

Dominion Legislature a deduction of eight dollars per day is made from the total indemnity allowed for the session. In England members are not paid, and the attendance is usually very thin in the closing weeks of Parliament. "This falling-off in attendance at such a period as the present," the *Law Journal* observes, is no new thing, as is shown by the still unrepealed 6 Hen. VIII, c. 16. We there read that 'comenly in the end of every Parliament dyvers and many grete and weyghty matters, aswell touchyng the pleasure, wele, and suertie of oure soveraigne lord the King as the common wele of this his realme ar to be treatyd and concluded,' yet that 'dyvers knyghtis of shires, &c., before the end of the seid Parliament depart.' It is, therefore, enacted that 'none of the said knyghtis, &c., who shall be elected to any Parliament, absent hym selfe frome the same tyll the same Parliament be fully fynisshid, endyd, or progyd, except he or they so departyng have lycens of the speaker and commons in the same Parliament assembled.' This enactment is very plain and stringent, but, from the nature of the penalty attached to disobedience, it would seem to be a mere *brutum fulmen*. For the penalty is that any member of Parliament departing in contravention of it shall 'lose all thos somes of money whiche he shuld or ought to have hadd for his or their wages, and that all the counties, cities, and buroughes whereof any suche person shalbe electyd, and the inhabitaunts of the same shall be clerely dyschargyd of all the seyd wages ayenst the seid persons and their executours for evermore.' But the Act is not without importance as recognising that right of members of Parliament to payment which has never been formally abolished, though no member of Parliament has received payment for 230 years, Andrew Marvell having been the last paid member."

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The English Court of Appeal, in *Alexander v. Jenkins*, May 28, 1882, decided a question of considerable interest on the law of slander. The plaintiff was a member of