

Book Reviews.

The Law and Practice in Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, by ARTHUR GWYNNE JEFFREYS HALL, M.A., Barrister-at-law. London: Butterworth & Co., Temple Bar, W.C., Law Publishers, 1905. 1371 pages.

The construction of this book is unique. The subject matter is discussed in short and concise articles, summarizing the law and practice, and placed in alphabetical order. To each article is appended a chronological digest of the leading cases decided in the English Court for Divorce and Matrimonial causes and its ecclesiastical predecessors. A cross-reference index precedes each article; and these are broken up into sections to facilitate these references.

This mode of construction and alphabetical arrangement of the subjects strikes one as being very suitable in a treatise on this branch of the law. Whether this style will come into larger use as to other branches remains to be seen, however this may be it is refreshing to have something out of the ordinary routine.

We are glad to say that divorce proceedings are not often invoked in this country, and so the sale of this book must necessarily be limited in the Dominion. The very different condition of things in the Great Republic which dominates the southern and smaller part of the North American continent will give it a large sale there. Whilst this is so, the articles on alimony, the custody of children, etc., and the digests of cases attached thereto will be as useful here as elsewhere. The appendix gives the English statutes relating to marriage and divorce.

Bench and Bar.

Dr. Larratt W. Smith, K.C., D.C.L., who passed away on September 18th, was born in Devonshire, England, November 29th, 1826. He was admitted as an attorney in Michaelmas Term, 1843, and called to the Bar of Upper Canada in the following Term. He was therefore at the time of his death the oldest member of the profession in Ontario. For many years past, however, he took no part personally in practice, although he was the senior member of the firm in which Mr. J. F. Smith, K.C., the most excellent Editor-in-Chief of the Ontario Reports, was also a member. His time in recent years was devoted to the various financial institutions in which he was interested and of many of which he was at the head. Genial and courteous, Dr. Smith was a man of the highest personal character, and of scrupulous honour in all relations in life.