

DIARY—CONTENTS—EDITORIAL ITEMS.

DIARY FOR APRIL.

1. Mon..County Court,Term begins.
5. Fri ..Canada discovered, 1499.
6. Sat .. County Court Term ends.
18. Thur. First newspaper published in America, 1704.
19. Fri .. Good Friday.
23. Tues .. St. George's day.
24. Wed..Earl Cathcart, Governor-General, 1846.]
27. Sat .. Queen proclaimed Empress of India, 1876.
30. Tues.Last day for completion of rolls by Assessors.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

EDITORIALS :	PAGE
The Court of Appeal.....	97, 98
Attack on a Judge	97
Prisoners giving evidence on their own behalf ..	97
Dissenting Judgments.....	98
Proceedings of Law Society, Hilary Term.....	100
SELECTIONS :	
The Title of Holders of Negotiable Instruments.	102
Dissentient Opinions.....	105
NOTES OF CASES :	
Court of Appeal.....	108
Election Court	111
Queen's Bench	112
Common Pleas	113

Canada Law Journal.

Toronto, April, 1878.

A noticeable fact is the great number of cases which are now brought to the bar of the Court of Appeal. This may partly, but cannot wholly, be accounted for by the "great expectations" formed in the minds of disappointed and exasperated litigants and sanguine young lawyers, by a too profuse sprinkling at an early period of "appeal allowed." If the Court continues to grow, as we think it is so growing, in public confidence, this plethora of work will continue; but it is not altogether a satisfactory state of things when appeals so much abound.

Before this number reaches our readers the Court of Appeal will have passed a new set of general orders, annulling all rules and orders heretofore made, except the rules now in force respecting appeals to the Privy Council. There is to be a separate set of rules for County Court appeals. This will be a great boon to the profession. The Judges have also prepared a tariff of fees under sec. 123 of

the Insolvent Act, which has long been wanted. They should now, "while their hand is in," set themselves to the task of putting the Surrogate tariff, both for clerks and solicitors, in a more reasonable shape. At the present day it is an absurdity. The Lieutenant-Governor must, however, first appoint the Commission.

Let there be enrolled among the curiosities of law, the charge which a chairman of Quarter Sessions, according to the *Solicitors' Journal*, recently gave to the jury, "Let me tell you gentlemen, that a man who walks arm-in-arm down the street with a man who has stolen ducks, is equally guilty in the eye of the law."

A gross attack has recently been made by a disreputable country paper upon the County Judge of the County of Ontario. The article is so abusive that the writer has overshot his mark, and has only succeeded in bringing upon himself contempt. He is, according to his own shewing, a disappointed suitor, who seems to have endeavoured to make a municipality pay more for printing than his regular rates. The learned Judge can well afford to leave the matter to the good sense of the community, though we should be glad to see the writer receive the punishment he so richly deserves.

The House of Commons has adopted the principle that persons charged with common assault shall be competent witnesses in their own behalf, and may also be called as witnesses for the prosecution; and further, that the wife shall be a competent witness on behalf of the accused. The bill was introduced by a private member, a layman, but the Minister of Justice said he saw no objection to it, and it was fully discussed by