

LAW BILLS OF LAST SESSION.

DIARY FOR APRIL.

1. Sat. Last day for notice of trial for York and Peel.
2. SUN ... 5th Sunday in Lent.
3. Mon ... County Court and Surrogate Court Term com.
8. Sat ... County Court and Surrogate Court Term ends.
9. SUN ... 6th Sunday in Lent.
11. Mon ... York and Peel Spring Assizes.
14. Frid. ... Good Friday.
16. SUN ... Easter Day.
23. SUN ... Low Sunday. *St. George.*
25. Tues ... *St. Mark.* [Last day for Comp Ass Rolls.
29. Sat. ... Articles, &c., to be left with Sec of Law Society.
30. SUN. ... 2nd Sunday aft. Easter. Last day for Non-Res. [to give lists of their lands.

NOTICE.

On account of the very large demand for the Law Journal and Local Courts' Gazette, subscribers not desiring to take both publications are particularly requested at once to return the back numbers of that one for which they do not wish to subscribe.

THE

Upper Canada Law Journal.

APRIL, 1865.

LAW BILLS OF LAST SESSION.

The third Session of the Eighth Provincial Parliament closed on the 18th of last month.

The usual number of bills was introduced by members active, printed at the public expense, and then voted upon by members passive. Some of them introduced after much careful consideration and with the honest intention of remedying defects or supplying wants in the present law, and others merely introduced by members ambitiously desiring to appear to be doing something for their country, without for an instant imagining that their productions would go farther than being simply printed and distributed, or perhaps being read a second time and then thrown out.

The bill of fare was, of course, very promising, both as to quality and quantity.

In the Upper House we were promised by the Hon. Mr. Currie:—

An Act to amend the fourth sub-section of the fifth section and to repeal the sixteenth section of the Act for the better assignment of Dower.

An Act to prevent County Judges from practising as Conveyancers. We are sorry to contemplate the possibility of such a provision being necessary.

An Act relative to summary convictions by Magistrates, for the purpose of preventing the

failure of justice arising from formal defects in Magistrate's orders and convictions, &c.

In the Lower House:—

An Act for quieting titles to real estate in Upper Canada; it being "expedient," it recites, "to give certainty to the titles to real estate in Upper Canada, and to facilitate the proof thereof, and also to render the dealing with land more simple and economical." This bill, introduced by the Attorney General, is similar to that brought in some time ago by the present Vice Chancellor Mowat. The subject is a very important one, and will require most careful legislation.

An Act to provide for the taxation and recovery of Arbitrators' fees. A Government Bill with the same object in view was introduced by the Attorney General, which proposed to fix a reasonable scale of fees to arbitrators, professional and otherwise, to provide for the taxation of the arbitrator's charges, and for any refusal or delay to make and deliver the award.

An Act to amend the Insolvent Act of 1864. No act requires amendment more than does this, and when done, it should be done effectually. We question, however, whether the bill, as introduced by Mr. Abbott, will effect all that is required. We trust that some of the Upper Canada lawyers in the House who are conversant with this important matter will give their careful attention to it. The attempt to make a general law applicable to two systems of jurisprudence, so dissimilar in their practice and procedure as are those of Upper and Lower Canada, has not been altogether successful.

An Act to alter the law of Dower, and to regulate proceedings in actions for the recovery of dower—a Government Bill, introduced by the Attorney General. The right to dower is gradually dwindling away. It is, in fact, very questionable whether it would not be advisable to do away with it altogether; but, be that as it may, this act proposes that dower shall not be recoverable out of land in a state of nature at the time of alienation by the husband (reserving the right of the doweress to wood for firing and fencing), nor when the demandant has joined in any deed to convey the land or release her dower therein to a purchaser for value, although there might have been some informality in the acknowledgment required by law, &c. It also proposes to alter the practice in dower suits, making the primary