Dividends.

Re J. B. Brosseau, La Patrie.—First dividend, payable Feb. 27, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Re H. Frenette & Frère, traders, Fraserville.—First and final dividend, payable Feb. 26, H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator.

Proclamation.

Reward for apprehension of Donald Morrison increased to $3,000.

Appointments.

Peter McFarlane, Huntingdon, appointed coroner for district of Beauharnois, jointly with J. A. Cardinal.

GENERAL NOTES.

FORMS OF OATHS.—The following summary of the forms of oaths in use in foreign legislative assemblies is extracted from the reports received at the British foreign office at the time of the Bradlaugh settlement: Bavaria—I swear * * * So help me God and His Holy Gospel. Denmark—I promise and swear * * * So help me God and His Holy Word. Greece—I swear in the name of the Holy and Consubstantial and Indivisible Trinity. Hesse Darmstadt—I swear * * * So help me God. Saxe-Coburg and Baden—I swear. So help me God. Holland—I swear. So help me God. Portugal—I swear on the holy gospels. Prussia—I swear by God, the Almighty and Omniscient * * * So help me God. Saxony—I swear by Almighty God. Servia—I swear by one God and with all that is according to law most sacred and in this world dearest * * * So help me God in this and that other world. Spain— After swearing on the gospel, the president says: "Then my God repay; but if you fail may he claim it from you." Sweden and Norway —I (president or vice-president only) swear before God and His holy gospel * * * I will be faithful to this oath as sure as God will save my body and soul. Switzerland—In the presence of the Almighty God I swear * * * So help me God. United States—I do solemnly swear * * * So help me God. In Bavaria non-Christians omit the reference to the gospel. In Holland and the United States affirmation is optional. In Prussia and in Switzerland affirmation is permitted to those who object on religious grounds to the oath. In Austria a promise is in every case substituted for an oath. In Belgium and Italy the abjuration is used without any Theistic reference, and in France and Roumania, the German Reichstag and for deputies in Sweden and Norway neither oath nor affirmation is demanded.

CITIES IN ENGLAND.—The *Law Journal* says:—" The announcement has been made that the Queen has been pleased to approve of the boroughs of Birmingham and Dundee being raised to the rank of cities. If this is to be done by the prerogative, under what branch of the prerogative does it come ? The Sovereign can by charter make a corporation, but a city is not a corporation. The Sovereign is the fountain of honour, but a city is not an honour, which is a title conferred on an individual, and not in bulk. A city represents a fact past or present, and the Crown can no more create a city than it can a mountain. The only power in the constitution that can make things what they are not is Parliament. A city is a place which has been or is the seat of a bishop. The only place in England, besides Westminster, which bears the name of city and is not the seat of a bishop is Coventry, which formerly shared a bishop with Lichfield, although there other places entitled by their past history to bear it which do not claim it. The erection by statute of a bishopric in any place makes it a city without express enactment, as happened in recent times in the case of Truro. By section 8 of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, municipal corporations in the case of a city are to bear the name of " the mayor, aldermen, and citizens of the city." There is no lawful impediment why the people of Birmingham or any other place should not call their town a city, but if the corporation seal has " city " for " borough " without strict legal warrant, bondholders might be in a difficulty."

COURT OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—The Court has in the exercise of its discretion issued a citation to the Bishop of Lincoln, which is returnable in February at Lambeth Palace.

BULLER'S NISI PRIUS PRACTICE.—The authority of Buller's ' Introduction to the law relative to trials at *Nisi Prius*' stands highest of any book of common law practice. Its author was far from being an ordinary plodding pleader. He was only sixteen when he entered the Inner Temple, and read law in the chambers of Ashurts, afterwards his colleague ont he King's Bench. It was next year that he married Susannah Yarde, and two years after he was admitted to practice under the bar as a special pleader. During the seven years of his practice as a pleader he published in 1767 the book by which perhaps he is best known. After his call to the bar in 1772, as appears from Cowper's Reports and the State Trials, he was in most of the important cases of his day in London and on the Western Circuit. At the age of thirty-two he was made a judge, and Lord Mansfield, who was eighty years old, set him in his place of Chief Justice at *Nisi Prius* and in banco over the head of Ashurts, his tutor in the law. He would have been Chief Justice but for Mr. Pitt's preference for Lord Kenyon. He was twenty-two years on the bench, and died at the age of fifty-four. By way of rounding off his career on the bench, he sat the last six years of his life on the bench of the Common Pleas, and took Lord Thurlow's place in the Court of Chancery on occasion. The industry. sagacity, quickness, and intelligence attributed to him by his contemporaries are preserved in his judgments and in his book.—*Law Journal.*

UNAWARES.—The ' injured party,' with his arm in a sling, is under cross-examination by counsel. ' You tell me you cannot lift your arm?' ' Well, perhaps half-an-inch—like this; but it gives me horrible torture ; it pains me even to touch it.' ' Poor fellow ! just show me how high you find it possible to lift it.' With many sighs and groans he lifted it three-quarters of an inch. ' And before the accident there was nothing the matter with it ? ' Nothing whatever. ' How high could you lift it then?' ' Oh, as high as you please—like this ; and he raised his arm over his head. This did please the counsel very much, for it extinguished the plaintiff's claim.—*James Payn in the ' Independent.'*