

been commercialized and the judgments reported in them are not always carefully chosen. Apply the recent statement of Mr. John Bassett Moore respecting American reports to our reports and statutes as well, and we have a fair statement of the case:—"The output is little regulated and with each court (and Legislature) there is connected a pipe to convey its product to the centre of distribution from which, day by day and year by year, there is pumped out as through a great main upon a gurgling, gasping, sputtering Bar a turgid stream of judicial decision and legislative enactment."

And so courts and legislatures go ceaselessly on, piling Pelion on Ossa and an Olympus on both to the dismay of the bewildered lawyer and a helpless people. When will there appear from those modern Sinais a follower of the great law-giver with a suitable Code? It was no flight of imagination, but a statement of fact when Tennyson wrote:—

"The lawless science of the law,
The codeless myriad of precedent,
The wilderness of single instances,
Through which a few by wit and fortune led,
May beat a pathway out to wealth and fame."

It is said that our reports supply such information that no lawyer need take a step in the dark. His difficulty, however, is in groping to find the light in which to make the step. Those judgments come from many courts and judges who have varying qualities and in differing jurisdictions and environments, delivered in different decades and result in an irregular and incomplete development of the law on almost every subject. Great points are left undecided, trivial ones receive elaborate judgments. Judges cannot make a complete law on any subject. The multiplicity and conflict of decisions create uncertainty. Nevertheless, the value of these reports is incalculable; a mine of wealth—they contain the accumulated radium of legal experience of many generations. They disclose an excellent judicial legislation which will benefit both the legislators