

"That there be a separate Reporter and Assistant Reporter in each of the Districts of Quebec and Montreal, and that separate Reports be published in each such District.

"That the selection and removal from office from time to time of such Reporters and their Assistants be left to the decision of the judges of the Court of Queen's Bench and of the Superior Court.

"It shall be the duty of each of such Reporters and their Assistants respectively to report as well the substance of such of the oral decisions of the courts in the district to which it shall belong as shall be of general importance, as to report also such decisions as may be delivered in writing; and it shall further be his duty, without any unnecessary delay, to cause such reports to be fairly entered in a book, and to submit the same for the inspection and approval of the judge pronouncing the judgment of the court, and, in case of dissent, for the inspection and approval also of the dissenting judge; such reports, after due examination and correction, to be signed by such judge and dissentient judge, or, in case of absence or sickness, by some other member of the court."*

The Montreal Bar adopted the Report of their Committee, and their suggestions were represented to the Government with a view to induce a reform, but without success.

Matters did not improve with time, and, during the sitting of the Seigniorial Court in 1856 and during several months afterwards, the publication of law reports was entirely suspended, producing universal discontent in the profession of the Bar, who notwithstanding continued to be taxed every year for the publication of the decisions of the Courts, in the terms of the above-mentioned Act.

Finally, in the close of 1856, the Editors united to endeavor to supply the want which was universally felt by the Bench and the Bar of an efficient system of reports of legal decisions, and the result has been the first volume of *THE LOWER CANADA JURIST*.†

* The principle of this suggestion has been incorporated into the law of Upper Canada providing for the publication of Law Reports. Vide 18 Vic. cap. 128, § 3.

† It is due to T. K. Ramsay, Esq., to state that the proposal to start the *Jurist* originated with him. To him is also due the publication of the "Law Reporter," a periodical which he conducted conjointly with L. S. Morin, Esq., Advocate, to supply the absence of proper law reports, but which was discontinued after an existence of nearly a year for want of adequate support.

U. W. U. Law