

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE—REVIEWS—OBITUARY.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE LAW JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—A man bequeathes his personal property to his daughters, leaving his real estate to an only son, making a proviso that the son shall maintain his mother during life, or as long as she remains the widow of the testator. Please state in the next number of the *Journal* if she will be obliged to comply with the conditions of the will, or will she have power to set aside the will and claim one-third of the real estate. Also, if a work entitled the "Canadian Domestic Lawyer" is recognised by the profession as good authority.

Hoping that you will favor with an early reply, I remain your obedient servant,

INQUIRER.

Sheffield, Sept. 7th, 1870.

[The question of law put by our correspondent is not one that comes within our rule to answer. He must consult a lawyer. We are not acquainted with the book referred to, and therefore can give no opinion upon it. The profession have, however, in a measure, a kindly feeling to the authors of "law made easy" books, as their tendency is in a general way (not from any mistakes that may be in them, but from the "penny wise and pound foolish" economy of those who trust them alone) to put money in the lawyers' pockets.

EDS. L. J.]

REVIEWS.

The Canadian Illustrated News. George E. Desbarats: Montreal.

This illustrated weekly makes its regular and welcome appearance. We are glad to see the marked improvement in its illustrations, and to hear that the enterprising publisher is encouraged by the patronage he has received to increase his exertions to make it a first-class periodical. The difficulties in starting, and when started, in keeping up an illustrated paper, especially when its circulation must of necessity be somewhat limited, are great, but success, we trust, will be the result. As a Canadian paper we wish it success, which its intrinsic value, especially in the reading matter it contains, fully merits.

Every Saturday. New York: Sept. 10. A handsome illustrated paper, containing vari-

ous European war pictures. It has besides a fine portrait of Mademoiselle Sessi, and some well executed summer pictures. Its literary contents comprise some interesting editorials on *The Balance of Power*, *An Empire's Bull Run*, &c. It has two additional chapters of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," and other readable articles.

OBITUARY.

JOHN ROAF, Esq.

The subject of our notice was born at Wolverhampton, England, on the 12th of January, 1827, and resided in that place until 1837, when with his father, the late Rev. John Roaf, he came to Toronto, where he resided until his death, which took place on the 29th of August last.

Mr. Roaf was educated at Upper Canada College, and the University of Toronto. After taking his degree, he commenced the study of the law in the office of the late Judge Sullivan, and entered his name on the books of the Law Society on the 16th of June, 1846. In February, 1849, he was admitted as an attorney and solicitor, and was called to the Bar in Easter Term of the same year.

His ability and attention to business soon brought him a large practice, which he conducted with much success, almost entirely devoting himself to Chancery. His office business was successively in connection with Mr. J. Harvey Price, Mr. Oliver Mowat the present Vice-Chancellor, and subsequently with Mr. Downey and Messrs. English & Foster.

On the 22nd of December, 1864, he was appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsel, and in Michaelmas Term, 1866, he was appointed a Bencher. He was an able and industrious lawyer with sound judgment, with first rate standing at the Equity Bar, and it is more than likely, if his health had not declined, that he would some time since have been placed on the Chancery Bench.

In 1849, he married the youngest daughter of the Rev. James Richardson, by whom he had three children.

At the request of the Treasurer and Benchers of the Law Society, the Bar attended his funeral in their robes, which was not merely a mark of respect to a member of the Bench, but an evidence of the esteem and kind feeling of those who knew him.