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## DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER.

1. Sun... 17th Sunday after Trinity.
2. Mon... Co. Ct. Term (ex. York) begins. Co. Ct. sitt. with-out jury (ex. York) begin.
3. Tue... First edition English Bible printed. 1535.
7. Sat... County Court Term (except York) ends.
8. Sun... 18th Sunday after Trinity. Harrison, C.J., sworn in, 1875.
9. Mon... County Court Term for York begins.
11. Wed... Guy Carleton, Governor of Canada, 1774.
12. Thurs. Lord Lyndhurst died, 1863.
13. Fri... Battle of Queenston, 1812.
15. Sun... 19th Sunday after Trinity.

TORONTO, OCT. 1, 1882.

WE are gratified to see that the article on "Sunday Laws—Works of Necessity," published in these columns on May 15th, has been reprinted in full, both by the *Irish Law Times* and by the *Central Law Journal*. Another article from the same valued contributor appeared in our last number, on the "Value of Children." Though the name of the writer is not subscribed to these two articles, probably our readers in Ontario will have little difficulty in conjecturing who he is.

WE learn from the *Times* that the French Chambers, in their last session, passed a short Act to abolish religious oaths in Courts of Justice. It appears that this was done directly in the teeth of judicial opinion; and it seems even a more dangerous experiment in France than it would be with us, inasmuch as French law has never allowed a witness to be silent on the ground that his answers might criminate him, and therefore it is all the more necessary that moral pressure should be brought to bear on deponents. It is to be hoped for their own sake that French witnesses will remember that though religious

oaths have been abolished, the very stringent penalties which their law imposes on perjury still exist. Articles 361-366 of sect. 7, on Crimes of the Code Napoleon decree that perjury in an Assize Court is to be punished by penal servitude for not less than five years; but if a witness by committing perjury, has caused an innocent man to be convicted, he shall suffer whatever punishment the convict had been sentenced to undergo. False swearing in a Correctional Court is punished by a *minimum* of two years imprisonment, and in a Police Court by a *minimum* of one year, with fines in both cases—deprivation of civil and political rights, and police surveillance at the discretion of the judges. These enactments remain in force to this day, except as regards the death penalty, which was eliminated in 1857, when capital offences were reduced to two—murder and arson. But perjury may still be punished in France by penal servitude for life.

WE publish to-day a well-written, temperate, and sensible letter from a correspondent, signing himself "Professional," on the subject of the present Law Course. It is undeniable that some practitioners—while they enforce, in a very exacting way, the duty on the part of those students who are articulated to them to serve them faithfully during the period of these articles—forget to a large extent the reciprocal duty which exists on their part to teach and instruct the said students in the practice and profession of the law. At the same time we think our correspondent is a little unjust on this point, for it is not our experience that students find their masters-in-the-law unwilling to explain knotty points to them; and in one large office, to our certain