

Perth.

J. A. Devlin, M.D., of Stratford, to be an Associate Coroner within and for the County of Perth.

DIVISION COURT CLERKS.

Leeds and Grenville.

L. S. Lewis, of Newboro', to be Clerk of the Eighth Division Court of Leeds and Grenville, *vice* H. Kilborn, resigned.

BAILIFFS.

Northumberland and Durham.

John Grimison, of Port Hope, to be Bailiff of the Third Division Court of Northumberland and Durham, *vice* T. O. Monaghan, resigned.

Hastings.

John H. Gordon, of Belleville, to be Bailiff of the First Division Court of Hastings, *vice* Geo. W. Sills, resigned.

Miscellaneous.

Lawyers not unfrequently come to ride in their own conveyances from the clever way in which they have managed the conveyances of their clients.

PROGRESS OF INVENTIONS SINCE 1845.—In the year 1845 the present owners of the *Scientific American* newspaper commenced its publication, and soon after established a bureau for the procuring of patents for inventions at home and in foreign countries. During the year 1845 there were only 502 patents issued from the U.S. Patent Office, and the total issue from the establishment of the Patent Office, up to the end of that year, numbered only 4,347.

Up to the first of July this year there have been granted 406,413. Showing that since the commencement of the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN* there have been issued from the U. S. Patent Office 402,166 patents, and about one-third more

applications have been made than have been granted, showing the ingenuity of our people to be phenomenal, and much greater than even the enormous number of patents issued indicates. Probably a good many of our readers have had business transacted through the offices of the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, in New York or Washington, and are familiar with Munn & Co.'s mode of doing business, but those who have not will be interested in knowing something about this, the oldest patent soliciting firm in this country, probably in the world.

Persons visiting the offices of the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, 361 Broadway, N. Y., for the first time, will be surprised, on entering the main office, to find such an extensive and elegantly equipped establishment, with its walnut counters, desks and chairs to correspond, and its enormous safes, and such a large number of draughtsmen, specification writers, and clerks, all busy as bees, reminding one of a large banking or insurance office, with its hundred employees.

In conversation with one of the firm, who had commenced the business of soliciting patents in connection with the publication of the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, more than forty years ago, I learned that his firm had made application for patents for upward of one hundred thousand inventors in the United States, and several thousands in different foreign countries, and had filed as many cases in the Patent Office in a single month as there were patents issued during the entire first year of their business career. This gentleman had seen the Patent Office grow from a sapling to a sturdy oak, and he modestly hinted that many thought the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, with its large circulation, had performed no mean share in stimulating inventions and advancing the interests of the Patent Office. But it is not alone the patent soliciting that occupies the attention of the one hundred persons employed by Munn & Co., but a large number are engaged on the four publications issued weekly and monthly from their office, 361 Broadway, N. Y., viz.: The *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT*, the Export Edition of the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*, and the Architects and Builders Edition of the *SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*. The first two publications are issued every week, and the latter two, the first of every month.