

ANNO QUADRAGESIMO OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

No. DCCCXXVII.

An Act to settle the Tenure of Office of the Judges of the County Courts, and for other purposes. $\lceil 12 \text{th } December \ 1884. \rceil$

BE it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the Preamble. advice and consent of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of Victoria in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows (that is to say) :---

1. This Act may for all purposes be cited as "The County Court Short title and Judges Tenure of Office Act 1884" and shall be read with and construction. construed as part of the "County Court Statute 1869." No. 345.

2. The several enactments mentioned in the schedule hereto to the Repeal. extent to which such enactments are in and by the said schedule expressed to be repealed shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

3. All persons now being judges of any county court and all Judges to hold office persons who may hereafter be appointed judges under the "County Court Statute 1869" and the present and every future Judge of the Court of Insolvency at Melbourne shall hold their offices during good behaviour. Provided always that it may be lawful for the Governor to remove any such judge or judges who shall be wilfully absent from Victoria without a reasonable cause to be allowed by the Governor in Council or who shall become incapable or who shall neglect to perform the duties of his office or offices or upon the address of both Houses of the Legislature.

4. All

Published as a Supplement to the 'Victoria Government Gazette' of Friday, 12th December 1884.

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during good behaviour.

County Court Judges.

Authority of judges and deputies.

Judges empowered to act throughout the colony.

Districts to be assigned by the Governor.

One judge may sit for another in case of illness &c.

Governor in Council may issue commission to chairman of sessions to preside at Supreme Court sittings. 4. All judges and deputy judges of county courts in Victoria shall without any further or other appointment than this Act be judges of all courts of mines in Victoria anything contained in the "*Mining Statute* 1865" to the contrary notwithstanding.

5. Each of the persons who at the time of the passing of this Act holds the office of judge or deputy judge of a county court shall without any fresh commission be empowered to act as judge of any county court or court of mines throughout the whole of Victoria as though such county court or court of mines had been named in his commission, and every person hereafter appointed a judge or deputy judge of county courts shall be appointed by one commission judge or deputy judge of county courts and judge or deputy judge of courts of mines for the whole colony, and shall under such commission be empowered to act in any county court or court of mines throughout the whole colony.

6. The Governor in Council may from time to time by notice in the *Government Gazette* assign such county courts and courts of mines as he thinks fit to each judge of county courts and courts of mines, but the jurisdiction of any such judge or deputy judge shall not be deemed thereby to be limited exclusively to the courts so assigned to him.

7. Any judge or deputy judge of county courts may at the request of any other judge or deputy judge or of a law officer or of the Minister of Justice for the time being sit either in court or in chambers for such other judge or deputy judge in case of the illness of such other judge or deputy judge or on any emergency, and may exercise all the powers and perform all the duties which such other judge or deputy judge might have exercised or performed.

8. The Governor in Council may from time to time issue to any chairman of general sessions a commission empowering such chairman to preside at the Supreme Court sittings for the hearing of criminal trials save and except cases of felonies now punishable with death in and throughout any bailiwick named therein or any particular place or places named therein and any such chairman whilst so acting by virtue of any such commission shall have all the powers of and with respect to all proceedings before him shall be deemed to be a judge of the Supreme Court. Provided that this section shall continue in operation until the thirty-first day of December One thousand eight hundred and eighty-six and no longer.

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SCHEDULE.

No. 827.]

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SCHEDULE.

Section 2.

Date of Act.	Title of Act.	Extent of repeal.
33 Vict. No. 345	" County Court Statute 1869"	In section 9 the words "and every such person may be appointed by one commis- sion for several courts or by several commissions for each or any number of such courts."
		Section 13, the whole.
	- - - -	In section 15, the following words (occurring in two places) "who shall be a judge appointed under this Act or."
29 Vict. No. 291	" Mining Statute 1865 " …	In section 83 the words "and every such person may be appointed by one commis- sion for several courts or by a separate commission for each of any number of such courts."
34 Vict. No. 379	"Insolvency Statute 1871"	In section 8 the following words "and from time to time the Governor, with the advice aforesaid, may re-

advice aforesaid, may remove the said or any judge appointed by or under this section."

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