

The usefulness of a digest is to be measured by its completeness, its accuracy, its methodical arrangement, its compactness, its absence of padding inserted to catch the unwary, and its being up to date. These requirements are well sustained by Masters & Morse's Digest. The arrangement of titles and sub-headings is good.

Items relating to 'practice and procedure' are distributed among the sub-divisions of that subject as separate titles instead of being grouped in a conglomerate mass under "Practice," as is sometimes done. The Digest is in many respects in advance of the reports by noting the reversal or affirmance of decisions before the same have appeared in the reports. Amongst others, it may be noticed that the important life insurance case of *Booh v. Booh*, 32 Ont. R. 206, is noted as reversed on appeal, and the great patent action of *General Engineering Co. v. Dominion Cotton Mills*, 6 Can. Ex. C. R. 358, as reversed by the Supreme Court of Canada in December last. The House of Lords decision in *DeNicols v. Curlier*, [1900] A.C. 21, is reported, although not a Canadian case, but its far reaching effect as regards the extra-territorial operation of the French law of community of property as between husband and wife, in force in the province of Quebec, justifies its publication in a Canadian Digest.

The citations in matters of criminal law include that popular series of criminal law reports known as the "Canadian Criminal Cases," and the book contains as well the Privy Council decisions in all Canadian appeals of the year.

The comfort of the reader is consulted in the printing, paper and binding of this digest. There is nothing more annoying than a book which is badly printed on cheap paper, and so bound that its contents are difficult of access. All this means money, and is worth money, and is doubtless appreciated by a profession who like to have their weapons clean, sharp and handy.

*The Commonwealth: A Review of To-day. Ottawa, 1901.*

This is a monthly Review published at Ottawa. We have received the February number of this new candidate for public favour in the rather barren field of Canadian literature—barren, not so much from the quality of the seed sown, and the crop produced, as for the poor and uncertain return for the labours of the husbandman. This number of *The Commonwealth* fully maintains the high character aimed at in the prospectus. Among its contents is an article written in the true spirit of Imperialism, which it is the object of the periodical to promote; and a poem by W. W. Campbell, the title of which "Victoria Regina," declares the subject. Dr. W. D. LeSueur replies to an article by Mr. Goldwin Smith on "The Decay of Religion," and ably and eloquently combats the views of that gloomy spirit which finds nothing to approve of, and nothing to hope for, either in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath. With Dr. LeSueur's well-known opinions on religious questions we have in general no