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## DIARY FOR APRIL.

19. Sun.....2nd Sunday after Easter.  
23. Thur.....St. George's Day.  
24. Fri.....Lord Cathcart, Governor-General, 1846.  
26. Sun.....3rd Sunday after Easter.  
28. Tue.....Primary Examinations for Students-at-Law and Articled Clerks.  
29. Wed.....Graduates seeking admission to Law Society to present papers.

TORONTO, APRIL 15, 1885.

WE are glad to learn that the Benchers have granted permission to the Osgoode Legal and Literary Society to hold their annual dinner on the 22nd inst. in the Convocation Hall. We have always considered that this Society deserved every possible encouragement, and are glad to see the powers that be are of the same opinion. The success of the dinner will no doubt be enhanced by the *genius loci*. That the coming members of the Bar should hold their celebration beneath the portraits of those who have been the leaders of their profession is eminently appropriate. It will give altogether a more professional character to the meeting. It will no doubt lead members of the Bench, as well as more members of the Bar, to attend these dinners, and we believe the Chancellor intends to set the example on the present occasion. Moreover, it is certainly a good thing to keep the youthful members of the Society within the precincts of the temple of Themis, rather than send them to the gilded saloons of Bacchus: by which, to descend to sober English and modern times, we mean that Convocation Hall is a better place for the dinner than the Walker House.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ACT, 1885.

It has now become a recognized custom that every Session of the Ontario Legislature shall be marked by an Administration of Justice Act, a sort of omnibus-hodge-podge piece of legislation covering a multitude of diverse subjects, having no sort of connection with each other. An ancient precedent for this kind of statute is found, of course, in 12 Geo. II., c. 13, which was passed to regulate the price of bread, and for the better regulation of attorneys and solicitors. We venture, however, notwithstanding that ancient precedent, to doubt the propriety of this method of legislation.

The Administration of Justice Act, 1885, among other things, provides that when one of the present Judges of the Court of Appeal dies or retires, his place is not to be filled; but instead, an additional Judge is to be appointed for the Chancery Division. People who have to wait for dead men's shoes have a proverbially long time to wait; and, while we hope the learned Judges of the Chancery Division may not be worn out with their labours before the coming fourth man is added to their number, we equally hope long life and vigour to the Judges of Appeal.

After disposing of this little matter, the Act provides that declaratory judgments and orders may be pronounced, though no consequential relief is, or could be asked, which is a legislative reversal of the principle recently acted on by the Chancery Division in *Brookes v. Conley*, ante p. 36. Next we have a legislative reversal of the rule of law established by the House of