Judge's Charge to the Grand Jury." In former days, when jurors were badly educated, it may have been necessary for the Judge to give them some notions as to their duties. Of late years, however, the Judge's charge has generally been a mere waste of time. Indeed, some occupants of the Bench have availed themselves of this opportunity to deal with quasi-political matters, upon which their opinions, howsoever weighty, had better have been left unexpressed.

THE PETTY JURY.

It is to be observed that the Legislature has not interfered with actual trial by jury in criminal cases, but the fate which has already overtaken the grand jury now threatens the petty jury in civil cases. By s. 1 of the Juries Act, 1918, which received the Royal assent on July 30, "Subject to the provisions of this Act, every action, counterclaim, issue, cause, or matter in the High Court in England requiring to be tried shall be tried by a Judge alone without a jury: *Provided that*, etc." Postponing, for one moment, the consideration of the proviso in which there is some virtue, it will be seen that the Act roundly takes away the right to a jury. Many a would-be litigant has become a litigant in fact because of the knowledge that if once his pitiful story be told to a jury, a verdict would follow as a matter of course. An *argumentum ad hominem* to which a Judge turns a deaf ear may have considerably weight with twelve good laymen and true.

RIGHT TO A JURY NOW LIMITED.

The right to a jury is, however, expressly preserved in cases of fraud, libel, slander, malicious prosecution, false imprisonment, seduction, or breach of promise; but the party desiring a jury must make an application therefor in accordance with Rules of Court. Again, *in any case*, if the Court or a Judge still thinks there ought to be a jury, he may, on application, make on order for a trial in that form. What has been said applies to trials in the High Court; and, broadly speaking, the right to a jury in the inferior Courts of civil jurisdiction is restricted in a similar way.