

DIARY FOR APRIL.

3. Friday	Good Friday.	
4. Saturday ..	Last day for notice of trial for York and Peel Assizes.	
5. SUNDAY	Easter Sunday.	
6. Monday	County Court and Surrogate Court Terms begin.	
7. Tuesday	Chan. Sitt. Blunco. Last day of notice Whitley & Woodstock.	
11. Saturday ..	County Court and Surrogate Court Terms end.	
12. SUNDAY	Leno Sunday.	
13. Monday	York and Peel Spring Assizes.	[and Cobourg.]
14. Tuesday	Chy. Sitt. Guelph & Farnia. Last day notice Harris, Goderich,	
17. Friday	Last day for settling down for Hearing in Chancery.	
19. SUNDAY	2nd Sunday after Easter.	
20. Monday	Last day for notices of Hearing in Chancery.	
21. Tuesday	Chan. Sitt. Whitley & Woodstock. Last day notice Belleville.	
23. SUNDAY	3rd Sunday after Easter.	
27. Monday	Chancery Hearing Term commences.	[Kingston]
28. Tuesday	Chan. Sitt. Harris, Goderich and Cobourg. Last day of notice	
28. Thursday ..	Last day for Comp. Assess. Rolls. Last day for Non-Residents to give lists of their lands.	

BUSINESS NOTICE.

Persons indebted to the Proprietors of this Journal are requested to remember that all our past due accounts have been placed in the hands of Messrs. Ardagh & Ardagh, Attorn'ys, Barrie, for collection; and that only a prompt remittance to them will save costs.

It is with great reluctance that the Proprietors have adopted this course; but they have been compelled to do so in order to enable them to meet their current expenses which are very heavy.

Now that the usefulness of the Journal is so generally admitted, it would not be unreasonable to expect that the Profession and Officers of the Courts would accord it a liberal support, instead of allowing themselves to be sued for their subscriptions.

The Upper Canada Law Journal.

APRIL, 1863.

MR. SCATCHERD AND CHEAP LAW.

Cheap law, like cheap whisky, is a curse to a people. This is a trite remark, often made, but not always understood. There is a fascination about litigation, which some men cannot resist. The cheaper the cost of litigation, the greater is the fascination. Much and needless litigation is only productive of ill-feeling, malice and hatred.

What so much discourages the litigious as a wholesome dread of law costs? It has always been found that in proportion as law costs are reduced, litigation increases. Jones is angry with his neighbour Brown, because the latter, in a hasty moment, called the former "a scapegrace;" whereby Jones fell much in the estimation of his fellow-men; became sick, sore and much pained in body and mind. Jones would like to sue Brown for this great wrong; but the prospect, in the event of failure, of having to pay costs to the amount of \$100, puts a damper on his intentions. Reduce the costs from \$100 to \$25, and Jones without doubt will have "a slap" at Brown. Win or lose, the costs cannot be much; so that, with little or no hesitation, he proceeds to gratify his appetite for revenge. Jones and Brown are fair specimens of the genus "homo" in matters of litigation.

Is it not within the experience of us all, that the immediate effect of the increase of the jurisdiction of our

Division Courts, was to increase litigation to such an extent, that suits increased by tens and hundreds? Two or three hundred suits at one court was no uncommon occurrence. Why was this? Because before the change in the law, two hundred out of the three hundred suits could not be brought without the risk of County Court costs, or about \$'0 in each suit. The dread of such a consequence exercised its influence in pacifying the discontented, and led to compromises of a conciliatory kind, leaving men good neighbours instead of bitter enemies.

Why is it that the Judges of our superior courts are now so often called upon to try actions for malicious arrest, and maliciously suing out process? It is because of the increased facilities afforded to men for resort to courts of law for the mere gratification of their angry passions. Most of such suits are for the malicious issue of attachments or other process out of the inferior courts. When once the seeds of dissension are sown, one suit leads to another, till happy homes are rendered desolate, and well-to-do men are brought to the brink of poverty, if not of insanity.

The zealot for cheap law costs should ponder on things such as these; let him also consider how much peace between men is preserved by keeping up the respectability of the legal profession.

It is a fact, that respectable lawyers, so far from encouraging litigation, do all they can to prevent it. It is no part of a respectable lawyer's duty "to get his neighbours by their ears," in order that he may profit by their misery. No respectable lawyer is guilty of such conduct. Better, then, to pay lawyers well for what they do, than to make it their interest to increase the number of suits by fostering litigation, in order to make their gains, notwithstanding the decrease of law costs, correspond with former receipts. Reduction of law costs might have the effect of driving respectable men out of the profession of the law into other callings, where their talents and their learning would be better required; but most assuredly their place would be supplied by vampires, who would prey upon the very vitals of the community, and whose number would be legion.

No profession exercises so powerful an influence on the community as that of the law. The influence may be for good or for bad, according to the description of the men who wield it. A liberal and learned profession is at once the pride and the glory of England. The profession in Canada, so far, has not been under the mark. But tell the able advocate, whose life has been spent in the study of his profession, that he shall not be paid for his services beyond the compensation allowed to the "negro minstrel," or "vender of quack medicines," and what will become of