

# Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XXIII.

AUGUST 1, 1887.

No. 14.

## DIARY FOR AUGUST.

1. Mon ..... Slavery abolished in British West India Islands, 1838.
6. Sat. .... Thomas Scott, 4th C.J. of Q.B., 1860.
7. Sun. .... 9th Sunday after Trinity.
11. Thur. .... Battle of Lake Champlain, 1814.
14. Sun. .... 12th Sunday after Trinity.
16. Tues. .... Primary Examination of students and articled clerks, university graduates and matriculants seeking admission to Law Society to present papers.
20. Sat. .... Last day for filing papers with secretary Law Society, before call or admission.
21. Sun. .... 11th Sunday after Trinity.
22. Mon. .... Ontario Judicature Act came into force, 1881.
23. Tues. .... First Intermediate Examination.
24. Wed. .... Last day of setting down for Div. Ct. Chan. Div.
25. Thur. .... Second Intermediate Examination.
28. Sun. .... 14th Sunday after Trinity.
30. Tues. .... Solicitors' examination.
31. Wed. .... Barristers' examination.

## TORONTO, AUGUST 1, 1887.

CANADIANS are not the only people who are suffering from a surfeit of laws. Our contemporary, the *Chicago Legal News*, says that the Illinois Legislature has during its session of 1887 made more changes in the laws than any Legislature for fifteen years, and that it will take the Courts of Illinois twenty years to settle the law so as to place it in as good a condition as it was in January last.

THE sudden death of Mr. F. A. Lewin, at the early age of forty-five, has removed from the field of legal literature the latest editor of *Lewin on Trusts*. It appears that Mr. Lewin suddenly dropped dead while taking part in a jubilee celebration in a field near Kensington Palace. His death was due to heart disease consequent on over-exertion and excitement.

RUMOUR has, as usual, been busy with the names of possible successors to the late Sir Matthew Cameron, and of other

judges whose resignation is shortly expected to take place; and, as usual, the vaticinations are based largely upon the assumption that the appointment will be made according to the dictates of political expediency. It is to be regretted that there is too much foundation for the belief that judgeships are looked upon by the authorities at Ottawa as fitting rewards for mere political services, and that the interests of the public are but a secondary consideration.

Were the public interests the first consideration, we think it clear that they demand that the Bench of this Province should be reinforced by at least two first-class equity lawyers. At present the only equity lawyers on the Bench are the Chancellor and his colleague, Mr. Justice Proudfoot. Mr. Justice Ferguson, though he has of late years, by force of circumstances, been compelled to study the principles of equity, was prior to his appointment to the Bench a common law practitioner. Mr. Justice Robertson's practice at the Bar was also almost exclusively confined to the common law. In neither of the other Divisions, nor in the Court of Appeal, is there a single judge who can be reasonably considered an equity lawyer; and yet purely equity cases are frequently tried by these judges who have to acquire their knowledge of the subject for the occasion. Considering the supremacy which the Judicature Act has given to equity principles, it is of great importance that in each Division of the Court there should now be at least one of the judges thoroughly versed in the principles of equity jurisprudence. Yet ever since the Judicature Act was passed, not a single equity lawyer has been appointed to the Bench. This may possibly be due to the