

THE OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE IN ONTARIO.

of the cognizance of the Superior Courts, viz.: For orders for the issue of certain writs, and in suits pending in these courts may order the inspection of documents, may make orders in respect to security for costs, allowance of bail, for particulars of demand or set off, payment of money into court, the delivery and taxation of attorneys' bills, &c. In quo warranto cases under 35 Vict., cap. 36, the evidence upon bribery charged may be taken before him, and in other questions under the same Act, he may be called upon to take the *viva voce* testimony of resident witnesses, and so on application to quash a by-law on the ground of bribery, &c.; and where the writ in a contested municipal election is returnable before a judge of the Superior Courts, he may order the evidence to be taken before the County Judge.

CONCURRENT JURISDICTION.

Under the head of the County Judge's Concurrent Jurisdiction may be put: the powers to hear and make orders as to the issue of writs of *capias*, writs of attachment against absconding debtors, writs of replevin from either of the Superior Courts of Common Law, as to the delivery and taxation of bills of costs and restraining suits therein, &c. They may enquire also as to the wrongful holding of writs, books and papers entrusted to a sheriff's deputy or other officer, and order them to be given up.

The County Judge has also cognizance of offences against the Foreign Enlistment Act. Under the Extradition Act he may issue a warrant for the apprehension of any person charged, and dispose of question raised. Under the Act respecting the prompt and summary administration of criminal justice, he is empowered, if the party consents, to dispose summarily of certain offences. And under the Act respecting the trial and punishment of juvenile offenders, he is authorized to act with all the powers of two

justices for conviction, &c. For convenience and avoidance of expense he has authority, too, respecting bailing parties finally committed for trial by justices of the peace in all criminal cases, short of capital offences, upon application to him, being authorized to make the same order touching the prisoner's being bailed or continued in custody as if brought up on a *Habeas Corpus*.

County Judges have concurrent jurisdiction with the judges of the Superior Courts in the of trial contested municipal elections.

SPECIAL AND PECULIAR JURISDICTION.

The most extensive head of the County Judge's duties outside the business proper of his courts is the original, Special and Peculiar Jurisdiction conferred by numerous Acts. This branch would admit of several sub-divisions, but some indication of its range and importance is all that it is designed to give in this paper, so that a brief reference will suffice.

Under the jury law the County Judge has important duties in receiving and examining jurors' books, selecting jurors to serve for each year, seeing that proper lists are made out and transcribed into jury books, and examining and certifying the lists prepared from the selection made for use during the year.

Under the school law he is specially empowered to deal with the wrongful detention of books, papers, chattels, or moneys belonging to school sections, with adequate powers to punish delinquents. He is required to act with nominees of the council to determine complaints as to school sections, their formation, alteration, &c., and by-laws and resolutions respecting them.

He decides, as sole judge, all matters in difference between teachers and trustees. He investigates complaints respecting school trustee elections, confirms or sets aside and orders a new election, and