

next December, and the municipal council may most invariably reply to applicants for damages and payment for costs of sheep that there are no funds on hand.

11. Are magistrates to perform all the work required of them under that Act without remuneration?

Though the process is not identical with that under the Summary Convictions Act, yet they do not merely act *ministerially*, and though it is a "killing" business, they certainly are acting *judicially* when they are requested to judge the value and estimate damages.

As these questions occurred to me on examining the Act, after being called upon by a farmer whose lambs had been killed by a dog, and who desired to avail himself of that statute, I thought it would not be improper to ask you for information on those points.

Respectfully yours,

Preston, 9th April, 1866. OTTO KLOTZ.

[See Editorial remarks on page 66.—Eds. L. C. G.]

Bills of Sale—Renewal.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE L. C. GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN,—As there is, in this section of the country, a diversity of opinions about the legality of Bills of Sale, if not renewed after the expiration of one year from date of filing, will you please state if it is necessary to renew a bill of sale the same as a chattel mortgage? If renewed, must there be a new delivery of the goods and chattels? For how long a period can the person *giving* a bill of sale, retain possession of the goods he has conveyed away? It often happens when a farmer has run an account with the storekeeper to the tune of \$100, that the storekeeper demands security, and for that object takes a bill of sale of the debtor's cattle &c., perhaps, worth three times the amount of the claim — *the farmer still retaining possession*. In the course of the season the farmer will probably deliver to his merchant creditor, grain &c., to the amount of the bill of sale, but as he has still been purchasing new goods, the storekeeper will not give up the bill of sale until all arrears are paid. The farmer, in the mean time having obtained credit from other persons, who were ignorant of the existence of a bill of sale, find too late that they have been most cruelly duped.

Surely some measure ought to be adopted to prevent such glaring fraud.

Your obedient servant,

S. G. LYNN.

Eganville April, 1866.

[A bill of sale, unlike a chattel mortgage, does not require renewal in order to keep it alive. The property in the chattels contained therein passes to the bargainee and remains in him until divested. The principal objects of registration of a bill of sale is to give notice to the public, and the goods still remaining in the hands of the bargainor or vendor are, nevertheless, under certain circumstances, protected, for the benefit of the purchaser, from any execution against the vendor. The books of the County Court clerk, in whose office bills of sale are registered, are open for inspection, and persons can, if they so desire, make the necessary enquiries. Parties who, for the sake of doing a large business, are in the habit of recklessly giving credit to every one who asks it generally suffer for it; and though they, as individuals, may suffer, the country generally is benefitted by every thing that tends to curtail such a system. In the case put by our correspondent we are not so sure that such bills of sale would be a protection against subsequent executions.—Eds. L. C. G.]

Tavern Licenses.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE LOCAL COURTS' GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN,—Under the 3rd section of cap. 53 of statutes of 1860, how many licenses can a Municipal Town Council issue, to sell liquor by retail, which town has a population of 1,000 souls, but which was incorporated as a town by Act of Parliament in 1859. The law *then* required but 1,000 souls for incorporation purposes, *now* 3,000. I contend that under the section referred to, the town is entitled to twelve licenses. An answer in your very valuable journal will oblige,

A TOWN CLERK.

May 2nd, 1866.

[Sec. 3 of 23 Vic., cap. 53, provides that the proportion of Tavern Licenses shall not be "greater than one for every 250 souls resident therein, as shown by the last census, &c.; Provided that no town incorporated by Act of Parliament shall be considered as having less