

Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XIX.

OCTOBER 15, 1883.

No. 16.

DIARY FOR OCTOBER.

1. Mon. ... Co. Ct. Term (ex. York) begins. Co. Ct. sitt. without jury (ex. York) begin.
3. Wed. ... First edition English Bible printed, 1535.
6. Sat. ... County Court Term (except York) ends.
7. Sun. ... *Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.*
8. Man. ... County Ct. Term for York begins. Harrison, C.J. sworn in, 1875.
11. Thurs. ... Guy Carleton, Governor of Canada, 1774.
12. Fri. ... Lord Lyndhurst died, 1863.
13. Sat. ... Co. Ct. Term for York ends. Battle of Queens-ton, 1812.
14. Sun. ... *Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.*

TORONTO, OCT. 1, 1883.

REFERRING again to the subject of the practice reports, alluded to in our last number, it is only fair to state that the reporter has given with much promptitude early notes of the points decided, which have been immediately published in this journal; so that, although there has sometimes been a delay in the issue of the reports, the profession have not been kept in ignorance of the points decided. The whole subject of the reports has been receiving much attention at the hands of the Reporting Committee, who are making every effort to place them on a satisfactory footing.

As we go to press we notice the retirement from the Bench of His Honor James Robert Gowan, County Judge of the County of Simcoe, and Chairman of the Board of County Judges. Those only, and the circle of these is no limited one, who know of his learning, his large and ripened experience, and his great services to the country in numberless ways, can measure the loss this will be to the Bench of which he was *facile princeps*. We shall endeavour in our next issue to give a short sketch of his judicial career. In the

meantime, we would express the hope that many years may be given him to enjoy the rest he has won by a lifetime of hard work and devotion to the onerous duties of his position. He is succeeded by the Junior Judge of the County, His Honor Judge Ardagh, whom we congratulate on his promotion. It would have been difficult to find one more worthy to succeed his eminent predecessor. William Boys, Esq., of Barrie, takes the place vacated by Judge Ardagh.

DIVISION COURT STATISTICS.

We have received the annual report of the Inspector of Division Courts for 1881. It contains a number of interesting tabular statements. The Inspector has judiciously, we think, given the total figures for the preceding year 1880, under the totals for the year 1881, so that a very interesting comparison of the volume of business for the two years is readily made.

There has been a very marked decrease of business in the outer rural counties. In 1880 the number of suits of all kinds (including judgment summonses and transcripts) entered in all the Division Courts of the province was 85,156, while in 1881 the total number was only 62,792, showing a decrease of 25,364, or equal to about thirty per cent.

This is a satisfactory indication of the improved financial condition of the Province at large, especially in view of the fact that the increased jurisdiction conferred upon the Division Courts by the amendment to the Division Courts Act in 1880 would materially add to the number of suits entered. This Act came into force on the 6th March, 1880, and gave jurisdiction up to \$200 in cases