

The Legal News.

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Another case of persecution by bees (see p. 289) has come before the court at Walkerton, Ont. One McIntosh, of Southampton, applied for an injunction to restrain his neighbour, Harrison, from keeping bees. It appears that Harrison has about eighty hives of bees, which were flying over the neighbourhood and were a great nuisance, especially to the plaintiff, who is a blacksmith, the bees flying about his shop and stinging customers' horses. They were also very troublesome when making preserves, swarming around McIntosh's kitchen in large numbers. The case was tried at the Assizes before Mr. Justice O'Connor, Nov. 2. The jury brought in a verdict that the bees were a nuisance and that the plaintiff was entitled to an injunction. Judge O'Connor said it was a novel case, and he would not grant the injunction, but reserve it for argument before the full court.

The lawyers are more numerous in the new legislative assembly of Quebec than in the last Parliament. The advocates number 18 against 10 in the last House. There are also 9 notaries in the present assembly against 5 in the last,—making a total of 27 members of these two professions, out of 64 elected members. The number of doctors (five) remains the same.

The Montreal Court House has been somewhat remarkable for the number of officials who have served for long periods. The late Messrs. Monk, Terroux, and Pyke, were all veterans who had seen half a century's service, or thereabout. At present we have Messrs. Honey, Schiller, Campbell and Kernick of nearly equal length of public service. The last named, whose *noces d'or* in connection with the prothonotary's office, was celebrated by a bar dinner on the 30th October, is far from being the least remarkable ex-

ample of prolonged tenure of office. The chairman, an *ex-bâtonnier*, recalled his first meeting with Mr. Kernick about a score of years ago. Our own recollection goes somewhat further back. But more than this: there is hardly a judge on the bench today, or a lawyer practising in the city, who cannot recall the time when, as a law student, he had his first interview with Mr. Kernick in his official capacity. The cordial manner in which the occasion was celebrated bore ample evidence to the efficiency and popularity of the still youthful guest.

LEGAL BUSINESS IN FRANCE.

In a copy of *Le Gaulois* received from Mr. Justice Rainville, who is in Paris, a short article appears with reference to the great accumulation of cases in Paris. It shows (1) that the difficulty of making adequate provision for the wants of a great centre of population is seriously felt in Paris. (2) That the judges in the rural departments have not sufficient occupation. The following is the article referred to:—

Pour la première fois depuis bien des siècles, la magistrature française manque de bras. Il n'y a pas assez de juges à Paris. On vient de faire, au Palais, le compte de toutes les affaires qui attendent le jour d'audience: on arrive au chiffre formidable de dix-neuf mille. Dix-neuf mille procès dans les dossiers de la justice, cela représente au moins cent mille personnes dont les intérêts sont suspendus à des jugements problématiques! Sur cette énorme quantité d'affaires, beaucoup remontent à plus de deux ans, et il suffit de connaître un peu les beautés de la procédure française pour se faire une idée des extraordinaires complications qu'amènent ces retards inusités.

Voici une histoire, entre autres, que nous raconte un jeune avocat très mêlé aux choses du Palais. Au commencement de l'année dernière, deux associés tenaient une maison de bijouterie rue Montorgueil; comme il arrive la plupart du temps lorsque deux hommes s'associent, l'un des deux mit l'autre "dedans," suivant une expression bien parisienne. Mais il le mit d'une façon flagrante,