CHAPTER 66.

An Act to enlarge the Jurisdiction of the Civil Bill Courts in Ireland in respect to the recovery of Balances due on partnership Accounts, and in respect of Actions involving Questions of Title to corporeal and incorporeal Hereditaments. [7th August 1874.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to enlarge the jurisdiction of the Civil Bill Courts in Ireland in respect to the recovery of balances due on partnership accounts, and in respect of actions involving questions of title to corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments:

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in the present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Balances of partnership accounts, whether ascertained or not at the time of the issuing process, not exceeding 40*l.*, and actions involving title to corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments, may be brought in the civil bill court, but decrees in the latter cases shall not be evidence of title in other actions.

1. The chairmen of every county in Ireland shall have jurisdiction to try by civil bill actions for the recovery of any debt or demand not exceeding forty pounds alleged to be due as the balance of a partnership account, whether the balance shall have been ascertained or not previous to the issuing of the civil bill; and such chairmen shall, in addition to any jurisdiction in respect of lands and hereditaments which they already possess, also have jurisdiction to try by civil bill actions in which the title to any corporeal or incorporeal hereditament shall come in question, when the value of the land in dispute, or in respect of which an easement or license is claimed, or on, through, over, or under which such easement or license is claimed, shall not exceed twenty pounds by the year as valued under the Acts relating to the valuation of rateable property in Ireland; but the decision of the chairmen in any action in which the title to any corporeal or incorporeal hereditament shall be in question shall not be evidence of title between the parties or their privies in any other action relating to any other corporeal or incorporeal hereditament, although the same may depend in the whole or in part on the same title: Provided however, that this section shall not extend to any action in which title to any fishery or right of fishing shall come in question.

Proceedings in cases involving title to corporeal or incorporeal hereditaments may be stayed in the civil bill court and ordered to be heard in the superior courts by order of the judge.

2. The defendant in any civil bill in which the title to a corporeal or incorporeal hereditament shall be in question may, at any time after the service of the civil bill on him, apply to a judge of one of Her Majesty's Superior Courts of Common Law in Ireland for a summons to the plaintiff to show cause why such action shall not be tried in one of the Superior Courts of Common Law in Ireland on the ground that the title to lands or hereditaments of greater annual value than twenty pounds as before defined would be affected by the decision in such action, or on any other ground which may make it more proper to have the case tried in any of such Courts; and on the hearing of such summons the judge may, if he think expedient, order, on such terms as he may think proper to impose, that the proceedings in the civil bill court shall be discontinued, and that such action shall be tried in one of the Superior Courts of Common Law in Ireland.

When the Act shall come into force, and how it is to be construed.

3. This Act shall come into force on the first day of December one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, and shall be construed as one Act with the Act of the fourteenth and fifteenth year of Her Majesty, chapter fifty-seven, and the several Acts amending or altering the same.

CHAPTER 67.

An Act to regulate and otherwise deal with Slaughter-houses and certain other Businesses in the Metropolis. [7th August 1874.]

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law in the Metropolis relating to slaughter-houses and certain other businesses herein-after specified: