

ACTS OF LAST SESSION.

We might have ventured to hope that Manitoba, in the generosity of youth, would have set the example in this respect, and that as she is the child of the confederated Dominion, so she would have led the way in the adoption of this truly "National Policy." At the same time it must be admitted that the adoption of the new practice modelled on the rules and orders framed in England under the Judicature Acts in some of the provinces and not in others will create fresh difficulty in the realization of this idea, and it is of course vain to hope that anything like a simultaneous adoption of the new practice in all the provinces can be looked for.

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DOMINION : 44 VICT.

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Pursuant to the intention expressed in our number for September 1st, we purpose to give now a concise summary of such of the Treaties, Orders in Council, and Dominion enactments of last session contained in the volume of the Statutes of Canada for 1880-1881, as are of special importance to the practical lawyer. This we may add is a far less onerous undertaking than was the similar one with regard to the Provincial enactments.

The only document contained under the head of Treaties is a declaration between Great Britain and Russia, relative to the disposal of the estates of deceased seamen of the two nations. We need merely mention that under it the estate of any British seaman who shall die, either on board a Russian or Finnish ship, or within Russian territory, if not exceeding 350 silver roubles, shall be delivered to the nearest British Consul without undergoing any of the forms usually required by Russian or Finnish law on succession to property, and so, *mutatis mutandis*,

with regard to the estate of any Russian or Finnish seaman dying on board a British ship or within British territory.

Of the orders in Council the first to be noticed is that dated July 31st, 1880, under which from and after September 1st, 1880, all British possessions in North America, not already included within the Dominion of Canada, and all Islands adjacent to any such possessions, shall (with the exception of Newfoundland and its dependencies) become and be annexed to and form part of the Dominion of Canada; and become and be subject to the laws for the time being a force in the said Dominion, in so far as such laws may be applicable thereto. Next we may notice a Proclamation (p. xviii.) dated Nov. 13, 1880, whereby the 43 Vict. c. 7 (C), intituled "An Act for the final settlement of claims to Lands in Manitoba by occupancy under 33 Vict. c. 3," is made public and put in force, which Proclamation is contained in Vol. xiv. p. 713 of the Canada Gazette. Following this is a Proclamation setting off and forming four additional Registration Districts in the North West territories, to wit, the Turtle Mountain District, the Little Saskatchewan District, the Touchwood Hills District, and the Prince Albert District, (see Can. Gaz. Vol. xiv. p. 869). The only other document published under the heading of "Orders in Council, etc.," which need be noticed here is the General Rule made by the Judges of the Supreme Court in amendment of the existing rules, and dated March 16, 1881. The first alteration made (p. xx.) appears to be merely of a clerical nature, and strikes out the word "immediately" from rule 11, not seemingly changing the effect of the rule in any way. The next change made is in rule 14, and pursuant to it it is sufficient if notice of hearing be served fifteen days before the first day of the session at which the appeal is to be heard. Then rule 15 is altered so far as concerns the mailing of a copy of the notice of hearing to the attorney or solicitor who represented the respondent in the Court be-