before notaries now deceased. The principal clause, as amended, reads as follows:—

1. Every notarial deed found in the greffe of any notary deceased before the passing of this act, purporting to have been made before two notaries, but not countersigned by the second notary, *and also every deed purporting to have been made before two notaries, found in the greffe of any notary now living, and which should have been countersigned by a deceased notary, and which shall be found not to have been signed by such deceased notary, before the passing of this act*, except wills and codicils, *are and* shall be as valid to all intents and purposes whatsoever as if they had been countersigned by the second notary during his life; provided always that nothing therein contained shall prejudicially affect any rights already acquired by third persons in virtue of the laws in force at the time of the passing of this Act.

THE OTTAWA DISTRICT.

Mr. WRIGHT, of Ottawa, has called the attention of the House to the petition of *P. Aylen* and others, of the District of Ottawa, praying for an investigation into the conduct and acts of the Hon. *Aimé Lafontaine*, Judge of the Superior Court for that district. The facts openly asserted in the House on the 24th July, are of the most disgraceful nature, and we intend to take an early opportunity of adverting again both to this matter, and to a motion made by Mr. CAUCHON respecting leaves of absence granted to Judges.

MODE OF CONDUCTING EXECUTIONS.

Mr. MORRIS, following the lead taken in England, has introduced a bill to prevent the execution, in public, of the sentence of death. This Act provides that executions shall take place within the walls, or enclosed yard, of the jail; that the jail physician and the jailor, and other employees to the number of six, together with twelve persons of respectability resident within the district, shall be present. The moment of execution is to be publicly signified by the tolling of a bell, and the hoisting of a black flag; and immediately after the execution the sheriff is to empanel a jury of from six to twelve persons present thereat, who, upon their oaths, on view of the body, shall enquire and find whether the sentence was duly carried into execution.

It is not to be expected that the Act will pass this Session. The abolition of a long-established usage requires much consideration, but we are inclined to think that this is an innovation which will be assented to by a large majority of the public, and especially by those who are the opponents of capital punishment.

THE UPPER CANADA LAW LIST.

Mr. ROBBANS, of Toronto, has just issued the fifth edition of his Law List, containing the names of the officers of the various Courts, County and Judicial officers, coroners, commissioners, and the names of practising barristers and attorneys throughout the Upper Province, very carefully classified and arranged. From the last mentioned list, it is evident that the public have no reason to complain of the paucity of their legal advisers, there being about 130 firms and single practitioners in Toronto, and about 540 located in the other cities and villages of the Upper Province. Thus Barrie, the population of which is set down at 3000, is favoured with the presence of eleven lawyers; Bothwell, population 1000, counts eight; Oil Springs, population 3,500, counts fourteen; Welland, population 1000, contains six, and so on.

LAW JOURNAL REPORTS.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH—APPEAL SIDE—CROWN CASES.

June 9.

REGINA *v.* DAOUST.

New Trial in Cases of Felony.

The prisoner was convicted by the jury on an indictment for feloniously forging an endorsement of a promissory note. At a subsequent trial for feloniously forging an endorsement of another promissory note, he was acquitted, new evidence of a favourable