

PRACTICAL JOTTINGS—FEMALE ATTORNEYS.

sec. 13 (R. S. O. c. 43, sec. 28). In the course of his judgment there, Burns, J., says:—"The course which the plaintiff should have pursued was, upon the plea in bar being put in, the trial of which could not take place in the County Court, to have removed the cause into the Superior Court by *certiorari*, and have proceeded with the case there." But in a later case, viz., *O'Brien v. Welsh*, 28 U. C. Q. B. 394, Wilson, J., adverting to *Powley v. Whitehead*, and other cases, discusses whether a plaintiff really could so act, and he says: "We cannot form any satisfactory opinion upon anything decided in this Province, nor can we find any English decision at all bearing directly on the question. . . . While the rule of law is, that, when the Court has no jurisdiction of the cause, the whole proceeding is *coram non judice*, and all parties are liable who act under it, it appears to us we cannot take up such proceedings and legalize them merely by transferring them to another Court which has jurisdiction. The jurisdiction founded on the void initiation must be as vicious as the process on which they rest. . . . We come, therefore, to the conclusion that when an action has been begun in a County Court which had jurisdiction to entertain it, *as well as when the action has been rightly begun there, but the jurisdiction has been lost by matter of pleading or of evidence upon the pleadings in the cause*, that the whole proceedings are *coram non judice*, and that they cannot be removed for the purpose of prosecuting the suit in the Superior Court which has jurisdiction in such an action." A few months after this expression of opinion, the above enactment was passed, doubtless with a view to putting the law upon a more satisfactory footing.

F. L.

FEMALE ATTORNEYS.

In our June number for last year we noticed the admittance of Mrs. Bella Lockwood to the roll of attorneys of the Supreme Court of the United States. Her's is the first female name on the roll of attorneys, and we naturally watch her career with interest. In another part of our June number for last year we recounted the severe lecture she received from Judge Magruder, upon attempting to act as attorney in his court, on which occasion, it will be remembered, she was informed, on judicial authority, that "the sexes are like the sun and moon moving in their different orbits. The greatest seas have bounds, &c., &c." Now June is round again, and Mrs. Bella Lockwood has again been brought to our notice. The *Chicago Legal News* informs us as follows:—

"There was a novel scene in the United States Supreme Court room on Monday. Joel Parker, of New Jersey, democratic candidate for presidential nomination, had just had his admission to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court moved, when Mrs. Bella Lockwood, who was admitted to practice before that court by special act in the last Congress, rose, and in a clear, audible tone moved the admission of a lawyer from South Carolina, who, she certified upon honour, possessed the necessary qualifications to practise before the Supreme Court of the United States. The lawyer whose admission she moved rose, and proved to be a negro. Joel Parker, democratic candidate for president, and this negro, then stepped forward to the clerk's desk, placed their hands on the same Bible, and were sworn in together, very near to the niche where the bust of Chief Justice Taney, the author of the Dred Scott decision is placed. The most visionary prophets of the last decade would scarcely have ventured to predict that a negro upon motion of a woman, who is a qualified counselor before that court, would have been enrolled among the counselors of the Supreme Court of the United States to—