

The Legal News.

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THE LAW REPORTS.

We are receiving from all sides the most gratifying expressions of approval of the new system of Reports. Those who have considered the subject are unanimously of opinion that the step now taken is one that must be advantageous to the profession. The remark has been made to us, however, whether the *Legal News* may not lose some of its interest by the withdrawal of full reports of the Superior Court and Appeal decisions. Our arrangements for the *Legal News* under the new system are not yet complete, but we think, taking the last two as average numbers, that the apprehension of a falling off in interest is shown to be unfounded. We have reports of a number of judgments in the Circuit Court, a judgment in Appeal at Quebec, &c., none of which fall within our regular system, and will not be repeated in the "Montreal Law Reports." Some of the advantages accruing to the *Legal News* will be, (1) More speedy publication of short notes of current decisions. (2) Increase in the number of notes embraced in each issue. (3) Increased space for articles and correspondence on current topics, and on subjects of interest to the bar. (4) Increased space for decisions in rural districts. (5) Increased space for notes of important contemporary decisions in England, France and the United States upon branches of the law similar to our own. It is proposed, moreover, that the *Legal News* from 1st January next shall be delivered at half price (\$2 per annum) to all subscribers to the "Montreal Law Reports."

JUDICIAL WORKSHOPS.

The buildings provided for judges and lawyers to do their work in, are seldom all that could be desired. In England Mr. Justice Stephen loses his way in the intricate and confused maze of the new law Courts. (7 L. N. 256.) The St. Louis Court House has become an unsavory refuge for tramps (7 L. N. 89). Chicago also boasts a new Court

House, but it is so unsatisfactory that the *Chicago Legal News* recently mentioned the following fact in reference to it:—

"A few days ago, one of the best judges on the bench said, "My court room is dark, and I have to burn gas most of the time. The air heated by the burning gas is extremely injurious to my health. I feel that I am breaking down from this cause, and at the expiration of my term next year, I shall resume my practice at the bar."

Thereupon Mr. J. A. Crain, a lawyer of Freeport, sends the following suggestion to the editor:—

"For twenty years I have had over each gas-burner in my office, a pipe leading into a chimney, which pipe carries off all heat and noxious effects of the gas when burning. Tell the judge mentioned in *Legal News* of 18th, and oblige."

LORDS BRAMWELL AND COLERIDGE ON THE SALVATION ARMY.

A correspondent who asked a question of Lord Bramwell, as to the law in regard to the Salvation Army, received the following reply:—

"There is no statute law on the subject you mention. By the common law, if any one or more, either by stinks, noises, or otherwise, make the neighbourhood unwholesome or distressing to its inhabitants, a public indictable nuisance is committed, and the offender may be fined and imprisoned. But it must be a sensible grievance, and not one to fastidious people only; and it must be one not affecting one or two persons only, but the neighbourhood generally. You will find all this mentioned in Russell on 'Crimes,' vol. i. book ii. c. 30, s. 1, fourth edition. But I recommend you to lay a case before counsel, stating what facts can be proved. He will be able to advise you on the facts and law of your particular case, an opinion on which is worth much more than one on law only."

While upon this subject we shall quote a passage from the judgment of Lord Chief Justice Coleridge in *Beatty v. Glenister*. We had not seen this judgment when we referred to the case of the Salvationists in Montreal (*ante*, p. 257). It will be observed that