

County Attorney takes up a civil case which is in any way connected with criminal business in his county. We are quite sure that the County Attorney acted in this matter in perfect good faith, and we only refer to it now by way of warning for future cases. It would, of course, be in the best interests of the public that County Attorneys should devote themselves entirely to their official business. This, however, may not be practicable, except possibly in special cases. There was another incident connected with this trial which seems to demand investigation. It was said that the High Constable, for the alleged purpose of obtaining evidence from two women, took them, along with Edgar Morden, not to the police office or to the County Attorney's office or elsewhere in the city, but to a tavern some three miles from London, under such circumstances as to create unfavourable comment and lead to suggestions which might be unfounded, but which are calculated to bring the administration of justice within the realm of adverse criticism.

THE MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY ACT.

The English Married Women's Property Act, 1882, from which the Ontario Act, c. 163, R.S.O., and the New Brunswick Act, 58 Vict. c. 24, are largely taken, is influenced and leavened to such a considerable extent by equitable doctrines prevailing at the time of its adoption, that an acquaintance with the status in equity of a married woman and her property would seem to be indispensably necessary to a proper study of it, or of the Canadian Acts, particularly in those instances where its meaning has not been determined by accepted decisions of the courts, or where its text provides for a recognition and continuance of the rules of equity. Much of the terminology of the Act is taken from well-known and authoritative judgments expounding the doctrines of equity relating to the property or contractual capacity and liability of a married woman.

The fundamental object of the Act to constitute in general law, independently of an express declaration contained in any instrument for the purpose, a married woman's property, her separate property, is founded upon the equitable doctrine that property may be settled to the separate use of a married woman and be made free of the common law marital rights of the husband.