

was alone sufficient to make his name well known to the public. His labours in India have an enduring place in the annals of that country, and his attainments as a jurist were higher than those of any of his contemporaries. During the latter part of his active life all his contributions to literature were written on the table on which Carlyle wrote most of his books, and which the famous philosopher, whose friendship Sir James Stephen enjoyed, bequeathed to him."

THE JURISDICTION OF THE COUNTY COURTS.

The suitor in the County Court, or rather his solicitor, is often in a quandary—"between the devil and the deep sea," as it were; for this court has, on either hand, a neighbour very jealous of his rights, keen to see that no sort of work is improperly imposed upon him, and at the same time as keen to take care that he shall not be deprived of what properly belongs to him.

The boundary line, on one side, at least, of this court is something like that we occasionally come across in an old Crown grant—so many degrees on such a course, so many chains "more or less to a certain swamp." The swamp was plain enough and easy to be found when the surveyor laid out the lot, but after a lapse of half a century or so the swamp has disappeared, having given place to a plowed field. So when the draughtsman of the Act which first defined the jurisdiction of the County Court in its present shape laid out his work, he had no doubt a clear conception of what he meant, and what was intended to be laid down. Many shiftings, however, of the boundary fence on either side of this County Court lot, both this way and that, have, to some extent, rendered cloudy and indistinct the proper line it should stand on, making it necessary to apply to the guardian of the "High Court" lot as to where *he* thinks it ought to be, and, if he differs from his neighbour as to where their line fence should stand, his opinion must prevail. This, of course, is as it should be; for, when a question as to boundary comes up, that neighbour's jurisdiction is, of course, ousted.

Leaving metaphor, let us come to facts, and the first fact is that there is not that certainty on this question of jurisdiction that is desirable. The statute (R.S.O., c. 47) lays down just what sort of actions may *not* be tried in a County Court, and then those that may be so tried.