

ACTS OF LAST SESSION.

the removal of any Registry Office from one place in a county to another. We trust these powers will be very sparingly exercised, and that the safety of titles and the convenience of the bulk of the profession will not be made subservient to the exigencies of party politics. Section 50 of 31 Vic., cap. 20, is amended so as to read as follows :

"Every notarial copy of any instrument executed in Quebec, the original of which is filed in any notarial office according to the law of Quebec, and which cannot therefore be produced in Ontario and every prothonotarial copy of any instrument executed in Quebec shall be received in lieu of and as *prima facie* evidence of the original instrument, and may be registered and treated under the Act for all purpose as if it were in fact the original instrument, and such notarial or prothonotarial copy shall be registered without any other or further proof of the execution of the same, or of the original thereof, with the seal of the notary or prothonotary attached."

82. *An Act* to amend an Act respecting the Courts of Error and Appeal, and to amend the Act intituled "An Act for quieting titles to Real Estate in Upper Canada.

This is a short but useful Act, which we publish in full elsewhere.

83. *An Act* to amend Chapter 52, 29 & 30 Vic., and Chapter 30, 31 Vic., relating to Municipal Institutions.

We shall publish this in the next issue of the *Local Courts' Gazette*.

90. *An Act* respecting the Court of Chancery.

This will be found in full on another page of this number.

Thomas Wardlaw Taylor, Esq., heretofore the Judge's Secretary, has been appointed "Referee in Chambers." We shall have occasion to speak of this Act and matters connected with it hereafter. When the item of \$2,000 as salary to the Referee came up in the estimates, Mr. Blake moved in amendment "that the chief duties which may be performed by the Referee in Chambers are such as have heretofore been performed by, and form a part of the work of the Judges of the Court in Chancery; that the salaries of the Judges ought to be paid by Canada and not by Ontario; that Ontario has already burdened itself with the payment of \$10,000 a year for additional remuneration of Judges

of the Superior Courts, and that the said resolution be recommitted with instructions to strike out the provision whereby the further sum of \$2,000 a year is made payable by Ontario for the salary of the Referee." On a party vote this amendment was lost and the item concurred in. The judges have promulgated some new orders with reference to this Act.

95. *An Act* to provide for the appointment of Judicial Officers to whom Estate Bills may be referred.

This is a very short Act contained in one clause, and provides that "the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may from time to time issue commissions to the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity, empowering them, or any two of them, to report, under the rules and orders of the Legislative Assembly, to the Assembly in respect to any estate bills, or petitions for estate bills, which may be submitted to the Assembly." The rules and orders referred to in this Act are as follows.

"From and after the appointment of Commissioners for the purpose, every Estate Bill, when read a first time, shall, without special reference, stand referred to the said Commissioners, for their Report, and a copy of such Bill, and of the petition on which the same is founded (to be furnished by the petitioner), shall be forthwith transmitted by the Clerk of Private Bills to the said Commissioners, or one of them, in order that they, or any two of them, may, after perusing the Bill, without requiring any proof of the allegations thereof, report to the House their opinion thereon, under their hands; and whether, presuming the allegations contained in the preamble to be proved to the satisfaction of the House, it is reasonable that such Bill do pass into a law, and whether the provisions thereof are proper for carrying its purposes into effect; and what alterations or amendments, if any, are necessary in the same; and, in the event of their approving the said Bill, they are to sign the same; and the said Report, with the said Bill and Petition, are to be transmitted by the said Commissioners to the Clerk of Private Bills; and the same are to be submitted to the Standing Committee on Private Bills, which is not to consider the said Bill before the delivery of the said Report, Bill and Petition, to the Chairman of the said Committee."

98. *An Act* relating to Unpatented Lands sold for taxes.