

Book Reviews.

Blackstone's Commentaries, by HON. WM. DRAPER LEWIS, Ph.D. Philadelphia, 1897, Rees, Welsh & Co. (CANADA LAW JOURNAL CO., Canadian agents.)

The February number of this series comprises Book 2 of the original Blackstone text, unabridged and fully annotated. It is of more than ordinary interest to the Canadian reader, as covering the history of the feudal system and the law of real property, the commentary on which was adapted to this province from the same text in 1864 by the late Alexander Leith, Q.C., of Toronto. Although the Canadian work is not referred to, both authors note the inaccuracy of Blackstone's statement (II., 36), that where a man had a right of way, whether public or private, over another's land, and the road was out of repair and impassable, he might lawfully go extra viam upon adjoining lands. Mr. Leith (1st edition, p. 28), quoted authorities to show that the doctrine did not apply at all to private ways, and Dr. Lewis (p. 505), considers that both in England and the United States the entry could not be justified unless the owner of the lands is bound by prescription or grant to repair the way. The latter exception, however, would appear to be dependent wholly on American precedents. Apparently no pains have been spared to make Lewis' Blackstone a thoroughly up-to-date work, and both English and Canadian cases are freely quoted in it.

Law Societies.

THE COUNTY OF YORK LAW ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the County of York Law Association was held at Osgoode Hall on February 18, 1897, at which the Trustees of the Association submitted their eleventh Annual Report.

There are at present 365 members of the Association, and its library at the Toronto Court House contains 3,221 volumes, made up as follows :

Reports.....	1,925	volumes.
Text books	962	"
Statutes	334	"

284 volumes were added to the Library during the past year, made up as follows :

Reports and periodicals.....	177	volumes
Text books	86	"
Statutes.....	21	"

In view of the increased accommodation which will be given in the new Court House, the Trustees directed the attention of the members of the Association and of the County Bar to the fact that they are always ready to receive donations, and would particularly mention Canadian Statutes of any date. An effort is now being made to have more than one set of the Canadian Statutes, and for several years the statutes and reports of all the provinces have been systematically collected. Members must frequently have on their shelves odd legal volumes, "in splendid isolation," which would be of great value in combination with those already possessed by the Association.

The sittings of the Court for the trial of non-jury cases will shortly be held entirely in the Court House, and there will no doubt be a large increase in the membership of the Association which will enable it to maintain its claim of having the best working law library in the province, outside of Osgoode Hall.

The retiring President has presented to the Library a portrait of Mr. J. A. Worrall, Q.C., his predecessor.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year : Pres., Chas. H. Ritchie, Q.C. ; Vice-Pres., W. N. Miller, Q.C. ; Treas., Walter Barwick ; Sec'y, R. K. Barker ; Curator, Angus MacMurchy ; Historian, D. B. Read, Q.C. ; Board of Trustees : Messrs. Wm. Mortimer Clark, Q.C., Edmund Bristol, R. J. MacLennan, W. D. McPherson, W. E. Middleton, D. Faskin, C. D. Scott.