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DIARY FOR JANUARY.

1. Sun... *New Year's Day*. 1st Sunday after Christmas.
2. Mon... County Court Term and Heir and Dev. Sitt. begin.
[Municipal Elections held.]
4. Wed... Toronto Assizes.
6. Frid... *Epiphany*. Christmas Vacation ends.
7. Sat... County Court Term ends.
8. Sun... 1st Sunday after Epiphany.
9. Mon... Chancery Division sittings begin.
10. Tues... Court of Appeal sittings begin. Hamilton Assizes.
[Christmas Vacation in Supreme Court ends.]
12. Thurs... Sir Charles Bagot, Governor-General, 1842.
13. Sun... 2nd Sunday after Epiphany.
16. Mon... First meeting Mun. Council (except County Council).
17. Tues... Second Intermediate Examination. Heir and Dev.
[sitt. end.]
18. Wed... Second Intermediate Examination.
19. Thurs... First Intermediate Examination.
20. Frid... First Intermediate Examination.
22. Sun... 3rd Sunday after Epiphany. First English Parlia-
ment, 1256.
24. Tues... First meeting of County Council. Primary Examina-
tion.
25. Wed... Sir F. B. Head, Lieut.-Governor U.C., 1836. Prim-
ary Examination.
29. Sun... 4th Sunday after Epiphany.
31. Tues... Earl of Elgin, Governor-General, 1847.

TORONTO, JAN. 1, 1882.

SIR ROBERT LUSH, one of the Lord Justices of Appeal in England, died last week, in his seventy-fourth year, and Sir James Fitzjames Stephens is to succeed him.

A NEW Patent Bill is shortly to be laid before the Imperial Parliament under the patronage of the Society of Arts, which seems to comprise some features of interest. It apparently proceeds on the principle that it is better that every patent should pass through a preliminary examination before it is granted, rather than to allow a man to take out a patent at his peril and to run the risk of its being an infringement. It also aims at taking the administration of patents out of the legal domain and establishing a new tribunal, which shall consist of commissioners—say a lawyer, an engineer, and a chemist—who are not only to examine applications, but also to try

actions singly, the right of appeal to the full body being reserved to the litigants. This latter feature of the scheme certainly seems open to the objections advanced by Mr. Justice Stephen, at a meeting of the society, at which the project was advanced, viz., that there is no branch of law which contains so many and such interesting principles as the law of patents; and a chemist and an engineer could not be expected to understand the application of them; while judges on the other hand are specially trained in the art of acquiring information from others, and in applying legal principles to that information.

A MEETING of the bar took place in the Convocation room at Osgoode Hall, on the morning of the 30th ult., Dr. L. W. Smith being in the chair. The object was to select a committee of six members of the bar to co-operate with an equal number of benchers in making arrangements for an entertainment, at Osgoode Hall, on the occasion of the opening of the new building. The following gentlemen were elected to serve on the committee: Messrs. W. T. Boyd, S. J. Van-koughnet, F. J. Joseph, J. Campbell, A. H. F. Lefroy, and T. Ridout. A report of a meeting of barristers previously held was read by the chairman, from which it appears that the entertainment contemplated by the benchers is a conversazione, opening with a speech from the treasurer. Members of the glee clubs of the Universities are to be invited to attend, and we presume it will be within the province of the joint committees to provide more definitely for the form the entertainment is to take. As to another suggested feature of the entertainment, the argument may no doubt be advanced that in the good