## The Canada Law Journal.

Vol. XXVIII

MARCH 16, 1892.

No. 5.

The profession will hear with very great regret that Mr. R. G. Dalton, Q.C., Master in Chambers, contemplates retiring from the position he has so long and so ably filled. His health has not been good for some years, and his duties have been arduous. These duties have been performed with the sincerest desire to do that which was right without fear, favor, or affection, and with a kindliness and courtesy that endeared him to all. The youngest student was always sure to receive the same attention and respect that was accorded to leaders of the Bar. If he had a fault, the thought that he may soon not be seen in his wonted place has banished the remembrance of it. He is a sound and able lawyer, with a judicial mind that would have made him an ornament to a higher position on our Bench. Mr. Dalton has indeed earned a holiday for the years that may yet be spared him—may they be many! The Government will meet the views of the profession and the public by providing for him a handsome retiring allowance, should be determine to resign his position.

The Legislative mill of Ontario is again grinding out alterations to various acts and alterations and altered amendments thereof, and especially in reference to the subjects so dear to those of the rural population, who, we trust, spend a pleasant annual vacation in the metropolis, namely, assessment law and municipal matters generally. There are already a score of these before the House for consideration. We have heard nothing lately of the proposition for a biennial session. It is doubtful whether there will ever be a government strong enough to suggest such a change; but it would be a great saving of expense to the country, and would allow people time to see the working of a law before a dozen so-called amendments knock it into pi.

The subject of the Grand Juries is receiving the attention of the Provincial as well as the Dominion authorities. The Honorable Mr. Hardy has introduced a Bill in the Ontario House to reduce the number of Grand Jurors to thirteen. The members of the Government, through the Attorney-General, stated that they did not see their way to recommend to the Dominion Government the abolition of Grand Juries; but it is evident that they are not satisfied with the law as it stands at present, and the action that has been taken is an indication either that their views are undergoing a change, or that they might, if they felt they had full control of the matter, go the length that we, amongst others, think desirable; but, so far as we understand the law, the Provincial Legislature has