

UNLICENSED CONVEYANCERS.

We call attention to the letter of "Fair Play," on this subject, which will be found in another place. It is scarcely necessary to reproduce the advertisements referred to by our correspondent; it may, however, shortly be said that they contain, as usual, statements that the advertiser "makes out deeds, mortgages, wills, and agreements (*sic*), for one dollar, lends money on low interests, buys good mortgages, acts as assignee in trust, collects debts, probates wills, closes mortgages for one half the usual price." He also describes himself in the advertisement of a mortgage sale as "vendor's attorney." In a third advertisement he says that "Every assignment in trust for the benefit of creditors should be made to — (that is, the advertiser), if experience, care, promptness, security, economy, personal attention, and the best results are desired; wills, probates, and all necessary papers prepared for administrators. All kinds of blank forms for sale."

It is nothing new for us to bring this system of piracy by unlicensed conveyancers to the notice of the profession and the Law Society. The supineness of the latter, and the exigencies of party politics, have left the profession a prey to the class referred to. It is idle to abuse the latter or to remonstrate with them; they see their way to making a living in that direction, and those who should be the protectors of the profession apparently "love to have it so." The Provincial Government, at the head of which is a professional man of high standing and repute, with a Cabinet in which are several lawyers, takes no notice. The leader of the Opposition, also a lawyer, with lawyers in his following, also takes no notice. It has been said that the fact of there being several Division Court agents and unlicensed conveyancers, members on both sides of the House, and that a large number of them, outside the House, are political partizans and wirepullers through the country, is sufficient explanation why the Legislature makes no effort to protect the legal profession. This protection is claimed by the profession at large, *not as a matter of favor, but as a matter of right and honesty*; and protection of a similar character is accorded to and enforced by every other profession in this country.

So far as the Law Society is concerned, we can quite understand that leading counsel, who are the moving spirits in the Law Society, do not, owing to the position they occupy, comprehend the situation, nor appreciate the position in which practitioners are placed by this want of protection. Spasmodic efforts are made from time to time, when Benchers are being elected, to introduce into the governing body of the Law Society those who understand the difficulty and feel the pressure. So far, however, this has come to nothing. We have endeavored to do our part in the matter, and cannot but feel a sense of disappointment that no result has followed from any of the exertions put forth as well by ourselves as by others who understand the situation and appreciate the gross injustice perpetrated. Like them, we have a deep sense of the wrong done. It would be strange if there were not on the part of those interested a sense of astonishment at the lack of interest on the part of our governing body, as well as contempt for those in authority, whose position demands that they should do justice in the premises, and who could easily do it if they would, but who have so far neglected their duty.