

CORRESPONDENCE—FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

in truth a *representative* body, although elected by the very men who now, with great reason, complain of the evil alluded to. They are composed mainly of eminent counsel or practitioners with large business in the principal cities, who do not feel, and seem unable to comprehend, or are too busy to think about the difficulties of their brethren who are struggling for existence against overwhelming odds in the numerous small towns and villages in the Province. There should be a representation in Convocation of men who are conversant with the practical crying wants of the great mass of the profession, and have sufficient fellow-feeling to do something to remedy the gross injustice to which so many country practitioners are now subjected.—Eds. L. J.

Unlicensed Conveyancers—Deputy Clerk of Crown at Barrie.

To the Editor of the LAW JOURNAL.

SIR,—In several of the later numbers of your excellent journal, I have been pleased to notice parties laying before you and the public generally complaints with reference to *soi-disant* “conveyancers.” They show that the places from which they come have not half the grievances to complain of that we professional men in this Town of Barrie have. There are not only five or six of these pettifoggers here, but there are as a matter of fact nearly as many as twenty, and one of these, our wealthy postmaster, does so much business of that description that he has to employ a staff of clerks, and I am told that he does as much conveyancing as any five firms in the County. His success in this line induces him to come forth even more boldly, and now he appears as mortgagee’s agent in proceeding under power of sale. But, sir, this is not all. Even our Deputy Clerk of the Crown draws deeds, mortgages, *wills* and *chattel mortgages*, and searches appearances, signs judgments, enters records, &c., &c., for outside offices, and thus destroys our agency business. The fact of the matter is this state of things should be prohibited by legislative enactment. The Registrars are not allowed to

draw deeds or mortgages. Then why should Deputy Clerks, who have the custody of wills, chattel mortgages, and other records, be permitted to do business with reference to them outside of their legitimate sphere? Mr. Mowat, with all his reform cannot do better than look to these matters before bothering his head with that immense overhauling called “The Judicature Act of 1880.”

Yours obediently,

Barrie, April 15, 1880.

S. H.

[We have already called the attention of the Attorney-General to this matter. We trust he will take some action. The present state of things is most objectionable.—Eds. L. J.]

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THE TICHBORNE CLAIMANT.—On the application of Mr. E. Kimber, solicitor for the “Claimant,” the Attorney-General has granted his fiat for a writ of error in the matter of the late trial of Arthur Orton for perjury. The grounds of error alleged are that the two separate sentences of seven years’ penal servitude passed upon the claimant were substantially for one and the same offence. On the argument of the case, should the appeal be successful, the Claimant would be entitled to his liberty at the expiration of the first term of seven years.

TIT FOR TAT.—A medical practitioner, urgently wanted patients, and not understanding the difference between attracting and disgusting, circulates through the city postal cards addressed to any gentleman of sufficient eminence to draw his attention, on which he offers his services to cure them of fits, falling sickness, epilepsy, and all the ills, too disagreeable to mention, that flesh is heir to; closing with the agreeable assurance that he will treat them in perfect confidence. Imagine his disgust on receiving from a witty lawyer this response, also spread on a post card: “Dear Sir,—I offer you my services to defend you on your trial for murder, arson, robbery, larceny, malpractice, criminal abortion, indecent assault, body-snatching, and obscene communications. I can secure, if not your acquittal, at least the mitigation of punishment, every time. N. B.—This postal card is strictly confidential.”—*Albany Law Journal*.