

REVIEWS.

SIR ROBERT BROOKE'S NEW CASES IN THE TIME OF HENRY VIII., EDWARD VI., QUEEN MARY. Collected out of Brooke's Abridgment, and Chronologically arranged, together with March's Translation of Brooke's New Cases, reduced alphabetically, under the proper heads and titles, with a table of the principal matters. London: Stevens & Haynes, Bell Yard, Temple Bar, 1873. 8 vo., Price £4 4s.

Robert Brooke, whose name this volume bears, was son of Thomas Brooke, of Cleverley, in Shropshire, by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Hugh Grosvenor, of Earmont. He was born at Cleverley, in the County of Salop, laid a foundation of literature at Oxford, and was educated in the law at the Middle Temple, "where he became the completest lawyer of his time." In 1542 he was elected autumn reader of the Temple, and in the latter end of the year 1550, elected a double reader. In 1552, he was made Serjeant, and in 1554 returned to the House of Commons, of which he was elected Speaker. The marriage of Queen Mary with Philip of Spain is said to have been the object of the assembling of Parliament. The session has, however, been better known from Protestant historians, who revile it for its proceedings and penalties against heretics and the efforts to restore Papal power. Brooke was a zealous member of the Roman Catholic religion, and gave so much satisfaction to the Queen for his zeal in its cause that she made him Chief Justice of her Bench. This was in 1554. He died September 5th, 1558, and is buried in the chancel of Cleverley Church, where a fine monument in the north wall may yet be seen to his memory.

This volume was his first volume of reported cases. It is called "little," either because of the size of the volume, which was very diminutive in the early days of folios, or because the title of the original edition shows it is. "Ascens Nouell cases de les ans et temp. Le Roy. H. 8, Ed. 6, et la Roygne Mary." "Eerie ex le Graund Abridgment, composed per Robert Brooke, Chivalier tc. la disperse en les Titles. Mes Icy Collect, sub. ans.: Anno Do., 1578. Incedibus Richardi Tottelli." The volume is occasionally cited as "Bellewe's Cases temp. Hen. VIII."

Though compiled by Bellewe there is no indication that he was the author, but in the very interesting epistle prefixed to the "Cases temp. Richard II." Bellewe states that the favour extended to his collection of "Brooke's New Cases," prevailed with him to publish another volume. His collection of "Brooke's New Cases" was published in 1578, seven years prior to his "Cases temp. Richard II." The "Cases temp. Richard II." was the last volume he published, though in the preface he indicated an intention to publish other volumes of collections of cases. He compiled the two collections upon different systems, one under years and the other under titles; but it would seem that the chronological arrangement was not so useful as the other, for March, in his translation of "Brooke's New Cases," has reduced them alphabetically under their proper titles.

Both the original and the translation having long been very scarce, and the mispaging and other errors in March's translation, making a new and corrected edition peculiarly desirable, Messrs. Stevens & Haynes have reprinted the two books in one volume, uniform with the preceding volume of the series of early reports.

This, like the other volumes of the series, is a *fac-simile* of the original. We notice that Kelgag's (W.) Reports and other volumes are in progress. We assume from the fact that the series is so regularly continued that the enterprise has not been a losing one. It cannot be a source of much profit considering the great expense of publication and the very limited edition that is likely to be in demand. If the publishers save themselves from actual loss they will, we understand, be satisfied. But as their public spirit demands a better reward, we hope there will be profit as well as compensation in store for them.

ONTARIO LAW LIST, AND SOLICITOR'S AGENCY BOOK. By J. RORDANS, Law Stationer. Seventh Edition. Rowsell & Hutchinson, 1873.

This Edition comes to us with many improvements and additions. It is now so well known, and so highly appreciated, that it is unnecessary to dilate upon its usefulness. We notice an improvement in the binding, which is very acceptable.