

REVIEWS.

ance very creditable to the author. Though a young member of the bar, he has shown great industry and fair judgment. We should be much pleased to find more like him among the junior members of the Bar. In England a successful treatise is very often the introduction of a young man to fame and fortune. It is true that in Canada there is not among members of the Bar such a struggle for existence as in the mother country. But there is no denying the fact that the supply is if anything more than the demand. Young barristers while waiting for briefs cannot do better than employ their time in the production of works which will be of service to the profession and in all probability advance them considerably on the road to professional success.

Too often young men called to the Bar imagine that it is only necessary "to hang out their shingle" to secure clients. Should clients not come as soon as anticipated, hope gives place to despondency, and not unfrequently despondency ends in ruin. The true way to keep the door shut against Giant Despondency is to be the friend of Giant Industry. If the young barrister is not sufficiently sought by clients to keep him busy, let him take up some subject, make it a speciality, read about it, write about it, and so keep himself employed. Such employment has the double advantage of being the antidote of idleness and the harbinger of ultimate success. Let young men called to the Bar avoid idleness as they would poison. And when legitimate employment is not forthcoming, there is a tendency to employment of a kind that is worse than idleness—employment wicked in its inception, and deplorable in its consequences. "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do."

We recommend our professional readers throughout the Dominion to become possessed of this book. No man much engaged in the practice of Criminal Law can afford to be without it, and in many respects we should like to see it recommended as a text book in our Law Schools. Considering the size (over 700 pages) and the importance of the work, as well as its intrinsic value, it has been published at a very moderate price. A large sale will, we are certain, be needed to make the book a financial success and we hope it will have it.

THE MARRIED WOMAN'S PROPERTY ACT OF 1870: Its relation to the doctrine of separate use, with notes by J. R. Griffith, B.A., Oxon, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. Second Edition. London: Stevens & Haynes, Law Publishers, Bell Yard, Temple Bar, 1873.

This little work comes opportunely for the information of those aspiring legislators, who have brought before the Legislature of Ontario, during the present session, no less than five Bills affecting the rights of married women, and to facilitate conveyance of their real estate. How many more will be introduced before this meets the eye of the reader it is difficult to imagine. We however have alluded to these matters at some length on a previous page, and shall now turn to the book before us.

The Imperial Legislature in 1870 passed an act known as the "Married Women's Property Act, 1870," (33 & 34 Vict. Cap. 93). As compared with our legislation of a similar kind it is very modest. It protects the earnings of married women, declares that deposits of money made by her in certain Savings Banks shall be deemed her separate property, declares that personal property not exceeding £200, coming to a married woman shall be her own, enables her to maintain certain actions in her own name, declares that the husband shall not be liable on ante-nuptial contracts, and makes the wife in certain cases liable to the Parish for the support of her children, and makes a few other harmless provisions in reference to separate estate.

Mr. Griffith in 1871 published an annotated edition of the Act. In the notes he gave a summary of the cases decided in Courts of Equity on the rights and liabilities of married women in relation to their separate estate. Although few cases have arisen under the Act, Mr. Griffith has brought out a second edition of his work. The notes appear to be carefully prepared. If the Act is necessary the notes are necessary. But the fact that so few decisions have been given under it is some evidence that the Act is not either much needed or much used.

The work before us has in its commencement, the Act of 1860 intitled, "An Act to amend the Law relating to the