

think that he is so acting, and under all the peculiar circumstances of this case, I decline to imprison this man, unless counsel can give me some authority upon which I can act." As counsel could not cite any authority, the witness escaped.—*London Law Times*.

DISMISSAL OF GOVERNESS.

On July 22, before Lord Esher, M.R., without a jury, the case of *Procter v. Bacon* was heard. The plaintiff was a governess, and claimed damages for wrongful dismissal. The evidence showed that in September, 1885, the plaintiff had been engaged by Mrs. Bacon, of Blount's Court, Henley-on-Thames, at a salary of 75*l.* a year, subject to three months' notice. She entered on her duties in September, and on December 16 left for her Christmas holidays. As she was on the point of leaving, and while the carriage was at the door, to take her to the station, an unpleasantness arose between her and the servants in consequence of no lunch being ready for her. Mrs. Bacon, three of whose children were ill at the time, was called downstairs, and found, according to her statement, the plaintiff in the hall in a violent passion and abusing the servants generally. She refused to come into the dining-room and speak to Mrs. Bacon, and after she left Mrs. Bacon wrote and required her to apologise for her conduct before she returned. The plaintiff declined to do this, and was accordingly dismissed, the defendant refusing to pay three months' salary in lieu of notice. Evidence corroborating that of Mrs. Bacon was given by the servants respecting the plaintiff's behaviour at the time of leaving. The plaintiff admitted that she was 'excited,' but said that 'no one knew what she had to put up with from the servants.'—Lord Esher, in giving judgment, remarked that both ladies had acted wrongly, the plaintiff in getting into a passion with the servants, and Mrs. Bacon in refusing, though she did it by her husband's advice, to pay the three months' salary. But a servant could only be dismissed without notice on account of misconduct so serious as to be inconsistent with the continuance of the relationship of master and servant. The plaintiff's conduct in the present case fell short of that. His lordship accordingly gave judgment for the plaintiff, giving as damages a quarter's salary, amounting to 18*l.* 15*s.*

INSOLVENT NOTICES ETC.

Quebec Official Gazette, Aug. 7.

Judicial Abandonment.

Théodore H. Malette, trader, Montreal, July 26.

Curators appointed.

Re J. A. Claveau, Chicoutimi. — H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, Aug. 2.

Re Théodore H. Malette. — J. C. Marchand, Montreal, curator, Aug. 3.

Dividends.

Re J. S. Gauvreau. — First and final dividend, payable Aug. 20; H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator.

Re Alex. Paré. — Final dividend, payable Aug. 24; Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, curator.

Re L. T. St. Cyr, Three Rivers. — Final dividend, payable Aug. 24; Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, curator.

Separation as to property.

Dame Josephite Charette vs. Nicolas Charron dit Ducharme, parish of St. Felix de Valois, district of Joliette, Aug. 4.

Dame Josephine Lesage vs. Charles Cadotte, Montreal, boot and shoe manufacturer, July 31.

Dame Julie Racette vs. George Martineau, Montreal, July 20.

GENERAL NOTES.

The practice of interrupting counsel begets carelessness in the preparation of arguments. Young men, as a rule, prepare their arguments, but seldom deliver them as prepared, for the reason that by constantly being interrupted to answer questions or dispose of incidental points, the thread of the arguments is broken and not taken up again. Knowing this, and knowing that it is useless to spend time again in preparing an argument which will never be delivered, the points are in future merely jotted down and delivered to the Court as opportunity offers. There is nothing that shortens the merely voluble man's speech so much as silence. The more points you suggest to him the more he will argue, the longer he will talk, and the oftener he will repeat.—*Canadian Law Times*.

WRITER'S CRAMP.—Those who suffer from this distressing malady will be glad to be informed of an invention, which has just been patented, called the 'Brachionigraph.' This instrument is designed to enable a pen to be used without employing any of the fingers and so to give perfect rest to the muscles affected. It is always the muscles of the fingers or hand that first give symptoms of shaking or pain. The writer then usually holds his pen in some odd position, and for a time gains more or less relief. His physician orders him to give up writing, which to many a clerk and copyist means loss of livelihood and ruin. With this instrument, it is said, writing can be done quite as rapidly as before, yet the disease is not increased. It is in appearance like a leather sleeve with a new and peculiar fastening, and with light mechanism for securing the pen or pencil in just the position the user generally adopts in writing.—*Law Journal* (London.)