

The Toronto *Mail* estimates that the average income of lawyers in that city is \$600 per annum. As a good many lawyers are known to make more than \$600 a year, it follows that many must make less or nothing at all. Those who clamor for making admission to the profession more easy should note a fact like that stated above. The profession is not prosperous anywhere just now. In England there are complaints of diminished earnings, and in France, judging from the following extract taken from the London *Daily Telegraph*, the condition of things is no better :—

“Many barristers complain continually that the profession is not what it once was in the matter of fees; that the few clients who love litigation are not so liberal in their disbursements as they ought to be. Hard as their lot may seem, it is preferable to that of their brethren in Paris, judging by the result of an investigation which a French contemporary has been making into the fees legally claimable by barristers there. From the taxed bill in a *cause célèbre* recently heard in the Palais de Justice, it appears that the fee allowed to the leading counsel of the successful litigant in a case which lasted two or three days was five francs, or the princely sum of 4s. 2d. The advocate was also an ex-Minister, which did not make any difference in the fee, and after he had made his brilliant oration he found himself compelled to fight a duel because of some *ex parte* statement contained in it—all for the legal fee of 4s 2d., duly taxed. Of course, the barrister did not content himself with the honorarium allowed by the law, but apparently the rest of the sum with which his services were rewarded came out of his client's own pocket.”

### MAGISTRATES' CASES.

#### *Cruelty to animals—The Check Rein.*

In the Recorder's Court, Montreal, April 13, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, prosecuted Mr. James Lowry, for alleged cruelty to a horse by the use of the overdraw check rein.

Mr. L. T. Marcehal and Mr. Peers Davidson appeared for the prosecuting society, and Mr. St. Jean and Mr. McCormick, Q. C., were for the defendant.

In opening the case Mr Davidson observed that the proceedings were taken under the Criminal Code, sec. 512, sub-sec. (a), and