

DIARY FOR MAY.

1. Friday Last day for notice to Co. of appor. of Grammar School monies
2. Saturday Articles, &c. to be left with Secretary of Law Society.
3. SUNDAY 4th Sunday after Easter.
6. Tuesday Chancery Sittings Bellefleur. Last day notice for Brockville.
9. Saturday Chancery Hearing Term ends.
10. SUNDAY Rogation.
12. Tuesday Chancery Sittings Kingston. Last day notice for Ottawa.
13. Wednesday .. Last day for service for County Court.
17. SUNDAY 1st Sunday after Ascension.
18. Monday Easter Term begins.
19. Tuesday Chancery Sittings Brockville. Last day notice for Cornwall.
22. Friday Paper Day, C.B.
23. Saturday Paper Day, C.P. Declare for County Court.
24. SUNDAY Whit Sunday. Queen's Birthday.
25. Monday Paper Day, C.B.
26. Tuesday Paper Day, C.P. Chancery Sittings Ottawa.
27. Wednesday .. Paper Day, C.P.
28. Thursday Paper Day, C.P. [Assess. Roll, and for Co. Ct. to rev. Tp. roll.
30. Saturday Easter Term ends. Last day for Court of Revs. finally to rev.
31. SUNDAY Trinity Sunday.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

Persons indebted to the Proprietors of this Journal are requested to remember that all our past due accounts have been placed in the hands of Messrs. Ardagh & Ardagh, Attorneys, Barric, 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 accord it a liberal support, instead of allowing themselves to be sued for their subscriptions.

The Upper Canada Law Journal.

MAY, 1863.

QUEEN'S COUNSEL.

In every profession there are rewards of merit more or less substantial. These, spur men to action; and so long as the rewards are honestly distributed, the effect upon the whole profession is good.

By nature men are different; some have greater mental activity than others; some have more judgment than others; some have a keener sense of honor than others; some have a greater ability to please than others; some are better speakers than others—in a word, some by nature are gifted, while others are neglected.

In no profession can a dullard attain real success; and yet some men, though not bright, may, in certain professions, attain marked distinction, who, in other professions, would live and die in obscurity.

Some men are adapted for divinity—others for medicine—others for law—others for no learned profession whatever. The choice of profession, therefore, is one of serious moment. A wrong step taken at the start often proves such a mistake that a whole lifetime is not long enough to rectify it.

In no profession is true merit better appreciated by the public than that of the law. A deserving man, in spite of

adverse circumstances, by dint of energy may raise himself as high as he pleases. If he has the true ring he is sure to be appreciated. The converse is also true. A man unfit for the profession of the law can not, in general, be forced into greatness; or if so forced, soon falls to the level which nature designed for him; all the titles in the world will not make him a great lawyer, if nature has set upon him the stamp of mediocrity.

The profession of the law may be divided into two branches—the attorney or solicitor, and the barrister or advocate. In this paper we are more particularly concerned with the latter.

The qualifications of a successful barrister are many. He must be quick—courageous—decided—intelligent—well-informed. He must have good common-sense, versatility and ability to please. He must be able to express his ideas with clearness and appropriateness. He must be ready for any and every emergency—equal to any and every occasion.

Many enter the profession thinking themselves fitted for the bar, but soon learn either that they have overrated themselves, or underrated what is required of them. Many are called, but few chosen for real success. Examine those who have succeeded, compare them with those who have failed, and the “reasons why” will be made apparent to the humblest capacity.

Connection in England is something: in Canada it is nothing. A man with us must succeed upon his own merits, and not on those of his friends or relatives. He must either sink or swim. If, buoyed up with the aid of sanguine and powerful friends, he venture into deep water, so long as sustained by them he will appear to do as well as others who swim without such aids, but the moment the aids are withdrawn he sinks to swim no more.

In England there are many prizes for able advocates. In Canada the prizes, though not so many, are not to be despised. The learned professions in this colony represent the aristocracy of intellect. Lawyers are to be found year by year conspicuous in parliament, either as leaders of the government or of the opposition. In all secular assemblies of a deliberative character lawyers are preëminent. Their ability to express their ideas in a manner to be understood by their fellow-men is the great secret of their success.

The substantial prizes in this colony are—judgeships of the superior and inferior courts—crown prosecutors—crown attorneys. These are the gift of the government for the time being. The unsubstantial prize is that of a Queen's counselship. This is also in the gift of the government for the time being. The real prize—more substantial than all others—is that of public confidence and public support.