

DIARY—CONTENTS—NOTES OF RECENT DECISIONS.

DIARY FOR AUGUST.

- 1. Thurs Abolition of slavery in the British Empire, 1834.
- 12. Mon. . . Disraeli made a peer.
- 13. Tues. . . Sir Peregrine Maitland, Lieut.-Gov.. 1818. Primary examinations (written).
- 14. Wed. . . Primary examinations (oral).
- 17. Sat. . . General Hunter, Lieut.-Governor, 1799.
- 20. Tues. . . Intermediate examinations.
- 21. Wed. . . Long vacatiou ends. Intermediate examinations.
- 22. Thurs. Examinations for certificates of fitness.
- 23. Fri. . . Examinations for call.
- 24. Sat. . . Examinations for call with honours.
- 25. Sun. . . Francis Gore, Lieut.-Gov., 1805.
- 26. Mon. . . Trinity term begins. Law Society Convocation meets.
- 27. Tues. . . Law Society Convocation meets.
- 29. Thurs. Rehearing term in Chancery begins.
- 31. Sat. . . Law Society Convocation.

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NOTES OF RECENT DECISIONS.

A number of important and interesting decisions appear by the "speedy notes" published in another place. The profession are much indebted to the enterprise of the Reporting Committee of the Benchers in thus giving the earliest intimation of the latest law.

The cases referred to show, amongst other things, that the happy days when Insurance Companies succeeded in Term after defeats at Nisi Prius seem to have passed away. Judgments are given in no less than seven Insurance cases. In five of them the plaintiffs succeeded. This result will probably be satisfactory to the junior Puisne Judge of the Queen's

Bench who has become a terror to attorneys for Insurance Companies. We are glad to see that the fears of a judgment in favour of the plaintiff in the case of *Pringle v. The Town of Napanee*, owing to some observations of the same learned judge on the argument, have not been realized. The Court very properly took the broad ground that Christianity is a part of the law of this Province, and it is therefore a good defence to an action for breach of contract in not allowing the plaintiff the use of a public hall, that it was intended to be used for the delivery of lectures attacking Christianity.

The case of *McArthur v. Eagleson* is a curiosity in its way, and to the general reader the finding that the plaintiff was not barred by the Statute of Limitations, because the possession of the wife was the possession of the plaintiff, her husband, might seem unsatisfactory. This Enoch Arden of a plaintiff chose to absent himself without leave, and without notice of his being alive, for thirty years. The wife remained on the place, and at the end of seven years married again, "as she well might, &c." It was sufficiently impudent of this silent partner to come back at all and annoy people, and more so to claim a wife, to whom another man was much better entitled; but to claim lands which he had abandoned for more than a quarter of a century, and to assert that he had been in possession of them through the wife whom he had also abandoned, and who was living on the place under the protection of another husband, does seem a happy thought on the part of the plaintiff or his legal adviser; and it shews the advisability of losing nothing for want of a little "cheek." There were, doubtless, weighty arguments inducing the Court to uphold the plaintiff's contention, but as we have not seen the judgments, we cannot properly discuss the