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DIARY FOR DECEMBER.

- 17. Sun... *3rd Sunday in Advent.* First Lower Canada Parliament met, 1792.
- 22. Fri... Shortest day.
- 24. Sun... *4th Sunday in Advent.* Christmas vacation in Court of Appeal and Chancery Division begins.
- 25. Mon... Christmas Day. Municipal Nominations.
- 26. Tue... U. C. made a Province, 1792.
- 27. Wed... Spragge, V.C., appointed Chancellor, 1879.
- 31. Sun... *1st Sunday after Christmas.* Rev. Stat. of Ontario came into force, 1877.

TORONTO, DEC. 15, 1882.

THE New York Court of Appeals has recently held, following the drift of the American cases, that the holder of a mortgage upon real estate, upon which there are unpaid taxes, is entitled to pay the same and add the amount to the mortgage debt on foreclosure, although the mortgage contains no provision allowing him to do so: *Albany L. J.*, Nov. 25. We do not remember any case on the point at this moment, but this has been for years the practice in Ontario.

HON. LEWIS WALLBRIDGE, Q.C., has been appointed Chief Justice of Manitoba in the room of the late Hon. Mr. Wood. The appointment will, we think, be favourably received. The desire of the profession there was to have a man from the Equity Bar as their presiding Judge, in view of the kind of litigation that prevails in that Province. But though they are disappointed in this, they will have in Mr. Wallbridge a sound lawyer and one of large experience in all branches of the law, most genial and courteous in his manner, and personally everything that the most fastidious could wish.

SWEARING by telephone has recently been

discussed in some of our exchanges. Whilst by a few the idea has been received with favour, as evidencing the progress of civilization and as a matter of convenience, there is not much fear of its coming into use in this country. Even the go-ahead Yankee finds unanswerable arguments against it. The *Albany Law Journal* says:—

“No one can be absolutely certain of the human voice thus communicated. A forged affidavit may be sent to the officer, and an impostor may swear to it by telephone, and a fraud may thus be perpetrated. If a photograph is inadmissible in evidence without proof of the accuracy of the process by the photographer, certainly we cannot repose upon the sound of the human voice communicated over a mile of wire. Even if the officer were acquainted with the voice there would be room for deception. Moreover, the form of taking an oath is thus subordinated to the laziness or convenience of the deponent in a manner quite uncongenial with good ideas of the sanctity and solemnity of oaths and the decorum of public justice.”

WE copy from an exchange the following table of statistics as to the causes of suicide, a crime which seems to be terribly on the increase. It was read recently by Dr. Clark Bell, as part of a lecture to the Medico-Legal Society of New York.

Causes of Suicide.	Male.	Female.
Grief caused by loss of parents, etc.	373	193
Grief caused by ingratitude of children.....	137	74
Grief caused by departure of children.....	20	20
Grief caused by separation of family	35	16
Forbidden love	938	627
Jealousy between married couples and between lovers.....	229	118
Grief at quitting a master or a house	53	24
Gambling	157	1
Laziness.....	76	4
Debauchery.....	1,569	233
Drunkenness.....	2,761	441