

T H E  
LEGAL NEWS.

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*CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES.*

The appeal list at Montreal, after showing a steady increase for several years, dropped last month to 99 cases, —only ten new cases having been put on the roll since the November term. In January, 1891, the number of inscriptions on the printed list was 86; in January, 1892, it was 118; in January, 1893, it was 138. The January list of 1894 brings it nearly back to what it was in 1891. A peculiarity of the last list was that out of 99 cases, only 19 were indicated as ready for hearing. In 80 cases the factums were not filed, and, under the rules of the court, these cases could not be called for hearing, with the exception of two or three in which the factum on one side only was lacking.

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The consequences of this state of the list were very soon apparent. On the third day of the term the seventeenth case on the list was reached, and from that day forward cases were called in any order in which counsel could be induced to argue them. There being no privileged cases, and no very long case to impede progress and afford the other members of the bar a chance to get their factums ready, the Court, on the ninth day of the term, was hearing cases which stood near the end of the printed