
Book Reviews.

Lawyers' Reports Annotated. New Series. Lawyers' Co-operative Society, Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A. 1910.

The 28th volume has been received, together with an index-digest bringing all the cases up to date. The excellence of this series is recognized both in United States and in Canada. We cannot do without United States reports and the selection of cases by the Editors of this series saves the profession the enormous, and one might say the impossible, labour of picking out authorities from the multitudinous reports in the various States of the Union. We cannot too highly recommend these volumes.

Flotsam and Jetsam.

The *British Medical Journal* had a good story last month of jurors and medical evidence. A leading citizen was had up for assault and battery. One of the witnesses was a local doctor, whom the prosecuting attorney proceeded to worry, suggesting that he was prejudiced in favour of the defendant, and had, therefore, wilfully distorted his evidence in his favour. The doctor denied this, and went on to say that the defendant was suffering from "phalacroisis." The word caused a sensation in the Court. Asked to define the disease, the doctor described it as "a sort of chronic disease of an inflammatory nature which affects certain cranial tissues." Asked if it affected the mind, the doctor said he was not posing as an expert, but he had known some persons who were suffering from the disease become raving maniacs, others merely foolish, some shewed destructive and pugilistic tendencies, while many others had suffered for years and had never shewn any mental abnormalities. He refused to say anything further, and the jury promptly acquitted the "leading citizen," because as the foreman explained, "the doctor said there was something the matter with his head." When the case was over the prosecutor sought enlightenment as to the mysterious disease, and found that "phalacroisis" meant "baldness"!—*Law Notes.*