

ral election districts, as the said district justices or a majority of them, shall for their respective districts, fix and ascertain, and it shall be the duty of the said district justices as soon after their appointment and qualification as may be, and so from time to time as the public convenience may in their judgment require, to fix and designate the most suitable and convenient days, and place or places in each election district, for holding the said district courts at least once in every month; and it shall be the duty of the said district justices, on the several days and at the places so as aforesaid fixed and designated, to meet and hold the said district courts, and the said district justices or any two of them, so met, shall have jurisdiction over and may take cognizance of all cases whatever, now within the jurisdiction or cognizance of a single or two justices of the peace, and in all like or similar cases, where the debt or damages laid or claimed shall not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, and under like and similar restrictions and limitations, except so far as the same may be inconsistent with the provisions of this act; and shall have and exercise original jurisdiction in all cases of debt or contract, expressed or implied, where the debt or damages do not exceed one hundred dollars; in all actions of replevin, where the value of the property in dispute when appraised on the service of the writ of replevin as herein after provided, does not exceed one hundred dollars, in which actions of replevin the court may, beside adjudging a return of the property, award damages as in a county court may be recovered in case of replevin; in all actions of trespass, except where the title to land is in any manner involved and the persons against whom a complaint is made under this act before the said district court, shall appear on the return day of the warrant and alledge that he or she is entitled to the property on which the trespass is charged to have been committed or that he or she acted under a person, named by him or her, claiming title to the same, and shall verify the allegation by oath or affirmation, where the damages claimed, do not exceed one hundred dollars; in all actions of trover, where the damages claimed do not exceed one hundred dollars; in all actions of assault and battery, where the damages claimed do not exceed one hundred dollars; *Provided*, the defendant, at the time of the suit or action being brought, resides within the district, or does not reside in the state; and it shall be the duty of the said district justices in all cases in which jurisdiction is herein given to them, to try, hear and determine the matter in controversy, and upon full hearing of the allegations, evidence, and witnesses of both parties, to give judgment thereon according to the laws of the land and equity and right of the matter.

To designate time and place of holding court.

Jurisdiction assigned.

Cases of replevin.

Cases of trespass.

Actions of trover.

Of assault and battery.

Duty to try and determine.