In *Shannon* v. *Varsil*, 18 Grant, 10, Spragge, Ch., said: "A. agrees to sell B. certain land for $1,200. B. could not prove *by parol* that A. agreed subsequently to reduce the purchase-money to $800." This decision is now, I suppose, overruled by that of Judge Dennistoun above.

Again: A Municipal Corporation sued an innkeeper for the price of a license to sell spirituous liquors, according to the terms of a By-law made before the passing of the last Municipal Act. The defendant set up that the new Municipal Act had repealed the former By-law, and that, as the Council had not made a new By-law, plaintiffs could not recover, and the learned Judge ruled accordingly. This ruling, however, is in direct opposition to the judgment of the Common Pleas in *Reg.* v. *Strachan*, 6 U. C. C. P., 191. I suppose this judgment may be considered as now overruled.

Again: The sheriff applied for an interpleader order in the County Court under a *fi. fa.* goods. The parties consented to the trial before the above learned Judge. On the opening of the case the execution creditor called upon the claimant to prove his claim. The claimant objected, and the learned Judge ruled that the execution creditor must shew that the claimant had no title. The effect of this ruling was to place the creditor completely in the claimant's hands, and virtually to put him out of Court. The learned Judge thus decided that the creditor was to prove a negative.

Reports of legal decisions are, or should be, valuable and instructive. Other cases will be furnished you hereafter, this communication being already too long.

A SUITOR.

PETERBORO', September, 1871.

[Without entering into any discussion of these decisions, we certainly do not recommend that they should be followed, assuming, of course, that the report is complete and accurate.—EDS. L. J.]

Evidence Act.

To THE EDITORS OF THE LAW JOURNAL.

The 2nd section of the 33rd Vic., cap. 13 Ont. provides that defendants can give evidence in cases before Justices of the Peace. Will you

in your next Journal be kind enough to say to what extent they are admissible in their own cases, for instance, breach of by-laws, petty trespass, master and servant, &c.

Yours truly,

NELSON DODGE, J.P.

Milford, 2nd August, 1871.

[This evidence is as admissible as that of a witness other than a party interested would have been before the Evidence Act. The Act applies solely to proceedings in civil cases, evidence in criminal prosecutions not being affected by it.—EDS. L. J.]

REVIEWS.

A GUIDE TO THE LAW OF ELECTIONS. As regulated by 32 Vic. c. 21 and 34 Vic. c. 3. By Charles Allan Brough, Barrister-at-law. Toronto: Henry Rowsell, 1871.

This useful little pamphlet was written at the suggestion of Mr. Vice-Chancellor Mowat, and is dedicated by permission to the judges on the rota for trial of election petitions. It has been very favourably received by them, and by those of the profession who have had occasion to refer to it.

The necessity for some knowledge of the law bearing on contested parliamentary elections came upon the profession here rather suddenly, and naturally found them, in general, unprepared; nor could the necessary books (except a few copies) be obtained here; so that any assistance that could be gained from the sources at command was eagerly sought; and very shortly after this Manual appeared, and though it did not of course pretend a thorough knowledge of the law on the subject, it has proved very useful, in presenting in a compact shape the pith of the leading decisions in England on the analogous enactments, and the opinions of our own judges in the few cases that had come before them at the time it was published.

The Editor, first gives a table shewing the corresponding English and Ontario enactments, which will be of much service when reading the English cases. Before proceeding to discuss the statutes relating to elections, he gives a collection of authorities on the difficult subject of agency as applicable to parliamentary elections, which by the way lead to the irresistible conclusion, that it is much easier for