

means at hand of gaining notoriety and attracting public attention, with the view of bringing clients to his office. Such an one in time never fails to learn much by his mistakes, but at a sad expense of character, feeling, and conscience. He at last finds that in law, as in every branch of knowledge, "a little learning is a dangerous thing;" that what he does not know falsifies often in its actual application that which he supposed he certainly did know; and after the most valuable portion of his life has been frittered away upon objects unworthy of his ambition, he is too apt to conclude that it is now too late to redeem his time; he finds that he has lost all relish for systematic study, and when he is driven to the investigation of particular questions, is confounded and embarrassed—unable to thread his way through the mazes of authorities, to reconcile apparently conflicting cases, or deduce any satisfactory conclusion from them—in short, he has no greater aptitude, accuracy, and discrimination than when he set out in the beginning of his studies. No better advice can be given to a young practitioner, than to confine himself generally to his office and books, even if this should require self-denial and privation, to map out for himself a course of regular studies, more or less extended, according to circumstances, to aim at mastering the works of the great luminaries of the science, Coke, Fearne, Preston, Powell, Sugden, and others, not forgetting the maxim, *melius est petere fontes quam sectari rivulos*, and to investigate for himself the most important and interesting questions, by an examination and research of the original authorities. "He that reacheth deepest seeth the amiable and admirable secrets of the law,"\* and thus may the student "proceed in his reading with alacrity, and set upon and know how to work into with delight these rough mines of hidden treasure.†"

It may be allowed here to commend to your most serious consideration, the remarks of a gentleman of our own bar, whose example, if he might be named with propriety, would enforce and illustrate their value:—"There are two very different methods of acquiring a knowledge of the laws of England, and by each of them, men have succeeded in public estimation to an almost equal extent. One of them, which may be called the old way, is a methodical study of the general system of law, and of its grounds and reasons, beginning with the fundamental law of estates and tenures, and pursuing the derivative branches in logical succession, and the collateral subjects in due order; by which the student acquires a knowledge of principles that rule in all departments of the science, and learns to feel as much as to know what is in harmony with the system and what not. The other is, to get an outline of the system, by the aid of commentaries, and to fill it up by desultory reading of treatises and reports, according to the bent of the student, without much shape or certainty in the knowledge so acquired, until it is given by investigation in the course of practice. A good deal of law may be put together by a facile or flexible man, in the second of these modes, and the public are often satisfied; but the profession itself knows the first, by its fruits, to be the most effectual way of making a great lawyer."‡

\* Co. Litt. 71 a.

† 1 ibid. 6 a.

Such a course of study as is here recommended, is not the work of a day or a year. In the meantime let business seek the young attorney: and though it may come in slowly, and at intervals, and promise in its character neither fame nor profit, still, if he bears in mind that it is an important part of his training, that he should understand the business he does thoroughly, that he should especially cultivate, in transacting it, habits of neatness, accuracy, punctuality, and despatch, candor towards his client, and strict honor towards his adversary, it may be safely prophesied that his business will grow as fast as it is good for him that it should grow; while he gradually becomes able to sustain the largest practice, without being bewildered and overwhelmed.

Be careful, however, not to settle down into a mere lawyer. To reach the highest walks of the profession, something more is needed. Let polite literature be cultivated in hours of relaxation. Lose not your acquaintance with the models of ancient taste and eloquence. Study languages, as well from their practical utility in a country so full of foreigners, as from the mental discipline, and the rich stores they furnish. Cultivate a pleasing style, and an easy and graceful address. It may be true, that in a "court of justice, the veriest dolt that ever stammered a sentence, would be more attended to, with a case in point, than Cicero with all his eloquence, unsupported by authorities," yet even an argument on a dry point of law, produces a better impression, secures a more attentive auditor in the judge, when it is constructed and put together with attention to the rhetorical art; when it is delivered, not stammeringly, but fluently; when facts and principles, drawn from other fields of knowledge, are invoked to support and adorn it; when voice, and gesture, and animation, give it all that attraction which earnestness always and alone imparts. There is great danger that law reading, pursued to the exclusion of everything else, will cramp and dwarf the mind, shackle it to the technicalities with which it has become so familiar, and disable it from taking enlarged and comprehensive views even of topics falling within its compass as well as of those lying beyond its legitimate domain."

### APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE, &c.

#### NOTARIES PUBLIC IN U.C.

ALLAN JOHNSON MOORE, of Goderich, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, to be Notary Public in Upper Canada.—[Gazetted 4th August, 1855.]

JOSEPH HUTTON, of Belleville, Barrister-at-Law, to be Notary Public in Upper Canada.—[Gazetted 11th August, 1855.]

DAVID RIDGEWAY MURPHY, of Trenton, Esquire, Attorney-at-Law; and ABRAHAM THOMAS HUTT BALL, of Niagara, Esquire, Attorney-at-Law, to be Notaries Public in Upper Canada.—[Gazetted 25th August, 1855.]

### FALL CIRCUITS.

The Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, and of Assize and Nisi Prius, in and for the several Counties of that part of the Province formerly Upper Canada, after the present Term, will be held as follows:

#### EASTERN CIRCUIT.

THE HON. JUSTICE MACAULAY, C.J.C.P.

Brockville.....	Tuesday, 25th September.
Cornwall.....	Monday, 5th October.
Orignal.....	Thursday, 18th "
Ottawa.....	Tuesday, 23rd "
Perth.....	Monday, 5th November.