

LAW SOCIETY, EASTER TERM, 1870—THE FRENCH BAR.

than a defence. On the contrary, in Canada, as in England and the United States, prescription is a mere denial of action, so much so that the oath of the debtor, as to payment, cannot be demanded in a Court of Justice.

(To be continued.)

We are glad to see that the Chief Justice has again taken his seat on the Bench in Term, after his holiday. He looks all the better for his rest from labour, and we trust his health is permanently better.

LAW SOCIETY, EASTER TERM, 1870.

CALLS TO THE BAR.

Fifteen gentlemen went up for examination for call, of whom the following were successful (Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Sharpe without an oral examination):—

W. Fitzgerald, M.A., London; W. Sharpe, Toronto; J. F. French, Merrickville; — Holcroft, Ingersoll; A. F. Campbell, M.A., Simcoe; Chas. H. Bell, M.A., Belleville; D. Junor, M.A., St. Mary's; — Smith, Toronto; A. G. McMillan, Elora; J. G. Hodgins, M.A., Toronto.

ATTORNEYS ADMITTED.

Of thirty-five gentlemen who presented themselves for examination for certificates of fitness as Attorneys, the following were successful:—

A. F. Campbell, Simcoe; C. H. Bell, Belleville; F. Arnoldi, Toronto; D. Wade, Brockville; H. Macdonell, Guelph (these five without oral); M. A. Dixon, Toronto; Alex. Grant, Stratford; H. H. Smith, Peterboro'; F. C. Clemow, Ottawa; J. H. Ferguson, London; E. W. Harding, St. Mary's; T. G. Coyne, Toronto; Geo. Hall (who passed the examination, but, as his articles were defective, has not as yet been admitted.)

In addition to the above, four gentlemen, who were unsuccessful on their oral examination, are to have another chance during the Term.

The Session of the Dominion Parliament that has just closed, has not been fruitful of any measure peculiarly interesting to lawyers. The Supreme Court Act, the debate on which was looked forward to with much interest, has to stand over until next session. It is a most important measure, and will doubtless lose nothing by the opportunity thus given for further considering its provisions.

SELECTIONS.

THE FRENCH BAR.

(Continued from page 92.)

We have not space to recount the chequered fortune of the Bar, its destruction at the Revolution, and its restoration under Napoleon, but we must pass on to that portion of Mr. Young's work, which doubtless may be considered the most interesting, namely the biographical notices of some of the many great men who have graced with their eloquence, or dignified with their learning, the ranks of the profession in France. Among jurists the names of Cujas, Pothier, and Portalis will ever be honoured, and the labours of the French Bar in jurisprudence are eminently worthy of recognition. Pothier was born at Orleans, in 1699. He completed his legal studies in the University of that city, and was appointed Councillor in the Presidial Court of Judicature at the age of twenty-one. In 1736 he commenced his great work on the Pandects, which occupied him during twelve laborious years. In this immense task he had the help of some of his intimate friends, among others of Prevot de la Janés, his colleague in the Court, and Professor of French Law. Upon the death of his colleague Pothier became professor, and his able and enthusiastic teaching speedily gave a remarkable impulse to the school of law at Orleans. For twenty-five years Pothier presided over it, and educated many of the first advocates and magistrates of France. The mantle of Pothier, as a jurist, seems to have descended upon Portalis, who was, perhaps, the ablest lawyer and most upright man who took part in the preparation of the Code Civil. The public life of this distinguished man did not commence until he was more than fifty years of age, and during the whole period of his great labours as a jurist and politician he was almost totally blind, unable either to read or write. His extraordinary memory, however, making up for this defect.

But whatever may be the claims of the French Bar to be considered learned, however much their labours may have added to the science of jurisprudence, it possesses the gift, we were nearly saying the "fatal gift," of eloquence to an extent which removes it far above all competition with our own.