

application to the High Court is likely to involve a failure of justice. We are not aware that in the 38 years which have elapsed since the reorganization of the Court of Chancery that any public inconvenience has been felt, sufficient to warrant this enactment; it is, however, in accordance with the policy of decentralisation which appears to be in favor just now. By the same statute sheriffs are empowered to sell debts due to an absconding debtor, and the purchaser thereof is empowered to sue for their recovery in his own name.

By chap. 12 several amendments are made to the Division Courts Act. Among other things bailiffs are authorized to recover fees on executions, when the action is settled after seizure and before sale, and such fees are to form a lien on the goods. Among other amendments made, is one, whereby the County Attorney becomes *ex officio* Division Court Clerk, in the event of a vacancy in the office, until a successor is appointed. We also see that by sec. 24, after a transcript has been issued under section 217 of the principal Act, no further proceedings are to be taken in the Court from which the transcript issued, without the order of the judge, unless the creditor files an affidavit that the judgment remains unsatisfied, and that the execution issued in the division to which the transcript issued, has been returned *nulla bona*, and that deponent believes the defendant has not sufficient goods in that division to satisfy the judgment.

By chap. 13 some sensible provisions have been made in reference to arbitration. This Act, however, does not take effect until the 1st of July next, and is not to apply to any award or certificate made before that day. Under this Act the old formality of taking out an order, making a submission an order of Court, is done away with, and the filing of the award a certificate of the arbitrator, in cases where an appeal does not lie under R.S.O. c. 53, is to have the same effect as making the submission a rule or order of Court, and every agreement or submission which may under R.S.O., c. 53, s. 13 be made a rule of the High Court is for the purpose of any application to enforce or set aside the award, to be deemed to be a rule of Court without even filing it, or drawing up or issuing any order for the purpose. The time for moving against an award as to which an appeal does not lie under R.S.O., c. 53, is to be within 14 days after the filing of the certificate or award and the giving of notice of its filing to the opposite party; and an application to set aside an award as to which an appeal does lie cannot be made after the expiration of three months from its making and publication.

The law of libel and slander is amended by chap. 14, by rendering it unnecessary in an action for defamatory words spoken of any woman, imputing to her adultery, fornication, or concubinage, to allege or prove any special damage, but the plaintiff may recover nominal damages without proving any special damage. Where, however, the benefit of this Act is relied on, the statement of claim must allege that the action is brought under its provisions; and in such an action, if the plaintiff is not possessed of means to answer costs, the defendant may apply for security for costs.

By chap. 18, R.S.O., c. 110, s. 30 is amended so as to enable trustees, unless forbidden, to invest trust funds in debenture stock of companies mentioned in that section.