
Book Reviews.

A Treatise on Electric Law, covering the law governing all electric corporations, uses and appliances, and all relative public and private rights, by JOSEPH A. JOYCE (author of *Joyce on Insurance*) and HOWARD C. JOYCE: New York: The Banks Law Publishing Company, 21 Murray Street, 1900. Price \$7.25.

This is a book of nearly 1200 pages, and is a full summary of the law affecting the important subject therein treated of. Though we are as ignorant as ever of what electricity is, we are beginning to find out some of the uses to which it can be applied and how to harness it. In the past few years its use has been fruitful of much litigation, and much law has grown up around it. A thorough investigation of these many and ever increasing authorities has rendered necessary something more than a reference text book; and now we have before us a treatise dealing with the various new and important questions which have arisen in Anglo-Saxon communities in a comprehensive and thorough manner. So far as our examination goes the book before us "fills the bill." The decisions seem to have been examined with great care and the application of old principles to this new and growing branch of the law successfully accomplished. We notice that the authors refer to the Canadian as well as English cases; thus making the book almost as useful to the profession in the Greater Britain as it is to those in the United States.

The large and helpful scope of this work may be gathered from some of its chapters. The Nature and character of electric companies; Constitutional and legislative control, this of course referring only to the United States, and is only of interest so far as the legislation is similar. Municipal lighting; Eminent domain; Abutting owners; Construction of lines, their maintenance and management; Duties and liabilities of companies dealing with electricity in their various uses; Interference of wires; Passengers on electric railways; The use of streets, and crossing railway tracks; Employees, their duties and liabilities; Duties and liabilities of telegraph and telephone companies; Connecting and competing telegraph lines; Telegrams as to sickness, death, etc.; Contracts by telegraph; Taxation of electric companies; Damages and measure of damages; Parties, remedies and evidence, etc. On the whole a very valuable work, which will be largely used both by the profession and by electric corporations, who should possess this work also as it covers matters with which they should be constantly conversant.