

RECENT ONTARIO DECISIONS.

Railway company—Incorporation by Provincial Act—Subsequent legislation by Parliament of Canada—Applicability of SS. 4 to 39 of the general Railway Act of Canada.

A railway company, incorporated by an Act of the Ontario Legislature, was thereby authorized to construct, equip and operate a railway between certain points.

By an Act of the Dominion Parliament the Governor-in-Council was authorized to grant a subsidy to the company; and by another Act of the Dominion Parliament the company's railway was declared to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, and the company was authorized to build a branch line. No further powers of any kind were conferred upon the company by the Dominion Parliament.

HELD, that the effect of the declaration that the railway was a work was for the general advantage of Canada was to bring it under the exclusive legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, but that the Acts of the Ontario Legislature previously passed were in no way affected; that the railway in question was not one "constructed or to be constructed under the authority of any Act passed by the Parliament of Canada" (see s. 3 of the Railway Act of Canada, R.S.C. c. 109); and therefore ss. 4 to 39 of R.S.C. c. 109 did not apply to it; and a motion to a Judge of the High Court of Justice under s. 8, for a warrant of possession of certain lands was refused. *In re St. Catherine's & Niagara Central Ry. Co. & Barbeau*, Street, J., Jan. 21, 1888.

INSOLVENT NOTICES, ETC.

Quebec Official Gazette, April 7.

Judicial Abandonments.

Ephrem Cloutier, Quebec, March 26.
J. O. Delisle, grocer, Montreal, April 4.
Joseph J. Dugal, currier, Quebec, March 26.
Joseph T. Fortin, trader, St. Etienne de la Malbaie.
James C. Malone, Three Rivers, April 3.
Victoria Hudon (T. Michaud & Co.), Lachevrotière, March 31.
Théodore Pouliot, currier, Quebec, April 3.

Curators appointed.

Re Thomas Acteson, Anse au Gascon.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, April 3.

Re Malvina Dubois (F. Arpin & Co.), Marieville.—C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator, April 5.

Re Joseph Beaudry, St. Jérôme.—P. F. E. Petit, N.P. curator, March 29.

Re Napoléon Lavoie, contractor, Lévis.—T. Paradis, Lévis, curator, April 5.

Re F. X. Lepage & Co., Quebec.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, April 4.

Re Wm. Law Mackenzie.—Robert Fair, Black Cape, Co. of Bonaventure, curator, March 27.

Dividends.

Re Castle & Co., Montreal.—Dividend, Seath & Daveluy, Montreal, joint curator.

Re Isaac Colin Grant, hotel keeper.—First and final dividend, payable April 24, Seath & Daveluy, Montreal, joint curator.

Separation as to Property.

Julie Bousquet vs. Hector Dubois, restaurant keeper, Montreal, Feb. 23.

Marie Louise Bériault vs. Louis Vaillancourt, painter, Montreal, Feb. 29.

Christine Giboulean vs. Henri Bourdon, trader, Montreal, April 5.

Delima Patenaude vs. Damas Moineau, Montreal, March 8.

Notices.

Notice is given by Morris & Holt of an application for an Act to incorporate a company to carry on the business of administering estates, acting as trustees, etc.

GENERAL NOTES.

The following copy of an old record of Northumberland County, Penn., shows that a century has brought considerable alleviation to criminals:—"August Sessions, 1784. Northumberland County: *Republica v. Joseph Disbury*. Indictment for felony. The defendant pleads *non cul. et hoc*, etc. Attorney-general, *similiter*. Jury of the county called. Found guilty of the offence charged. Judgment, that the said Joseph Disbury receive thirty-nine lashes between the hours of 8 and 9 o'clock to-morrow; to stand in the pillory one hour; to have his ears cut off and nailed to the post; to return the property stolen or the value thereof; remain in prison three months; and pay a fine of thirty pounds to the Hon. President of this State for the support of the government, and stand committed until the fine and the fees are paid."

La Cour d'assises de la Haute-Vienne vient de juger trois individus, les nommés David, Jacques Bayle et la femme Bayle—gendre, beau-père et belle-mère—qui, dans la nuit du 1er mai dernier, mirent le feu à un immeuble qu'ils possédaient à Rancoon (Haute-Vienne), après l'avoir au préalable assuré pour une somme bien supérieure à sa valeur. L'instruction judiciaire découvrit, en outre, que, avant de mettre leur crime à exécution, les époux Bayle, avec l'aide de leur gendre, avaient creusé, dans un jardin, attenant à leur maison une fosse profonde où ils avaient caché la plus grande partie de leurs meubles et objets précieux. Cette fosse avait été recouverte d'un tas de fagots qui la dissimulait complètement.

Pour être plus sûrs de l'impunité, les trois compli-cés avaient feint un voyage dans les environs. Ce n'est qu'à leur retour qu'ils purent avoir connaissance du sinistre dont ils étaient à la fois les victimes et les auteurs.

Obligés d'avouer leur culpabilité, les époux Bayle et David ont cherché à rejeter l'un sur l'autre la responsabilité du crime qui leur était imputé.

La Cour a prononcé les condamnations suivantes: Bayle qui paraît n'avoir été que l'instrument de sa femme et de son gendre, cinq ans de réclusion; la femme Bayle et David, cinq ans de travaux forcés.