

PROVINCIAL STATUTES OF LAST SESSION.

the other for a tort. Sec. 13 provides that a husband shall be liable for the debts of his wife contracted, and for all contracts entered into and wrongs committed by her, before marriage, and for wrongs committed by her after marriage, to the extent of all property whatsoever belonging to his wife, which he shall have acquired or become entitled to from or through his wife, after deducting therefrom any payments made by him, and any sums for which judgment may have been *bona fide* recovered against him in any proceedings at law in respect of any such debts, interests, or wrongs, for or in respect of which his wife is liable. One important difference, however, there appears to be between our and the English Act in respect to criminal proceedings, as between husband and wife. The English Act goes so far as to allow to the wife criminal remedies against the husband, and conversely to allow to the husband criminal remedies against the wife, in regard to acts done by the one against the property of the other, though it excepts the case where husband and wife are living together. (See Imp. 45-46 Vict. c. 75, secs. 12 and 16.) Our legislature appears to have left criminal remedies alone, nor does it appear to give the husband reciprocal remedies against the wife for wrongs committed by her against his property. Sec. 22 repeals the Married Woman's Property Act, R. S. O. c. 125, save as to rights already acquired thereunder. In conclusion, we can scarcely do better than reproduce the concluding remarks from the article in the *Times* already alluded to: "The Act probably portends indirect social effects, much greater than the disposition of property, and it may in the end pulverize some ideas which have been the basis of English life. Measures which affect the family economy are apt to be 'epoch making'; and probably when the most talked of

bills of the session are clean forgotten, this measure may be bearing fruit."

Chapter 20 is an Act to secure to wives and children the benefit of life insurance, the most important section being sec. 5, which provides that in case a policy of insurance effected by a married man on his life, is expressed upon the face of it to be for the benefit of his wife, or of his wife and children, or any of them, or in case he has heretofore endorsed, or may hereafter endorse, or by any writing identifying the policy by its number or otherwise, has made, or may hereafter make, a declaration that the policy is for the benefit of his wife, or of his wife and children, or any of them, such policy shall enure, and be deemed a trust for the benefit of his wife for her separate use, and of his children or any of them, according to the intent so expressed or declared, and so long as any object of the trust remains the money payable under the policy shall not be subject to the control of the husband or his creditors, or form part of his estate when the sum secured by the policy becomes payable; but this shall not be held to interfere with any pledge of the policy to any person prior to such declaration.

Chapter 21 extends the time within which proceedings may be taken under the Masters and Servants Act, R. S. O. c. 133, to one month after the last instalment of wages under the agreement of hiring has become due, though this may be more than one month after the engagement or employment has ceased.

Chapter 29 is an Act respecting Building Societies, and is important in that connection though its provisions do not admit of mention here.

Chapter 30 is intitled, "The Railway Amendment Act, 1884," and deals with rights and liabilities of railway companies in connection with mines. Sec. 2 would seem, perhaps, to have been suggested by