Books.

- 20. The courts of equity shall have power and authority, on the application of either party on the trial of any actions at law or suits in chancery, either for discovery or relief, to require and decree that the parties shall produce either the original books, writings or papers, or copies certified by a justice of the peace, of all such parts of such books, writings or papers in their possession or power as contain evidence pertinent to the issue, or relative to the matters in dispute between the parties, to be used as evidence at the trial of such cause; but before any such order shall be made, the party making such application shall satisfy the court, on oath or affirmation, that the said books, writings or papers contain material and necessary evidence, and that such party cannot safely proceed to the trial of his case without the benefit of such testimony.
- 21. In any case where a court of equity may order the production of books in the possession of any party in the said court, on the failure of such party to produce such books so directed to be produced by the day therein limited, or to show sufficient cause for such failure, during the first four days of the succeeding term, or any other term that may be appointed therefor, the said court may in its discretion take the allegations in the bill of complaint of the party requiring the production of the said books pro confesso, and decree ex parte, in such manner as shall appear just and reasonable.

CORPORATIONS.

22. When a judgment has been recovered against a corporation, and an execution on such judgment returned nulla bona, the person or body corporate entitled to such judgment may file a bill in equity against all or any persons who may be in any manner indebted to said corporation either for the stock thereof or on any other account, and if the court shall find such person or persons to be indebted to said corporation, a decree shall pass directing such persons so found to be indebted to bring the money into court, to be distributed rateably among the creditors of such corporation, in the same manner that distribution is made on a creditor's bill, and any of the defendants to said bill may pray a trial at law of any issue of fact in said case, which issue shall be sent to a court of law for trial, and the complainant may require, by said bill, or by another bill, the officers of such corporation to