

Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XVII.

APRIL 15, 1881.

No. 8.

DIARY FOR APRIL.

3. Sun....5th Sunday in Lent.
4. Mon...County Court Terms begin, County Court sitt. without jury (ex. York) begin.
5. Tues...Canada discovered, 1499.
8. Fri.... Supreme Court Act assented to, 1875.
9. Sat....County Court Terms end.
10. Sun....6th Sunday in Lent.
17. Sun....Easter Sunday.
22. Fri....Beaconsfield Ministry resigned.
23. Sat....St. George's Day.
24. Sun....Low Sunday.
25. Mon....St. Mark
26. Tues....2nd Intermediate Exam.
27. Wed....2nd Intermediate Exam.
28. Thurs...1st Intermediate Exam.
29. Fri....1st Intermediate Exam.

TORONTO, APRIL 15th, 1881.

WE regret to record the death of His Honor Judge Macdonald, of Guelph. He had been on the Bench for twenty-four years, and was a member of the Board of County Judges. He was a man of sound common sense, a good lawyer and much respected by his many friends. We publish in another place, resolutions of the Bar of his County on the occasion of his death.

A TREATISE on the Law of Dower, with statutes, forms, pleadings, &c., is in preparation by a barrister of Osgoode Hall. We have had nothing on this subject since Mr. Draper's little book, published many years ago. It may be impossible for us for many years to come to do away with the cumbrous provision of the Common Law for wives, known to rustics as their "thirds," but we have often seen a pleasant smile light up the face of the "worse half" owning lands in Manitoba when told that in those happy hunting grounds dower is unknown, and that the apocryphal silk dress known here as a sure solatium for the "better half" remains unasked.

A LAW Society has recently been organized in Montreal. We cannot speak with any authority as to the necessity or cause for this movement; but we cannot forbear coupling the remarks so frequently made as to the alleged decadence of the "Bench and Bar" in our sister Province (speaking generally, and aware of the many brilliant, learned men amongst them) with the fact that the system there adopted is one of *decentralisation*, as ours is the reverse. Our brethren in the Lower Province have many difficulties to contend with; but not the least is the evil alluded to. It is impossible to have the same high standard where the Bar is broken up into a number of small sets, as where there is one central spot such as we have in Osgoode Hall.

The following are the officers of the "Montreal Law Society":—President, A. Lacoste, Q.C.; Vice-President, T. W. Ritchie, Q.C.; Treasurer, Simeon Pagnuelo, Q.C.; Secretary, F. L. Beique; Committee, R. Laflamme, Q.C., J. M. Loranger, Q.C., J. J. Curran, Q.C., C. P. Davidson, Q.C., C. A. Geoffrion, Q.C. We hear that a large section of the Bar is not in sympathy with the action taken.

THERE has also been an agitation, principally amongst the English section of the Bar, in connection with the vacancies on the Bench. The desire seems to be to have the appointment of a judge to the Superior Court made with especial regard to his acquaintance with commercial law. At a large meeting of the English speaking members of the Bar, at Montreal, several resolutions embodying the views of the meeting were passed. A deputation subsequently proceeded to Ottawa and laid the matter before the Government. The following were the resolutions:—