

furniture dealers, parish of Ste. Anne de la Pérade.—F. Valentine, Three Rivers, curator, Sept. 16.

Dividends.

Re George Baptist, Son & Co., Three Rivers.—Dividend payable Oct. 12, Macintosh & Hyde, Montreal, joint curator.

Re George Bertrand, Montreal.—First dividend, payable Oct. 15, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re David Courchene, L'Avenir.—First dividend, payable Oct. 15, A. L. Kent and J. M. Marcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re William Hunter, Montreal.—First and final dividend, payable Oct. 12, J. McD. Hains, Montreal, curator.

Re A. S. Langevin, Montreal.—First dividend, payable Oct. 15, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re Nsp. Leroux, Montreal.—First and final dividend, payable Oct. 15, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re H. F. Poirier, Montreal.—First dividend, payable Oct. 15, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Separation as to Property.

Marguerite Adam vs. George Baillie, jeweller, Montreal, Sept. 18.

Julie Lemoine vs. Edouard Lefebvre, Montreal, July 4.

Lucy Maria Meany vs. Michael Burns, trader, Montreal, Sept. 22.

Marie Antoinette Patenaude vs. Xénophon Renaud, trader, St. Henri, Sept. 17.

Jennie Ward vs. Charles William Boon, Montreal, Sept. 14.

GENERAL NOTES.

THE DEATH PENALTY FOR TRAIN WRECKERS.—In connection with the recent attack by brigands upon a railway train in Turkey, when, by something like a miracle, no serious bodily harm was received, it is interesting to note that the State Legislature of California has passed a law enacting that convicted train-wreckers shall in future be punished with death, 'Only those who are conscientiously opposed to capital punishment in any case,' says the *Railway World*, 'can make any logical objection to such a statute. The average murderer slays but one; the train-wrecker may kill a hundred. Many who are called murderers, perhaps never intended to deal a fatal blow. In countless instances the homicide has been committed under a sudden impulse or under terrible provocation. But the man who stealthily watches his chance and who contrives, with the precision of a clockmaker and the cruelty of a fiend, to so adjust obstructions as to imperil the lives of scores of human beings is a monster of depravity. Rarely, indeed, is there any clumsiness in the arrangement. Every detail is regulated with scientific accuracy. In the small hours, when the chance of detection is only as one in a thousand, does the train-wrecker do his work.'

A DOG PROVING AN 'ALIBI.'—The following letter recently appeared in our sporting contemporary, *Rod and Gun*: 'Sir,—While staying in Devonshire last week at a farm, I had a practical illustration of an interesting case of sheep-worrying. Looking out of my bedroom window just as it was daylight, I saw a flock of ewes that had recently lambed tearing about

the field as if alarmed, and I quickly discovered that two dogs were hunting them. I woke up the farmer, and we were soon on the spot; but the dogs were too quick for us, and we could only identify one of them, which we recognized as belonging to a farm about three miles off. They had killed and partially eaten two lambs, and seriously mauled three others. My friend at once got out his gig, and we drove off to the farm from whence we thought the culprit hailed, expecting to reach there before the dog. On arriving, we told the owner of the animal our errand, and he at once invited us to come and see his sheepdog, which could not possibly have committed the crime, as he was shut up of a night in the stable. There, truly enough, did we find the collie, looking half asleep and curled up in a corner among the straw. His owner triumphantly pointed him out; but he was a peculiarly-marked dog, and we had both spotted him, and, moreover, there was a broken window in the stable, and traces of dirty, and apparently recent, claw-marks on the wall. My farmer looked in the brute's mouth, and thought there was wool on the teeth; but the owner contended that that proved nothing, as the dog had been among his own sheep the previous evening. I then suggested that a dose of salt and water might prove if any mutton had been recently devoured, and, the two farmers consenting to this, we dosed poor collie accordingly, and in a few minutes he disgorged a quantity of raw lamb with the wool on it, unmistakably recently killed. The case was admitted proved, and the neighbors speedily came to terms as to the question of damage. To me it seemed a most interesting case of canine intelligence that two scamps of dogs, one we know having sheep within a few yards of him, should not attempt any sport on their own ground, but should deliberately meet some miles off, and then, when interrupted, tear off to their homes, and, like a human criminal, endeavor to prove an *alibi* by being found asleep in bed about the time when the murder was committed.—I am, &c., MERRIVALE. Surrey, March 8, 1891.'

MR. DIGBY ON THE LAW OF CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY.—Mr. Digby's article in the *Law Quarterly* on 'The Law of Criminal Conspiracy in England and Ireland' is an interesting one. It is pointed out that it is impossible to describe a certain class of conspiracies in terms more precise than those used by Mr. Justice Stephen (Crim. Law Dig. art. 160) in describing them as 'agreements between more persons than one to carry out purposes which the judges regarded as injurious to the public.' It is, however, as Mr. Digby says, above all things desirable in criminal law that what is and what is not crime should be clearly and intelligibly defined; and the general rule suggested is, that where crime is the object or direct result of the combination, the combination should be held to be a criminal one, but not otherwise; or, in other words, that the enactment of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, that 'a combination of two or more persons to do or procure to be done any act in furtherance of a trade dispute between employers and workmen shall not be indictable if such act committed by one person would not be punishable as a crime,' should be made applicable to all combinations whatever.—*Law Journal (London)*.