

which the law attaches to it, are instituted either in the Superior Court or in the Circuit Court, according to the value or the amount of the rent, or the amount of damages alleged; and the defendants are summoned as in ordinary suits." The Committee have suggested that this be amended by striking out "or the amount of the rent." There seems to be something strange in this article. Apparently an action to rescind the lease of a store rented at \$1000 per annum, where there happened to be a small item of \$20 damages claimed, would have to be brought in the Circuit Court, and the attorney's fee would be seven shillings and sixpence.

Art. 1050. The Committee suggest that the Circuit Court shall have jurisdiction concurrently with the Superior Court, in suits from \$100 to \$200.

Art. 1178. It is recommended that sureties in appeal shall be bound to justify their solvency upon real estate.

Schedule B, referred to in the report, contained some amendments suggested by Mr. DOUTRE and agreed to by the Committee. The principal points were as follow :

Art. 56. With respect to service : "The boarding-house of a person who is not a householder is considered as his domicile, and the employees of such house as members of his family."

Art. 264. In the Code this article reads : "Deaf mutes, who can read and write, may be admitted as witnesses, their oath and affirmation and their answers being written down by themselves." Mr. DOUTRE suggested the following addition, "and if they do not know how to read or write, they may be interrogated through a person knowing how to communicate with them by signs."

Art. 330. To the grounds here stated for recusing an expert it was proposed to add, "or having expressed beforehand an opinion upon the matter in dispute."

Art. 538. It was proposed to add to the list of exemptions from seizure "sums of money awarded as damages for personal wrongs."

The report, with annexed schedules, was transmitted the same day by Mr. SNOWDON, the Secretary, to Mr. CARTIER.

INSPECTION OF REGISTRY OFFICES.

A bill has been introduced by Mr. CARTIER, to provide a fund towards defraying expenses incurred for matters necessary to the efficiency of the Registry Laws of Lower Canada. The preamble sets out that it is expedient to create a fund for defraying the expenses incident to the inspection of the Registry Offices in Lower Canada, and to the making of the plans and books of reference required by chap. 37, C.S. L.C., respecting the registration of documents affecting real property.

The maximum rates to be imposed on registrations and searches, payable by stamps, are as follows :—

On every will, marriage contract or donation..... 30 cents.

On every deed or instrument effecting or evidencing the sale, exchange, hypothecation or mortgage of real property, for a sum or consideration exceeding in value \$400..... 30 cents.

On every other deed or instrument.. 15 cents.

On every search, with or without certificate..... 5 cents.

Of course, a provision for the inspection of Registry offices is an excellent provision, if any attention is paid to the reports of the inspectors. But it is well known that a commissioner was appointed some years ago to visit the Montreal Registry office, and made a report exhibiting culpable negligence and carelessness on the part of the officials, and yet things remain as they were to this day.

It may also be worth noticing that a duty of five cents is imposed on all searches. This seems an inconvenient tax, and, moreover, introduces a stamp of a denomination not before used, and to prevent the use of which, Court-house fees of five cents, fifteen cents, and so on, were increased by five cents, so that no stamp of a less denomination than ten cents might be required.

NOTARIAL DEEDS NOT COUNTER-SIGNED.

Mr. LAJOIE has introduced a bill for the purpose of rendering valid certain deeds passed