

LAW FOR LADIES.

decide the controversy? and Blackburn, J., answers the query thus: "Not the wife, nor a jury, it may be consisting of drapers and milliners, but the husband." "But," continues the judge, "when the husband has without cause turned the wife out of doors, or by his own fault has rendered it impossible for her to reside with him, the rule is changed. The husband is no longer the sole judge of what is fit, but the law gives the wife in such a case authority to pledge his credit for her reasonable expenses, leaving it to be determined by others what is reasonable. This increase of liability only comes into play when the husband is in fault, and so it is not unjust." (*Bazeley v. Forder*, L.R. 3 Q. B. 564; *Manby v. Scott*, 1 Sid. 109.)

Lady law students will be relieved to know that fastening important legal papers together by a pin is a sufficient mode of connection, and that it is not less effectual than the old-fashioned lawyer's mode of fastening by a tape. (Sir J. Hannen, *In re Braddock*, 1 P.D. 635.) Mrs. Mary Ann Braddock wrote her own will on two pieces of paper which she attached together by one of these little universal-remedy instruments, and that little act of hers led to the discussion of the matter.

Henry Tudor had so much to do with ladies that he knew the value of good pins, and so, with his consent, his parliament enacted in 1543 that, "No person shall put to sale any pinnes but only such as shall be double-headed and have the heads soldered fast to the shank of the pinnes, well smoothed, the shank well shapen, the points well and round filed, canted and sharpened."

The name of this very much married king suggests matrimony, and Sir James Hannen, of the Probate Division, has lately been giving his views on the marriage contract. His words are: "It appears to me that the contract of marriage is a very simple one, which does not re-

quire a high degree of intelligence to comprehend. It is an engagement between a man and a woman to live together, and love one another as husband and wife, to the exclusion of all others. This is expanded in the promises of the marriage ceremony by words having reference to the natural relations which spring from that engagement, such as protection on the part of the man, and submission on the part of the woman." (*Durham v. Durham*, 10 P.D. p. 82.)

His lordship evidently considers that while being led to the hymeneal altar, a young lady can be shy, nervous and absent minded, without its being a necessary inference that she is *non compos mentis*. (Ib. p. 90.) Sir James has been eavesdropping and listening to the unguarded utterances of young men and maidens, and then has mounted the bench and sat upon them—for he says, with all the weight of ermine and horsehair: "It is to be observed that it is not unusual at the present day for young men and women to apply such terms as 'dreadful' and 'awful,' without any nice consideration of their fitness." *O tempora! O mores!* His opinion of the education possessed by the women of the upper classes is not flattering to the aristocracy of England. In speaking of the beautiful but unfortunate Countess of Durham, he remarked: "I think it appears from her letters that she was a person of low intellectual powers; but she was capable of receiving the ordinary education of young ladies of her class." (Ib. pp. 88, 84.)

In a recent case a gentleman complains that, when his proposal of marriage was accepted, the young lady did not return his kiss. (Ib. p. 88.) But what is a kiss? asked a paper lately; and then replied, the question can only be answered by experience, and quoted a case in which the Judge of the County Court of Lambeth, England, held that a kiss was not a legal consideration. A surgeon in Lambeth