20th Sunday after Trinity.
21. SUNDAY... 21st Sunday after Trinity.
30. Monday ... Articles, &c. to be left with Secretary of Law Society.
31. SUNDAY... 22nd Sunday after Trinity.

"TO CORRESPONDENTS."—See Last Page.

IMPORTANT BUSINESS NOTICE.

Persons indebted to the Proprietors of this Journal are requested to remember that all our just due accounts have been placed in the hands of Messrs. Patton & Arlidge, Attorneys, Barrie, for collection; and that only a prompt remittance to them will save costs.

It is with great reluctance that the Proprietors have adopted this course; but they have been compelled to do so in order to enable them to meet their current expenses, which are very heavy.

Now that the usefulness of the Journal is so generally admitted, it would not be unreasonable to expect that the Profession and Officers of the Courts would cord it a liberal support, instead of allowing themselves to be sued for their subscriptions.

Parties indebted cannot even say in excuse that they have been taken by surprise, for they have had full notice of an intention to compel payment by suit, and ample time has been given to anticipate any action being taken; and we now for the last time call attention to the matter, as all accounts, without exception, which remain unpaid after the 30th of this month, will be placed in Court, and many will be put in suit immediately.

The Upper Canada Law Journal.

OCTOBER, 1858.

POLITICAL LAWYERS.

Two qualities necessary to success in the practice of the Law are prudence and industry. Without these the possessor of the greatest intellect cannot accomplish much in our profession.

The faculties to be used more than any other are the reflective faculties. The profession of the law is emphatically a profession of thought. A man to be thoughtful, that is to exercise his reflective faculties and in so doing cultivate them, must be as much as possible removed from the excitement of the world. The more quiet and secluded he is, the more likely he is on knotty points of law to reach correct conclusions; of course we do not underrate a knowledge of the world as an essential qualification of an advocate, or of any professional man who in the path of duty is led to mix himself up with the affairs of the world. But we desire to prove that there is a certain line of conduct suited to each profession, and that a departure from that line of conduct unfits the man to discharge his duties with success to himself, or advantage to those who may find it advisable to consult him. And we desire to prove that the pursuit of politics by one of our profession is a departure from the path of duty, and makes a Lawyer less a Lawyer.

The Lawyer who leaves his office where the public

have a right to find him, to take part in the feverish excitement of political squabbles, is unjust to himself and to the public. He is unjust to himself because his equanimity is disturbed, and it is with difficulty that he can again "settle down to business." He is unjust to the public, and more particularly to that portion of it which constitutes his clients, because they have reason to expect that when he is wanted for business he is to be found in his office, and not heard of through the columns of party newspapers. Each such swerving from the path of professional duty, is destructive of the lawyer's reputation as a lawyer. He becomes more and more tired with the monotony of his office—which before was to him a solace and a pleasure. He is, though to all appearance assiduous to his duties, painfully expectant of some fresh political breeze to fan his hankering after political fame. Though corporeally present in the office, he is mentally absent.—Business becomes a bore, and clients become bores. Of this the effect is certain and natural—clients one by one begin to drop away.

Another view of the subject is this, the lawyer, like the judge, should not be of any political party. He, to be successful in his practice, ought not to enlist under the banner of any creed or party. So sure as he does, he makes enemies. The very men who while he addresses them in the bar-room in the most finished style of stump oratory, though for the time they applaud him, learn afterwards to disrespect him. Familiarity breeds contempt. The veil which protects self-respect and dignity being removed, the opposite qualities are invoked. In brief, the lawyer who is a political hack, destroys his professional usefulness.—On the contrary, the lawyer who in patience and calm dignity pursues his path of professional duty, is respected and patronized. In him confidence is reposed. In him every man of what creed or party soever finds a repository and an oracle. Like Justice, he is blind to every creed and party. Like Justice, his purity is unalloyed with the dross of worldly scum. This we submit is as near perfection as humanity can attain. How few attain it? Our readers can answer the question for themselves. We do not intend to have it understood, that a lawyer who follows politics is at all times and always his own enemy. But we wish it to be understood that a lawyer must be either one thing or the other—a lawyer or a politician. Without doubt, the law is a high road to political honors and to fame. Not merely the highest offices in the land—judgeships, but other offices equally high without the pale of the profession, are within grasp of the political lawyer. If his object be to attain these, let him with all his might throw himself into the political arena. Let him tear himself from his office and never afterwards look back to it. If he do this with a