

Monday, 18th August, 1845.

SIR—

I received your note of the 15th instant on Saturday. If I had had any suspicion that more suits were really about to be commenced by you for Mr. Green against R. M. Jarvis, Esq. or myself, I should have deferred putting the questions mentioned in the latter part of my note to you until these as well as the other suits should have been determined. The general tenor of your letter, I may add however, so far as it relates to these questions, is for the present sufficiently satisfactory.

You have done me the injustice to imply that my object in addressing you was to intimidate you from the further performance of your professional duty to your client. In answer to which I indignantly reply that I have too great a respect for myself, and share with my well-disposed fellow-subjects too great a respect for Courts of Law (without which I freely admit there could be no safety for our lives or our property) to attempt to deter from the performance of his duty any officer of any Court established by the laws of our country. And though in the case out of which this correspondence has arisen, a grievous blunder has been committed (I allude to the guessing that £100 per annum would be a reasonable rent and easily calculated, and that too without guessing what extra sum ought to be allowed for keeping a pile of old wooden buildings in repair), yet I continue to feel the same desire I have always felt for upholding those institutions; and am willing to go further and hope that the same honorable gentlemen, to whose error I have alluded, may long continue to hold their present offices in the Court of Chancery in this Province; for I am satisfied that it would be much easier to fill their places by worse than by better men. Enough however, upon that score.

In taking credit to yourself for having once desired an amicable settlement of the differences lately adjudicated, you seem carelessly to have forgotten that when you found the defendant willing to meet you, your reply to Mr. Hanna was "No! let it be settled in Court."

Having expressed your surprise that I should have waited so long as five months under the feeling of aggression referred to, without having called your attention to the cause "within a reasonable time," you cannot wonder that I should now be unwilling to lose any further time in seeking satisfaction for that insult, and will perhaps not consider so unreasonable the cause of my delay: which I will now state as briefly as I can.

When during your argument you made the assertion quoted in my former note, my first impulse was to rise and implore the protection of the Court; upon second thoughts however I deemed it best to submit the matter to defendant's counsel, while the case was yet in Court, and in my conference with those gentlemen, Mr. Hazen's advice to me was, to take no notice of it whatever, adding, that "professional men will do these things." Mr. Street however, jocularly advised me to encourage rather than prevent your making mis-statements, for, said he, the Master of the Rolls will not decide upon what is said to be evidence, but upon the evidence itself as duly reported; and whenever Counsel on either side make such improper assertions they must damage their own cause. With this advice I remained quiet while the case was still pending; but the very instant the defendant, urged by his counsel, consented to forego his privilege to appeal, I felt at liberty to take the matter of the insult into my own hands, and at once applied for a certified copy of my evidence to confront you with it; and if any excuse be necessary for the long delay in preparing it for me, I have no doubt the Master in Chancery can satisfy you.

What I have now to demand is that, out of Court you withdraw the offensive charge which in Court you made against my veracity. And when I state that, be the consequences what they may, I am resolved to insist upon your now denying in the plainest terms that I ever "swore" as you charge me with swearing, I do so in the

hope that no one will suspect me of attempting improperly to "overawe" you.

I remain Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. L. JARVIS.

W. J. Ritchie, Esq., &c. &c.

No. IV.

Tuesday, 19th August, 1845.

SIR—

In reply to your letter of the 18th, I have only to say that in my former note to you I consider I went further in explanation than in strictness you had any right to ask. At this great lapse of time after the occurrence referred to, I have no recollection of the particular words I used in the argument of the cause, but I have already stated that be they what they might they were not dictated by any personal hostile feeling to you, or any desire to give you personal offence: they were dictated by what I considered a duty I owed my client at the time, and I do not now hold myself in any way answerable to you for any arguments I may have used in the discharge of that duty.

I remain Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. J. RITCHIE.

E. L. Jarvis, Esq.

No. V.

Tuesday, 19th August 1845.

SIR—

Understanding by your note of to-day that you will not withdraw the accusation which you so unjustly made against me, I have requested my friend Mr. G. Murray Jarvis to communicate my further wishes to you.

I remain Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. L. JARVIS.

No. VI.

Thursday, 21st August, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR,

At your request I waited on Mr. W. J. Ritchie on Tuesday evening last, and I herewith enclose you a memo., containing the substance of the conversation which took place between us on the subject of your late correspondence with that gentleman, which I trust you will find in accordance with the verbal answer I gave you after leaving Mr. Ritchie on Tuesday evening.

Your's faithfully,

G. MURRAY JARVIS.

E. L. Jarvis, Esq., &c. &c.

No. VII.

MEMO.

(Copy.)

G. M. J.—Mr. Ritchie, I am the bearer of this letter from Mr. Edward L. Jarvis. (Handing the letter.)

Mr. R.—I presume I am aware of the nature of this letter if it refer to the late correspondence, and must decline receiving it. Have you seen the correspondence between Mr. Jarvis and myself?

G. M. J.—I have.

Mr. R.—I have nothing further to add to that.

G. M. J.—I must ask you to refer me to a friend.

Mr. R.—I decline this also.

G. M. J.—Then sir, I am to understand that you decline accepting this letter, and also decline referring me to a friend.