

AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ACTS.

ance to the original legislation), form a mass of provisions with which we have not attempted to deal, except in the most cursory manner. We have selected what have appeared to us the salient features of the Acts. We have noted them almost without comment, believing that to Canadian lawyers they could not fail to be of interest, engaged as we are, in one province at least, in working out the same problem.

Already a score or more of works of various plans and of various degrees of merit, have appeared on the Judicature Acts in England. From the two named in connection with the title of this article we have drawn our information. Mr. Wilson's book is lucid in its arrangement, and contains under each section of the Act and rules all the necessary references to other sections relating to the same subject. In addition it contains a summary which will be useful to those who read to acquire a general knowledge of the Acts rather than for practical use. Mr. W. D. Griffith, the author of the other work referred to, held the office of Attorney-General at the Cape of Good Hope for some eight years, and has recently recommenced practice at the English Bar. He has had a large amount of leisure on his hands, which he has devoted assiduously to the annotation of the Judicature Acts. Add to this the experience no doubt gained in the tenure of an important office, and people will be ready to place a good deal of confidence in his book, as one likely to be accurate and to contain some valuable comments on the changes effected.

AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE ACT.

The following is the Bill introduced by Mr. Hodgins, to amend the Acts respecting the Administration of Justice :

1. Except in the Counties of York and West-
worth, and in the County Towns in which no
Chancery sittings are appointed to be held,
there shall be two sittings of the Court of As-
size and Nisi Prius, and General Gaol Delivery
and of Chancery, during each Spring and
Autumn Assize, one of which sittings shall be
for the trial of criminal cases and of civil cases
to be tried by a jury, and the other sitting for
the trial of Chancery cases, and civil cases to be
tried without a jury, and each of such sittings
shall be at least one month apart, and shall be
presided over and held by a Judge of the Court
of Appeal, Queen's Bench, Chancery or Com-
mon Pleas, as may be named for that purpose.

2. In the places excepted by the preceding
section, the non-jury cases shall be entered
upon a separate list from the jury cases and
shall be tried after all the jury cases are dis-
posed of, unless the Judge presiding at the
Assize otherwise order.

3. In case on the application of either of the
parties, or otherwise, it shall appear to the
Judge presiding at a sitting or Assize for the
trial of jury cases that any cause entered for a
jury trial at such sitting or Assize, should be
tried by the Judge without a jury, such Judge
may order such cause to stand over to be tried
with the non-jury cases, or he may appoint a
time after the jury cases, or otherwise, for the
trial of such cause.

4. All records for trial at Nisi Prius, to be
tried by a jury, and non-jury cases to be tried
under section two of this Act, shall be entered
with the proper officer not later than the last
day for giving notice of trial, according to the
present practice of the Superior Courts of Law.

5. All records for trial in non-jury cases to
be tried with Chancery cases shall be set down,
and notice of trial given not later than fourteen
days before the commencement of the sittings
at which they are to be tried.

6. In cases where no jury has been demanded
or no order has been made for the trial of the
issues or assessments of damages by a jury, at
least sixteen days before the commencement of
the sittings of an Assize for the trial of non-
jury cases, no jury shall be granted unless the
Court or Judge otherwise order on a special
application, and subject to such terms as to
costs or otherwise as may be just.

7. No countermand of notice of trial or hear-
ing in any civil cause or Chancery case shall be
valid unless given at least eight days before the
day of the commencement of the Assize or
sittings for which notice of trial or hearing has
been given.