

of all nearly everything that is to be done in a whole country is entrusted to a single body of men. The only division of labour is that some functions are discharged by the whole body of magistrates acting together, some by committees chosen out of their number, some by one or two magistrates acting singly. Still the administration of all but the highest justice, the care of the local purse, and the management of most of the public local institutions, are all entrusted to the magistrates in some form or other. Even when anything is not in the hands of the magistrates as magistrates, it is often in the hands either of boards of which the magistrates are *ex officio* members, or else of commissions which are chosen largely out of the same class from which the magistrates are chosen. Generally, whatever is done in a county, the justices of the peace are the doers of it. And the tendency of recent legislation has been to increase their powers and duties rather than to diminish them. The English justice, as a justice, is a judge, a financier, an administrator, member of this and that board, member of this and that committee, discharging ten or twenty different functions, which in most countries would be entrusted to distinct officers or bodies of officers. Add to this, what is the great wonder in the eyes of strangers, that he does all this without pay. Add to this again, that though he is in form a Government functionary, appointed by the Crown and liable to be removed by the Crown, he is, in practice, the most independent of men. He has nothing to hope and next to nothing to fear. The Crown appointed him, but the Crown has no attractions to tempt him with, and no penalties to alarm him with. The Crown cannot promote him in his own line, nor can it visit him with any punishment save removal from the commission—a punishment most unlikely to be nowadays resorted to, except in cases of extreme misconduct. His official ambition, if he has any, must be confined to striving after a good reputation in the eyes of his brethren, or, at most, to being placed, by their own votes, at the head of their body. Add again to all this that he enjoys no privilege, no exemption, no means of sheltering himself under the wings of official favour. He must obey the law he administers, and he is responsible for any blunders or any acts of malversation of which he may be guilty in administering it. There is probably no one else in the world who has so many and such varied duties as the English justice, and who does them all without fee or reward, with nothing to hope and nothing to fear from the powers that be. —*Saturday Review*.

VICIOUS ANIMAL.

An action was recently tried at Westminster, England, it was brought against the Islington Hall Company by a person bitten at a London dog show. It was shown that while passing along one of the avenues of the exhibition the plaintiff waved his hand towards a large Rus-

sian bloodhound, with the remark that "he looked a ferocious creature;" that the dog seized hold of his hand, and lacerated it frightfully; and that, inasmuch as the dog had bitten other people, the Company who were managers of the show must have known it was not safe to trust him without a muzzle, the jury gave the plaintiff a hundred pounds, and the judge concurred in the verdict.—*English paper*.

REBUKING A JURYMEN.

A curious incident took place recently at the sitting of the Court of Assizes of the Seine. M. Lachaud was speaking in defence of a woman named Puel, accused of having abstracted certain securities belonging to the succession of a person named Paulmier, by whom she was employed as attendant, when one of the jurymen, who had several times shown his feelings by significant gestures, said in a low voice, but distinctly enough to be heard by the learned counsel—"That circumstance is of no consequence." M. Lachaud immediately stopped, put on his cap, and declared that after such an improper manifestation he could not continue the defence. On the President asking M. Lachaud what course he intended to pursue, the latter replied that, considering the words used by one of the jurymen as an expression of feeling hostile to the prisoner, he requested the affair to be put off to another session. That course was accordingly ordered, and the case will come on again towards the end of the month.—*Solicitors Journal*.

THE LAW & PRACTICE OF THE DIVISION COURTS.

(Continued from page 7.)

CAP. 6.—OF JURISDICTION.

The word Jurisdiction implies the right, means and power of administering justice. The Division Courts being entirely creatures of the statute law, the nature and extent of their jurisdiction depends upon and must be gathered from the words of the Acts of Parliament concerning them, as interpreted by the Superior Courts.

Looking then to the statutes relating to the Division Courts, their jurisdiction, it will be seen, may be conveniently discussed under the three following heads, viz.: As to *place*—As to *parties*—As to *subject*, or *cause of action*.

1st. AS TO PLACE.—As we have seen, every judicial district (composed of a county or union of counties), for which a county judge is appointed, is divided into a convenient number of divisions, and a court established in and