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DIARY FOR MAY.

15. Sun.....5th Sunday after Easter.
16. Mon.....Easter sittings begin.
19. Thur.....Ascension Day.
21. Sat.....Confederation proclaimed 1867. Lord Lyndhurst
born 1772.
22. Sun.....1st Sunday after Ascension.
24. Tues.....Queen Victoria born 1819.
27. Fri.....Habeas Corpus Act passed 1679. Sir W. Grant,
Master of the Rolls, 1801.
29. Sun.....Whit Sunday.
31. Tues.....Parliament of U. C. first met at Toronto, 1797.

TORONTO, MAY 15, 1887.

NUMBER five in the text-book series of the Blackstone Publishing Company is Lord Blackburn's treatise on Contracts of Sale from the second English edition. We presume most of our readers are subscribers to this series by this time. If not they had better begin at once.

WE regret to chronicle the death of Frederick William Jarvis, Esq., until recently Sheriff of the County of York. He succeeded his uncle, the late W. B. Jarvis, in the year 1856, and has occupied the position with credit to himself and much satisfaction to the profession ever since. He was a most kind, estimable, and liberal gentleman in private life, and he performed his duties as Sheriff with unswerving fidelity, and in a manner which will cause his loss to be much felt by all those who had occasion to do business with him. The office is now, we regret to say, divided. We see no use for this except to multiply patronage. It will be inconvenient to the public and the profession, and serves no good purpose.

THE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION OF THE CHANCERY DIVISION.

ALTHOUGH it is now close upon six years since the Judicature Act came into force, it is only quite recently that any criminal case has been brought before the Chancery Division.

At the last sittings of the Divisional Court of the Chancery Division, a case of the *Queen v. Fee* was before that Court. An application had been made to Ferguson, J., to quash a conviction of the defendant for an alleged breach of the Canada Temperance Act. Counsel for the magistrate having failed to appear on the return of the order *nisi*, Ferguson, J., disposed of the application in his absence, and following the decision of Galt, J., in *Reg. v. Halpin*, 12 Ont. R. 33, quashed the conviction on the ground that the accused had been called as a witness, and had been compelled to prove his own guilt. Subsequently counsel for the magistrate applied to Ferguson, J., to open the order and hear argument, and the application was adjourned by him before the Divisional Court. The Divisional Court entertained the motion and affirmed the conviction, holding that *Reg. v. Halpin* had been wrongly decided, and was opposed to the express provisions of the statute which made the accused a competent and compellable witness. This, by the way, was the opinion we expressed on the point shortly after Mr. Justice Galt gave his decision (see *ante*, vol. 22, p. 394).

It has, we think, heretofore been tacitly assumed by a good many members of the profession that notwithstanding the changes in the constitution of the courts, effected by the Judicature Act, the crimi-