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*THE PRINCIPLES OF ARGUMENT.**

Mr. Bell's work is described in his preface as "designed not only for students in schools and colleges as an educational discipline and a guide for the practice of debate, but also, and especially, for young men who have left school, for law students, lawyers, journalists and others who are daily engaged in the practice of argumentation." The author has admirably accomplished the end that he has in view. His work may be well described as an application of logical principles to the treatment of legal argument and as such is a work that should be read by every student of law. But it is much more than a student's manual. Starting with the principle that while "inference is the business of the investigator, argument is the business of the advocate," he bears in mind throughout this whole work the practical and resultant value to the advocate of the logical application of facts. He proceeds upon the sound logical basis laid down by Mr. Sidgwick, that "proof for all practical purposes essentially consists, not in demonstration, but in successful resistance to attack; not in complete establishment beyond all doubt, but establishment on a sound basis in the face of hostile criticism, by means of those tests which are in our power to apply." His principles are illustrated by such apposite and interesting illustrations of reasoning, taken from newspapers, magazines, speeches and law reports, that the reader will find his attention attracted and held by the illustration apart altogether from the logical principle that is applied. The two chapters on "Arguments from Circumstantial Evidence" and on "Refutation" will repay any lawyer for reading them. There is plenty of suggestive food for thought in this exceedingly able and sound application of logical principles to the business of the advocate. It is a very creditable performance.

H. H. DEWART.

**Principles of Argument.* By Edwin Bell, LL.B. Toronto: Canada Law Book Company, Limited. 1910.