

of the Author to digest only such points as might more strictly be called the leading or turning points of the case, but it has been his aim to digest all such points as the Court may have deemed it proper to decide; or, in other words, whatever the Court, in any case, deemed it necessary and proper to declare and decide to be the law, as applicable to the questions arising in such case, that the Author has considered it to be his duty to digest and arrange under its appropriate heading. Nor has the Author limited himself to digesting merely those parts of the decisions which have more exclusive reference to, or are declaratory of, the law of Patents, Copyright, &c., but points of practice, such as questions relating to evidence, new trials, &c., which have arisen and been decided in any such cases, have also been digested—not because any different rule or principle governs in such cases in the decision of questions of such character, but because such decisions furnish authority and precedent, should like questions arise in other cases.

In short, it has been the design of the Author to digest all the points, whether of law or practice, decided in the cases embraced within the scope of his work, and thus make it an Abstract of the whole of such cases, and not merely of portions of them.

In respect, also, to such cases as have not been reported, and such as are not generally accessible, the digested notes are somewhat more full and comprehensive than they would otherwise have been.

In the preparation of this volume, it has been the constant aim and endeavor of the author to make it as correct as possible. For that purpose, he restudied the cases digested, correcting the digested notes, when necessary, from the original authorities; and, to guard as effectually as possible against error, the proof-sheets, while the work was in the hands of the printer, were compared with the original decisions, and not alone with the manuscript. Absolute correctness, however, is not claimed; but the Author can honestly affirm, that he has not knowingly or intentionally spared or omitted any labor or care which would be likely to render his volume what it should be both as a Reference and an Authority.