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DIARY FOR DECEMBER.

15. Mon.....Christmas vacation in Supreme Ct. and Exchequer Ct. begin. Morrison, J., sworn in Ct. of Appeal, 1877.
18. Tues.....First Lower Canada Parliament met, 1792.
21. Sun.....4th Sunday in Advent.
22. Mon.....Shortest Day.
24. Wed.....Christmas vacation, H. C. J., begins.
25. Thur.....Christmas Day.
26. Fri.....Upper Canada made a Province, 1791.
27. Sat.....Spragge, V.-C., appointed Chancellor, 1879.
28. Sun.....1st Sunday after Christmas.
31. Wed.....Revised Statutes of Ontario came into force, 1877.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 20, 1884.

WE have delayed issuing the present number in order that we send with it the Index and Table of Cases, etc., for the past year. The usual sheet Almanac for the coming year will shortly be distributed amongst subscribers.

IT has been the custom in this country for some time past, sanctioned, as we conceive, by sufficient authority to prefix the title of "His Honour" to the word Judge in describing our County judges. It has been thought proper in England to issue a proclamation, published in the *St. James Gazette*, declaring the royal will and pleasure that the judges of the County Courts in England and Wales shall be known and addressed as "His Honour," and shall have precedence next after Knights Bachelor.

THE Canadian Bar has suffered a great loss in the death of Mr. James Bethune, Q.C. It was hardly known that he was seriously ill when his death was announced. He died on the 19th instant, in the forty-fifth year of his age. The universal expression of regret amongst his brethren of the profession found an immediate echo

in the lay press. He was taken away in the prime of life, just as he had won for himself a name which will not soon be forgotten, whether we look upon him as a lawyer of talent and learning, as an honest politician, as a warm-hearted, genial friend, or a citizen of high honour and stainless reputation. He was a man of great simplicity of character; in his home-life loving and gentle. An earnest worker in the church to which he belonged, he carried his Christianity into his everyday life. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Mr. Bethune was born in Glengarry on the 7th July, 1840. He was called to the Bar in 1862, and elected a bencher in 1875. The early part of his professional life was spent in Cornwall where, for five years, he held the position of County Attorney. In 1872 he was elected to serve as member for Stormont in the Legislative Assembly, of which he was a useful, conscientious member. He was elected again in 1875, but his heart was in his profession, and his large and increasing counsel-business taxing to the utmost his industry and energy, he ceased during the past few years to take much part in politics.

SEDUCTION.

THE case of *McKersie v. McLean*, 6 Ont. R. 428, although one, from the circumstances disclosed in the evidence, not calculated to arouse any feeling of regret that it should have failed, is nevertheless a very striking illustration of the absurd condition of the law relating to actions for damages for the seduction of females. The person alleged to have been seduced was an