

of the claims entered in the Division Court are below \$10. The writer found, after careful examination of the books in the clerks' offices in Toronto, that at an average about one case out of every eight entered in suit in the Division Court would fall within the provisions of the amended tariff of this section. This percentage will be much less in Division Courts outside of cities, where the plaintiff's costs would be higher on account of the greater distance traveled by the bailiff. If our estimate is correct, this amendment will not make any startling inroad upon the clerks' and bailiffs' fees. Had the reduction been extended to all claims not exceeding \$20, the benefit would have been real and substantial. Of the 2,835 cases entered in 1893, in the Tenth Division Court of the County of York, 798 were for claims not exceeding \$20. In the First Division Court the percentage of claims under \$20 was somewhat less than in the Tenth Division Court. We may roughly say that only one-fourth of the claims entered will fall below \$20. However, as it stands, this amendment is important, as it shows a disposition on the part of the Government to consider the interest of suitors at the expense, however small, of the objects of its patronage—the clerks and bailiffs to court officials. These officials are now appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor, which is another way of saying that they are appointed by the Local Government, and it would not be doing the Government a gross injustice to say that heretofore the clerks and bailiffs, as well as some other officials, have been the objects of its tenderest care and solicitude. We have nothing to say against the clerks, who for the most part perform the duties of their respective offices faithfully and well, and are with few exceptions entitled to all the present tariff allows them. This cannot always be said of bailiffs and their satellites.

Section 12 the amending act provides that a claim can be entered in the Division Court notwithstanding the fact that the residence of the defendant is at the time of bringing the action out of the Province of Ontario. This amendment will enable the suitor to bring an action for a small claim in the Division Court, where he formerly would have had to bring the action in the High Court, as the Division Court had no jurisdiction outside of the Province.

Section 16 provides for the transference of suits from the Division Court to the High Court, where it appears, at the trial or otherwise, that the Division Court has no cognizance thereof from the fact that the title to lands is being brought in question, or from a validity of a devise or bequest under a will or settlement is being disputed.

Section 18 of the amending act is as follows.

"In cases in which judgment shall be recovered against a garnishee under sections 184 to 187 of the said act, such garnishee shall be liable to be examined as a judgment debtor under sections 238 to 248 inclusive of the said act."

This amendment was made to meet the decision of Mr. Justice Rose in *re Halla et al. vs. Coulson*, reported in 23 O. R., 493, in which it was decided that a judgment against a garnishee under the provisions of the Division Court did not entitle the holder of the judgment to take proceedings by way of judgment summons against such (garnishee) judgment debtor.

The act of which we have been speaking so far was introduced by Mr. Gibson. Mr. Garrow introduced and had passed a bill which still further affects the collection of debts. Mr. Garrow's bill, as first introduced, was intended to make an execution perpetual until satisfied or withdrawn, but on account of opposition the life of such a writ was fixed at three years.

This will practically abolish the cost of renewals, as an execution is generally satisfied or found to be useless in that time. The main feature of the bill is the embodiment of both goods and land in one execution. The necessity for separate executions covering the two classes of property is one of the many legal ideas we have inherited from the past. The reason for that piece of extra official work, with attendant costs, if such ever did exist, certainly does not exist now, but the attendant forms and legal requirements have long survived it. The change will effect a large saving in the expense of such legal processes, lessening the work and reducing the receipts of every sheriff's office in the Province. Another provision which hedged in the lands of a debtor from an execution is also removed by the bill. It was formerly necessary to transfer a judgment from the Division Court to the County Court in order to execute a writ against the land of a debtor. The cost of this transfer was generally about \$10, and the obstacle served no purpose except to add that amount to the debtor's burden. The new act provides that when a judgment has been obtained in a Division Court for \$40 or over, the clerk of the court may issue writs of execution under the seal of the court against the lands of the debtor to the sheriff of the county in which the lands are situated, and such writs shall have the same force as if issued from a County Court. The saving effected by the change will be of greatest benefit to the unfortunate class of small debtors, but will also beneficially affect legal processes involving large amounts. Mr. Garrow deserves credit for having taken up the case of those who are too often the victims of professional indifference or greed.

#### THE BOOK OF THE FAIR.

For a long time, a generation at least, the remembrance of the Columbian Exposition at Chicago will be an oasis in the memory of many a man, woman and child. Its magnitude excelled everything previously attempted, and it marked an epoch in the career of commercial activity by giving an impetus to international exchange. The Book of the Fair, now being issued in numbers at a dollar a number by the Bancroft Co., Chicago, is an example of where the great printing art—the art preservative of all arts—comes in to preserve the results obtained at Chicago and spread the lessons the Fair was designed to teach. The illustrations are on a scale never before attempted in any work of art. Numbers nine, ten and eleven have arrived at this office, and are, if anything, better than the earlier numbers.

#### SOUTHERN WOOL.

The annual wool circular of Helmut Schwartze & Co., of London, shows that 2,074,000 bales of Australian and Cape wools were imported into London in 1893, of a total value of £25,925,000, which is less by nearly £1,000,000 than the value of imports in 1891, when they were 69,000 bales smaller. The average value per bale of colonial wool has been tending downward ever since 1880. In that year it was £20, while last year the average was but little over £12. It is said that while wool growing in the countries of the southern hemisphere seems to have been overdone, the growers, in spite of the fall in values, seem to be able to sell at present prices at a profit.—*Manufacturers' Review*.