where it is possible or convenient for an inspection to be made by the Company's agent. It may be, as is alleged on behalf of insurers, that no fair claims for compensation are resisted, and that technical defences are only resorted to when they have a "moral conviction" that the claim is fraudulent. But it cannot be denied that a proper system of inspection would frequently obviate the necessity for a contest. It would very generally operate as a restraint upon the insured, and be a safeguard to the insurer, more creditable and effectual than the usual technical defences to which companies are so often driven by their own carelessness. This matter has more than once been made the subject of judicial comment.

Mr. Clarke's book will find a ready sale among mercantile men and insurance officers, as well as amongst the legal profession.

American Law Review—October, 1873. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.

The subject of an Elective Judiciary is again taken up. The writer thus concludes his observations:

"It is seldom that a man or community consents voluntarily to surrender the immediate exercise of any accustomed power. Even its delegation to agents requires a considerable exertion of moderation and self-restraint. If the people of New York shall deliberately resign the power of electing their judges, and deliberately return to the ways of ancient wisdom, they will, in our opinion, evince a high degree of political intelligence, and furnish to the world a striking proof of their fitness for self-government, and their capacity to profit by the lessons of experience."

This is instructive to those who scorn the old paths, and is some evidence of a healthy re-action in a most important matter.

The distribution of the Geneva award occupies a number of pages, and is an appeal for the fair division of these ill-gotten gains. "Easy come, easy go—" We wish them joy of the whole business, and hope this is about the last we shall ever hear of it, though this may be doubted.

There is a long and learned article on the law of homicide, speaking especially as to the presumption of malice, and, after a careful review, the writer lays it down that the presumption of malice from the fact of killing, and *a fortiori* from the fact of intentional killing, has been so firmly established by the common law from the earliest period that, if it is thought conducive to change the rule, resort must be had to the Legislature.

There is a further addition to the criticisms on the reporters and text writers, which we have from time to time reproduced, and to a certain extent supplemented.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Law Society—Primary Examinations.

To the Editor of the Canada Law Journal.

Dear Sir,—I wish to lay before you what is in my case (and may be in many others) the harshness of the present examinations for admittance to the Law Society; and especially as of late, when the examinations have been made much more severe than they were (which I do not say was not necessary), for the purpose of decreasing the number of candidates of the quality that were presenting themselves. As you are aware, the books have been increased by the addition of Cæsar, Cicero, Virgil, and with that a much more searching examination. Now the writer, when at school, did not think that he would ever study law, so that the dead languages were, I may say, put aside (excepting the Latin grammar), and devoted his time to French (about four years), Euclid, algebra, and the commoner studies. Now, it may be that my scholastic education is quite as good as many of those who have been fortunate enough to have studied Latin instead of French, thereby being enabled to pass the present examination. Now, sir, it is indeed hard that I should be compelled to devote my time to the study of these works when I should be reading for my "intermediates." During the time of the Edwards of England, French was the language wholly used in courts, and quoted in many text books. I think it should be optional (as it was a few years past—if the candidate chose, he could be examined in Sallust or Horace); and it should be now Telemachus, Charles the Twelfth, or Horace, &c. Do you think that, on application to the proper parties, they would consider my case, and allow an examination in French in lieu of Latin?

Respectfully yours,

An Articled Clerk.