

tions regarding the employment of young people as miners, and the protection of those engaged in mining.

Power is given by chap. 13 for the reference to the High Court or Court of Appeal by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council "of any matter which he thinks fit to refer," and provides for the question being argued in presence of parties interested, or their counsel. By chap. 14 the Court of Chancery is declared to have had, and the High Court to have, power to sanction leases of settled estates containing agreements for renewal. Chap. 17 introduces sundry verbal amendments into the Surrogate Courts Act, so as to make it conform to the provisions of the Devolution of Estates Act, R.S.O., c. 108; amendments, by the way, which obviously ought to have been made when the statutes were revised. By sec. 21 of this Act an original provision is made, enabling a judge of an adjoining county to exercise jurisdiction where the applicant for probate or administration is himself judge of the court applied to. We are somewhat surprised to find that it has been found necessary to enact by chap. 18 that no judge or courts, except the High Court of Justice, courts of assize, *nisi prius*, *oyer and terminer*, and general gaol delivery, shall have power to try any treason, felony punishable with death, homicide, or libel. We were under the impression that such was already the law. This view seems to be borne out by the Act itself, for in the following section jurisdiction is expressly conferred on certain inferior courts of criminal jurisdiction to try certain cases of forgery. This Act, besides making one or two verbal amendments, also provides that the appointment and dismissal of constables is vested in the Justices of the Peace at the general sessions of the Peace, or any adjournment thereof, and not at any special sessions.

By chap. 20 the pay of jurors is raised from \$1.50 to \$2 per diem; and by the same Act it is also provided that in case of a juror dying, or becoming incapacitated during a trial or assessment of damages, the presiding judge may direct the trial or assessment to proceed, and the verdict of the remaining eleven jurors is to be valid. This provision no doubt was suggested by the late St. George accident case, where a juror fell ill during the progress of the trial, and it, at one time, looked as if the immense expense of beginning *de novo* might possibly have to be incurred. It will be observed that the Act only provides for the case of the illness of one juror; if more than one should die or become incapacitated, the law remains as formerly. Any doubts as to the right of commissioners to take statutory declarations under the Devolution of Estates Act, or under any other Act, are intended to be removed by chap. 22.

By chap. 23, Justices of the Peace or other public officers sued for anything done in the exercise of their office by impecunious plaintiffs, are entitled to require security for costs to be given. By chap. 27 the Legislature has sought to some extent to overcome the effect of the decision of the learned Chancellor *In re Gilchrist & Island*, 11 Ont., 587, by providing that in cases to which that decision would apply, the assignee of the mortgagee may proceed to sell under the provisions of R.S.O., c. 102, part ii., and this provision is made retrospective. R.S.O., c. 102, part ii., we may observe, was amended by 51 Vict., c. 15, s. 3, and it may be a question whether the Act as it originally stood or as amended is