

OSGOODE HALL, Toronto, Oct. 8th, 1884.

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that whilst inspecting Sheriffs' Offices lately, I have found that it has been almost the invariable practice with some Solicitors to endorse upon Writs of Execution against Goods and Lands, as their fees for such Writs, the sums of \$10, \$12, (and in some cases even more) in the High Courts of Justice, and \$6, \$8 and \$10 in the County Court, and similar sums for renewals; and that the Sheriffs have been in the habit of collecting such sums, believing it to be their duty to obey the instruction thus given. Sheriffs, in so acting, render themselves liable to be proceeded against, and in the future must refuse to levy for more than the legal charges, which are as follows:

In High Courts of Justice, Goods or Lands Writs, (original or alias) each.....	\$5 00
Goods or Lands Writs, Renewals, each.....	3 75
In County Court, Goods or Lands Writs (original or alias) each.....	3 00
Goods or Lands Writs, Renewals.....	2 25

Endorsements on Writs must be made on face of Writ with fees for Writ added. If no costs mentioned in Writ, and debt or damages given, no costs other than fees for Writ are to be levied. If no debt or damages, or costs mentioned in the Writ, then no costs or fees of any kind are to be levied.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient Servant,

To

MR. SHERIFF McKELLAR,
HAMILTON.

JOHN WINCHESTER,
Inspector of Offices.

I shall now give the tariff of fees charged by the good men who said they made the services for nothing. In the High Court of Justice, the Solicitor in addition to his own fee of \$7.00 for issuing the Writ takes \$2.70 belonging to the Sheriff, and \$3.67 belonging to the person served; both sums make \$6.37 wrongfully taken, in the County Court. The Solicitor in addition to his own fee of \$4.75 for issuing the Writ, takes \$1.55 belonging to the Sheriff, and \$2.64 from the person served; both sums make \$4.19 wrongfully taken by the Solicitor. I am prepared with documentary evidence to prove the correctness of the foregoing figures before a committee of the Legislature or elsewhere; and to the men who made these charges Mr. Mowat gave the services; and it was for my temerity in exposing the overcharges on Writs of Execution and on services made by Solicitors that Mr. Mowat fined me \$15,947.18. But I tell Mr. Mowat that rather than be a party to the collection of illegal fees, or conceal from the public the robbery to which they are subjected by men who say they make the services for nothing, I would go to my grave penniless. The enactment of 16 Vic., chap. 175, sec. 7, by a Reformer, and the bringing in force of that Section after it had been a dead letter 15 years, by another Reformer as Sec. 83 and 84,