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DIARY FOR FEBRUARY.

2. Wed....Final Examination for Attorneys.
3. Thurs..Final Examination for Call.
4. Fri.....Final Examination for Call with honours.
6. Sun....5th Sunday after Epiphany. Hagarty, C. J., C. P.,
7. Mon....Hilary Term begins. [sworn in, 1856.]
10. Thurs..Queen Victoria married, 1840.
11. Fri.....R. E. Caron, Lieut.-Governor of Quebec, 1873.
13. Sun....Septuagesima Sunday.
14. Mon....Last day to move against Municipal Elections.
15. Tues....Supreme Ct. sitt. [Goode, first C. J. of U. C., died 1824.
17. Thurs.-Re-hearing Term in Chancery begins. William Os-
18. Fri.....Canada settled by the French, 1534.
19. Sat.....Hilary Term ends.
20. Sun....Sexagesima Sunday.
27. Sun....Quingagesima Sunday. Sir John Colborne, ad-
28. Mon....Indian mutiny began, 1857. [ministrator, 1838.]

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 1st, 1881.

WE publish in another place the report of a decision in the Maritime Court of Ontario by His Honor Judge McKenzie, which will be found of interest to those who occupy their business in these inland seas of ours. We shall, as soon as we find space, give our readers the benefit of an elaborate opinion by an American Judge touching upon the effect of the sale of American vessels under our Act.

THE member for Carleton in the Local Legislature has given notice of a bill to abolish precedence and preaudience at the Bar. We understand that the act will contain a clause, preventing increased Counsel fees being taxed to Queen's Counsel by reason of their holding that position. This looks as if Mr. Monk were not very hugely impressed with the sacredness of the privilege lavishly accorded of late years, of wearing silk instead of stuff.

THE Supreme Court of the United States is very far behind with its judicial work. If

that court were to work steadily for two years, no new appeals being entered in the meanwhile, it could not dispose of the business now before it. But, as is well known, appeals are accumulating and increasing, so that the Court finds itself every month more and more "snowed up." The remedy suggested is to cut down the list of appealable cases, by confining to State tribunals as courts of ultimate appeal many causes of action now brought into the Federal Courts. But it is easier to see the mischief than provide a remedy.

IT may very possibly have occurred to some that the defendants in the prosecution against the Land Leaguers in Ireland are not only taking the matter very coolly, but have possibly over-stepped their legal rights in absenting themselves from Dublin during the trial. The former they certainly are doing, but not the latter. The case is thus stated by the *Law Journal*:—"The prisoner charged with felony is bound to be present during his trial, but there is no such obligation on a defendant charged with a misdemeanor, as in the case in question. The defendants in the trial at Dublin did not even 'appear' in the technical sense of the word, in person; by the practice in informations in the Queen's Bench they appeared by attorney, and one of them, we believe, has not as yet been present at all. If a verdict is returned for the Crown, the defendants must appear to receive judgment; but at present there is no obligation on them to be in Court, or even to be in Ireland. The practice is hardly compatible with the dignity of a criminal trial, and is one of the unreasonable distinctions which exist between felony and misdemeanor."