

perty of his patient—it having been revealed to him in trust and under the conviction of absolute confidence—he renders himself liable to committal for contempt of Court. It is conceivable that a medical man might feel the obligation to secrecy so great as to compel him to decline to answer a question involving betrayal of the confidence of his patient. Such a step, however, should not be taken without a profound conviction of duty. A good citizen obeys the law, although he may have scruples in doing so; therefore, a witness should not set his private judgment against authority without very searching self-inquiry; an obstinate conviction must not be mistaken for a sense of duty. In the majority of cases it will probably be compatible with his sense of duty if the witness enters a protest against answering the question and then bows to the requirements of the law.”

NEW PUBLICATION.

The Criminal Code of the Dominion of Canada, as amended in 1893, with Commentaries, Annotations, Precedents of Indictments, etc., by the Hon. Mr. Justice H. E. Taschereau, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Canada. Toronto, The Carswell Co., Publishers.

This work, the preparation of which was referred to in our last issue, has now been issued, and the first reflection which it excites is one of admiration and surprise at the great industry and ability of the learned editor in completing, within so short a time, such a comprehensive review of the criminal code, covering 1080 pages, while engaged in the arduous business of our highest Canadian Court of Appeal. The preface points out the principal changes effected by the Criminal Code, which came into operation on the 1st instant,—what has been abolished, what has been changed, and what has been added. This synopsis must prove extremely useful to the practitioner. It would have been desirable that these points should have been noted in an official report, accompanying the Statute itself, but in default of this the learned judge's observations will be of great use in practice. The work proceeds to treat of each of the 983 articles of the Code, with