

JURISDICTION OF CORONERS.

Province of Quebec.

By common law the jurisdiction of coroners is limited to the county, city or town for which they are appointed, and their jurisdiction cannot be extended by any private act, nor can it be extended even by the Crown.

In the Province of Quebec, the general practice is to appoint several persons as joint coroners for an entire district. However, in order to lessen the costs, which have ever tended to increase, the Crown has, since a few years, limited and restricted to one or more counties the jurisdiction of each of the persons thus appointed as joint coroners. But in the end it was found that such restrictions were the cause of considerable annoyance and confusion, of a nature prejudicial to the proper administration of justice.

We shall give one example.