

article on the Salaries of the Judges, which may be read with advantage by those who feel an interest in the administration of Justice, and are desirous to deal fairly with its Ministers.

CONTRACT BY A CORPORATION.

The following reference to English cases on the liability of a Corporation upon a contract *not under seal*, may be useful to the readers of the *Law Journal*:—

“The Rule of Common Law is that a Corporation cannot contract except under common Seal; the exception to the Rule applies in cases where to hold the Rule applicable would defeat the purposes for which it was established, the principle of the exception being convenience almost amounting to necessity. The Court of Queen’s Bench has in the following cases *extended the exception* to all cases of contract by trading or other Corporations, where the contract is incidental to the business or purpose for which the Corporation was established, though not of ordinary occurrence:—*Copper Mines Co. v. Fox*, 20 Law J.B. 174; *Clarke v. Cuckfield Union*, 21 Law J.B. 349; *Henderson v. Australian Steam Navigation Company*, 24 Law J.B. 822.

The Court of Exchequer and Common Pleas have, in the following cases, *maintained the Common Law Exception in its integrity*, refusing relief on all contracts not falling strictly within it:—*East London Water Works Co. v. Bailey*, 5 Law J., C.P. 175; *Samprill v. Billeray Union*, 18 L. J. Ex. 282; *Diggle v. Blackwall Railway Co.*, 19 Law J. Ex. 308; *Homersham v. Wolverhampton Water Works*, 20 Law J. Ex. 193; *Smart v. West Ham Union*, 24 L. J. Ex. 201.”—*Communicated*.

REPORTS AND REPORTERS.

Our readers will have noticed that from the first many cases have appeared in this Journal in advance of the regular Reports; we are indebted for this to C. Robinson, Esq., the Reporter of the Court of Queen’s Bench. The cases have been chiefly in relation to Municipal Law and Common School subjects, in which very many of our readers must be greatly interested, and would have no oppor-

tunity of being informed on except through the medium of the *Law Journal*.

It is possible that Mr. Robinson may in consequence lose a few subscribers, but the extensive publicity the law decisions he kindly gives us gain through our pages, is calculated to do much good and save the expense of much litigation to the country. We know already cases in which an aggregate of several hundred pounds was saved by a timely knowledge through the *Law Journal* of the decisions of the Courts. We would be most unwilling to interfere with the legitimate interests of others—indeed we could not if the regular Reporter objected copy his head notes—yet, as everybody knows that tendencies of a mercenary character are neither inherited nor possessed by Mr. Robinson, and as he must see that the object of more than one contributor to the *Law Journal* is not gain, we have gladly accepted his gratuitous assistance in the way spoken of in aid of the useful objects the *Journal* has in view; and we desire thus publicly to acknowledge his kindness. Few persons are aware of the mass of business transacted in Chambers by the Common Law Judges;—the mere enumeration of what is done daily would occupy a whole newspaper column: very important points of practice come up constantly for decision, of great interest to the country practitioner, and to the solution of which many hours of the Judge’s time, of right exclusively their own, are necessarily devoted.

The more important written decisions are, we believe, published in due course by Mr. Robinson, but many valuable decisions are not given in writing. Our late arrangements enable us to lay before our readers a copious supply of the decisions of the learned Judges in Chambers, comprising all in which written judgments are given, and most of those in which any new or important point of practice is verbally decided; and we have to acknowledge the very cordial aid in this respect received from many of those connected with the practice in Chambers.

In another department of the Law, attempts have been made to procure reports of cases on matters within the objects of a Local Courts Journal, the result of which we will announce hereafter.