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An excellent principle, says the *London Law Journal*, is adopted by Lord Herschell in introducing a bill for codifying the law relating to the sale of goods. If the whole of the law of contract were codified, this bill would form a single chapter in the code. By the passing of such bills, therefore, gradual steps are being taken towards the establishment of a complete code of law. The bill, he tells us, is drafted on the same lines as the Bills of Exchange Act of 1882. It endeavours to reproduce as exactly as possible the statutory and common law rules relating to the sale of goods, leaving for introduction at a later stage any amendments that may seem desirable. The bill is almost entirely a reproduction of the common law. With the exception of the Statute of Frauds, the legislative enactments relating to the sale of goods deal only, Lord Herschell reminds us, with isolated points of not much general importance. In so far as such enactments deal solely with the law of sale, they have been reproduced in the bill, but where they relate mainly to some different subject-matter, and deal only incidentally with the law of sale, or where they affect only certain specified classes of goods, they have been covered by saving clauses. In accordance with the principle of the bill, no attempt is made to reproduce the effect of cases which, though arising out of sales, merely illustrate principles common to the whole law of simple contracts. The bill does not extend to Scotland, the law of that country on the subject differing in many important respects from that of England.

A writer in the *Green Bag*, under the head "Curiosities of Bracton," cites the reasons given by Bracton for composing his celebrated work, in the course of which he says: "But since it often happens that the laws and customs of this kind are drawn into an abuse by foolish and ignorant persons who

mount the judgment seat before they have learned the laws, and who stand in doubts and are many times perverted in their opinions, and who decide causes rather according to their own arbitrary opinion than by the authority of the laws, therefore for the instruction at least of the younger, I, Henry de Bracton, have directed my mind to a careful scrutiny of the ancient judgments of just judges, not without vigils and labour, and I have compiled their acts, counsels and responses, and whatever I have found worthy of note, in one summary, in the order of titles and paragraphs, without prejudice to a better opinion, commending those writings to perpetual memory, and asking of the reader that if he should find anything superfluous or amiss in this work he will correct and amend that error, or with conniving eyes pass it by, since to hold everything in perpetual remembrance and to sin in nothing, is more divine than human."

The writer impresses upon those about to assume judicial honours the responsibilities of their position, and indicates that a warm corner is reserved for those who transgress:—"When it becomes the duty of any one to render judgments and become a judge, let him take heed to himself, lest by judging perversely and contrary to the laws, either through importunity, or reward, or some advantage of temporal gain, he should thereby prepare himself for the pains of eternal sorrow, and lest he shall find himself taking vengeance in the day of the wrath of that God who has said, 'vengeance is mine and I will repay it'; and when the kings and princes of the earth weep and wail, when they see the son of man, by reason of the fear of his torments, where gold and silver are of no avail to liberate them. But if any one fears not that trial, in which the Lord shall be accuser, advocate and judge, but from whose decrees no appeal may be taken, because the father has given all judgment to his son, who closes and none can open, and who opens and none can close. O! that rigid scrutiny, in which not only the actions, but even every hateful word which men have unjustly spoken, shall be rendered an ac-