

they were orders of the court enforcing the same. The anomaly may be illustrated further; for not only may the Dominion use the provincial court for its own purposes, but it is not bound to recognize the limit of jurisdiction given to it by the Provincial Legislature. It may give original jurisdiction to a provincial appellate court, as it has to the Court of Appeal in Dominion election cases, and, if we are rightly informed, inferentially in other cases; and it may give civil jurisdiction to a criminal court, and so interfere with the courts of the province as to overcrowd them with Dominion jurisdiction and litigation, and practically oust or paralyze their provincial powers.

Every properly constituted Government is said to consist of three departments—the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judicial. It is not competent for the Dominion, under our constitution, to extend the legislative jurisdiction of the province; nor can it interfere with its executive jurisdiction, and it is not a wise discretion to interfere with its judicial department, especially as the Federal Parliament has full power under the British North America Act to pass laws "for the establishment of any additional courts for the better administration of the laws of Canada." It is contended that because the Dominion pays the salaries of the judges of the provincial courts its Parliament may require extra services of the judges. So it may; but the provincial courts and their jurisdictions and officers are exclusively subject to the control of the Provincial Legislature, and it is not reasonable that the Dominion should interfere with the created institutions of the province in a way in which it could not interfere with the Legislature which creates or establishes them.—*The Mail*.

THE COUNTRY ATTORNEY.

The country attorney is a happy man, although he doesn't know it. He lives in a house in the midst of the village, for he knows too much to try to "farm it," but he has yard and verdure enough about him to afford him, as he sits at his office window, ample contrast with the well-filled shelves of books and papers which line his wall.

He has recently built within the curtilage of his dwelling—that is to say, in a front corner of the yard aforesaid—an office for himself, the front door of which looks out on the main street, and the back door of which opens upon the well-worn path to the side piazza of his house.

This path is not his alone. Somebody is accustomed to trip down it early in the morning before clients come, or in the twilight or the edge of the evening, to whose bright visits are due much of the order and neatness with which the shelves and cases usually, and the new blotting paper and fresh pens on the table almost always, light up this cosy room. The open fire-place, too, is adorned with brasses that look all too bright for the sombre leather bindings and, faded papers around the room.

This man has an active life, with many small cases and few large ones. He has to take turns, in the intervals of student assistance, as his own managing clerk and his own copyist, and he knows every point in every case that he has, or ever has had, with a certainty that would disconcert some of us.

He imagines sometimes that he would like an office in the ninth story, with a steam elevator, large fees and a general rush. He will probably have one some of these days (when those boys that are playing in the yard have grown up) and he will have the accompaniments of great rents, expensive staff, fierce competition, and interviewers about his clients' affairs.

But he will never forget the days he spent in that leisurely and studious office under the trees, the short walk to the town-hall where the circuit was held, and the fishing-rod and gun that he generally put into the wagon when he had to go into the next county on business.—*N. Y. Daily Register*.

THE LEGAL TEST OF INDECENCY.

A criminal prosecution was recently instituted in London against Mathieson & Co., the publishers, at the Guildhall Police Court, for selling copies of Boccaccio's *Decameron*.

The defendants showed that the work was