

The Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XXV.

JUNE 17, 1889.

No. 11

THE ways of the Local Legislature are past finding out. It would be not unreasonable to suppose that when an Act had been discovered among the productions of any given session amending any of the consolidated statutes, and the enquirer after statutory truth had carefully perused such amending Act, he might peacefully conclude that he had "got on to" all such amendments made in such session. Let him take heed to his ways, however, for among the Acts of the session just concluded we find three different Acts containing amendments of the Ontario Insurance Act: sec. 106 is amended by chap. 30; sections 109 and 127 by chap. 31; and sec. 137 by chap. 32. Truly this may be called "harassing legislation." Another small joke, for we do not wish to be considered deficient in humour, is perpetrated by chap. 17, which by sec. 6 gives to 51 Vict., c. 13, new a subsection 3 to section 15, and then by sec. 10 enacts that "subsection 3 of section 15 is hereby repealed." The old subsection 3 of section 15 had clearly been repealed by sec. 6, so this other subsection 3 of sec. 15 must of course refer to the new one created by that section—a clear case of legislative infanticide.

AN esteemed correspondent in Ottawa writes us as follows in regard to Law Reform amongst that progressive people, the Japanese:

"Mr. Torn Hoshi, a barrister of Tokio (Yeddo), Japan, spent very recently ten days in Ottawa. I had the pleasure and profit of a private interview with him. He is a short, thick-set, middle-aged man of courteous manners and pleasing countenance, and speaks English correctly, but not fluently. He was educated in law at the Middle Temple, England, and now displays his professional 'shingle' in Tokio, Japan. He belongs to the Samurai or gentry, and was entitled to wear two swords, before the abolition of this custom some eight years ago. His object in visiting Canada was to become acquainted with our political institutions and legal systems. He stated to me that Japan had adopted a civil and criminal code of laws, prepared by a Mr. Boissonade, and based on the French codes, but modified by an interjection of Japanese customary law. The codes of commerce and procedure are in preparation; they will be framed after the English, German, and French laws. Inasmuch as, after the establishment of a direct steamship line between British Columbia and Japan, Ontario will be placed in commercial and legal relationship to the two countries of Quebec