

ages. The number of adjudicated points in the Law of England is estimated at one million and a half, and are contained, as may be supposed, in libraries of no trifling dimensions. To study these points, and the laws out of which they arise, and upon which they depend, must be the vocation of a distinct Profession. To make the Profession equal to the knowledge and ability required of it, there must be peculiar learning, the offspring of previous preparation.

The Profession in the Mother Country is deservedly celebrated for its independance and learning. This, in a great measure, is attributable to the thorough system of preparation through which the Law Student is obliged to pass. In this Colony there has been not only an endeavour to imitate the excellence of the Profession at home, but to do so by adopting the means there made essential to ensure it.

We now proceed to examine these means, and, in doing so, to narrate the history of the Legal Profession in Upper Canada.

Shortly after the surrender of Quebec to the British, in 1759, and with it a large tract of habitable, and in parts inhabited country, the good government of the country surrendered became an object of Imperial solicitude. By the Proclamation of 1763, it was divided into four Governments, viz., Quebec, East Florida, West Florida, and Grenada. Governors were appointed to each, with power to summon Councils or Representatives of the people, to whom conjointly was committed authority to ordain laws for the public peace, welfare, and good government of the Colonies, as nearly as might be agreeable to the laws of England. To the Government of Quebec belonged the greater portion of what now constitutes Upper Canada. In 1774, an Act was passed by the Imperial Legislature, entitled, "An Act for making more effectual provision for the government of the Province of Quebec, in North America." (14th George III., cap. 83.) By the 12th Section of this Act, the Governor was authorized to summon a Council, and with such Council had power to make Ordinances for the peace, welfare, and good government of the Province. Under this authority, in 1785, an Ordinance was passed, "concerning Advocates, Attorneys, Solicitors, and Notaries, and for the more easy collection of His Majesty's