

TRIBUNALS OF COMMERCE.

men were rejected. Mr. Gormully, being an English Barrister, was admitted to an *ad eundem* degree. Of those who competed in the examination for attorneys, Messrs. Gormully, G. E. Patterson, C. E. Ryerson, and T. H. McGuire passed without an oral on the merits, having obtained 75 per cent. Sixteen gentlemen presented themselves for this examination, of whom twelve passed. Amongst the candidates for admission to the Law Society, Messrs. Fitzgerald, Riordan, Fletcher, Campbell and Holmes, passed an exceedingly good examination, each obtaining more than four-fifths of the entire number of marks. Thirty-seven gentlemen presented themselves for admission, of whom five were rejected.

In the Law School examinations Messrs. Lawson, Evans, Bruce, and Ferguson, passed an examination entitling them to reduce their time of service under articles by eighteen months. Messrs. Hall, Cooke, O'Brien and Pearson had their time shortened by twelve months. Messrs. Wilson, Clendennan and Pearson, passed the Junior class examination.

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The third report of the Judicature Commission has been presented to the House of Parliament of Great Britain. It deals with the question "whether it would be for the public advantage to establish tribunals of commerce for the cognizance of disputes relating to commercial transactions, or to any and what classes of such transactions, and if so, in what manner and with what jurisdiction such tribunals ought to be constituted; and in what relations, if any, they ought to stand to the courts of ordinary jurisdiction?" To obtain the necessary information whereon to base a report, a series of questions were addressed to consuls, merchants, and members of the legal profession in foreign countries, as well as to mercantile men in England; and evi-

dence was also taken before a Committee of the House of Commons, and the answers received and the evidence are given in an appendix to the report.

It is more as a matter of interesting legal news, than from a conviction of any pressing necessity to ventilate the subject in this country, that we now refer to this matter. The establishment of such tribunals has, however, been discussed here, and the example of some continental countries not enjoying a larger commerce than ourselves adduced, but the matter can, we think, without any great detriment to the public interests, lie over until other matters of more practical importance are settled.

The conclusions arrived at by the Commissioners, or rather by the large majority of them (for Lord Penzance and Sir Sydney Waterlow give their reasons for not signing the report), we give in the words of the report:—

"We find that those by whom legislation on this subject has been promoted (although generally desiring that some provision should be made for more summary proceedings in many commercial cases), are not agreed as to the character of the Tribunals which they wish to establish, or the class of cases that should come within their cognizance. Indeed there is no unanimity of opinion as to whether the Judges should be wholly commercial, or partly commercial and partly legal; whether the commercial members of the Tribunals should be Judges having an equal voice in the decision, or assessors or advisers only to a legal Judge, who would in that case be the President of the Court; whether the commercial members should be paid or not paid for their services; whether the Tribunals should observe the ordinary rules of evidence, or be at liberty to admit anything as evidence which they may consider material to the point in issue; whether they should be guided by the principles laid down by the Superior Courts of Law, or decide irrespectively of precedent and according to their own views of what is just or proper in each particular case; whether the parties should be allowed to be represented by counsel or solicitors; whether there should be any appeal, and in what cases, and to what Courts. Upon all these points