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DIARY FOR FEBRUARY.

15. Tues.....Sittings of Supreme Court Canada begin.
17. Thur.....Sittings of Chancery Divisional Court begin.
19. Sat.....Hilary sittings end.
20. Sun.....Quinquagesima Sunday.
23. Wed.....Ash Wednesday.
27. Sun.....Quadragesima Sunday.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY 15, 1887.

WE publish in another place the proceedings of the annual general meeting of the County of York Law Association. The report of the trustees is very full, and leaves little to be said. The affairs of the association have been carefully attended to, and it it be proper to single out any individual for thanks in this connection, we think none of his associates will object to the observation that Mr. Walter Barwick has done yeoman's service in the cause, sparing neither time nor energy in endeavouring to make the association a success. In this there has been no failure. One of the resolutions very properly refers to the valuable co-operation of His Honor, Judge Macdougall. The purposes and suggestions of the association are not limited to the welfare merely of the bar of its own county. It may prove a rallying-point for the profession of the Province, and the excellent report of the trustees will be almost of as much interest in the outer counties as in the metropolitan county of York.

THE delay of the Dominion Government in appointing a fourth Judge for the Chancery Division was at one time considered a grievance; but in the minds of many no great harm has, after all, been done. The necessity of a fourth

Judge in that Division is not now so apparent as it was some years ago. The alternate issue of writs in the several Divisions of the High Court has had the effect intended, and the undue pressure which formerly existed in the Chancery Division has been sensibly relieved, and, we are inclined to think, has entirely disappeared. As to the division of work it may here be remarked that the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas Divisions already work together, on a principle of amalgamation, so that the weekly business of both these Divisions at Osgoode Hall is taken by the same Judge. The Chancery Division, on the other hand, still runs its course alone. Why should this be so?

If the business of all the Divisions were pooled, one judge could just as well dispose of the business of the three Divisions as of one or two, for a great many weeks in the course of the year. Sometimes, it is true, there is an extra amount of work, but for this special arrangements might be made. The advantage in having all the business for the week, in all the Divisions, transacted in one court would be a great boon to counsel. By this means each Judge would have to take his turn in court only once in twelve weeks. Then, again, the circuit business, as at present arranged, leads to a useless waste of strength and money, special sittings of the Chancery Division being held quite unnecessarily in many places in addition to the assizes. This very obvious waste would probably have been corrected before this, but for the fact that the Judges look to their circuit allowances as a material part of their salaries, which, naturally enough, they are unwilling to forego.