

## MEETING OF THE COUNTY JUDGES.

## DIARY FOR NOVEMBER.

1. Wed. *All Saints' Day.* Clerks of Local Municipalities to make out rolls of lands of non-residents whose names are not on assessment rolls.
5. SUN. *22nd Sunday after Trinity.*
12. SUN. *23rd Sunday after Trinity.*
16. Thur. Examination of Law Students for call, with Honors. Last day for service for Co. Court.
17. Fri. Examination of Law Students for call to the Bar.
18. Sat. Exam. of Articled Clerks for certificate of fitness.
19. SUN. *24th Sunday after Trinity.*
20. Mon. Mich. Term begins. Articled Clerks and Law Students to file certificates with Secretary of Law Society.
21. Tues. Exam. of Law Students for Scholarships.
22. Wed. Inter-Exam. of Law Students and Artic. Clerks.
24. Fri. Paper Day, Q. B. New Trial Day, C. P.
25. Sat. Paper Day, C. P. New Trial Day, Q. B.
26. SUN. *25th Sunday after Trinity.*
27. Mon. Paper Day, Q. B. New Trial Day, C. P. Last day for declaring in County Court.
28. Tues. Paper Day, C. P. New Trial Day, Q. B.
29. Wed. Paper Day, Q. B. New Trial Day, C. P. Last day for setting down and giving notice of rehearing.
30. Thur. *St. Andrew.* Paper Day, C. P. Open Day, Q. B.

THE

## Canada Law Journal.

NOVEMBER, 1871.

## MEETING OF THE COUNTY JUDGES.

The recent meeting of the County Judges, in Toronto, was, we understand, very numerously attended. It was purely a private one, and properly so, because the subjects discussed did not necessarily require publication in the public press.

The isolated position of County Judges is not without disadvantage to the Local Bench; indeed, one of the greatest advantages in centralization of Courts is the opportunity which the Judges have, as in the case of the Judges of our Superior Courts, of almost daily conference and intercommunication.

The result of the meeting cannot fail to be of profit to all who attended it, for we have been informed that the time was improved in discussing subjects of common interest, for instance, the administration of the Attorney-General's Act, for the speedy trial of criminals before the County Judge—the practice in the County Judges' Criminal Courts—the Division Court procedure—Jurisdiction under the Municipal and Assessment Acts—Appeals to the Sessions, &c. The Judges no doubt found interchange of thought in the matters discussed very advantageous and eminently calculated to secure uniformity of procedure and prevent that diversity of practice which to some extent prevails. The concurrent testimony was

strongly in favor of the County Judges' Criminal Courts as a most beneficial and economical method of disposing of criminal charges; and it would appear that all over Ontario prisoners have largely availed themselves of the privilege (we think we may so call it) of being promptly tried by a Judge.

There was one point discussed and determined which we have particular pleasure in noticing, though some possibly may not see the importance of it. After being canvassed in the meeting, a very decided majority pronounced in favor of the practice of the Judges wearing the gown in the Division Courts. Those who had not done so hitherto determined to wear the gown hereafter, and very properly so, for there would be little use in taking a collective expression upon such matters, if, after discussion, the views of the majority did not prevail. Besides, the practice is right in itself, and emphatically so since it has been decided by the Queen's Bench in *Re Allen*, that only professional men have the right to be heard as advocates in Division Courts. The readers of the *Law Journal* will remember that from the first, and persistently, we have advocated the practice of wearing the gown; and although the gentlemen who did not do so were evidently not persuaded by our argument, they have had the good taste, and, we will venture to add, the good judgment, to fall in with the resolution of the collective body of their own order.

We understand the Judges are to meet annually for the purpose of mutual conference, assistance and advice, in order to promote uniformity of practice and to increase their public usefulness—the fourth Tuesday in June being the time appointed, the place, Toronto. We are decidedly of opinion that a more praiseworthy step could not have been taken, and hope that all the County Judges in the Province, without exception, will so arrange their appointments as to enable them to attend the annual gathering.

The Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal sits in the Court of Queen's Bench this term, in place of Chief Justice Richards. Whilst regretting that the state of health of the latter is such as to render a cessation from work necessary, all on the other hand were pleased to see the former again "in harness," looking so well and vigorous after his partial rest.