

A NOTABLE RE-PRINT.

Of all the enterprises which have been undertaken of late years for the purpose of facilitating access to the appalling accumulation of case-law which weighs down the shelves of our libraries, the republication of the English Reports, which has just been announced, will, if we are not mistaken, prove the most useful. As every lawyer knows to his cost, the decisions rendered during the period which elapsed between the discontinuance of the Year Book and the inauguration in 1866 of the present semi-official reports brought out under the management of the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting, are scattered through an immense number of volumes, amounting in all to over 1,000. The merely mechanical part of the labour of research, the most wearisome and unprofitable of all its incidents, has been increased to an almost intolerable degree by the necessity of handling and examining such a portentous mass of printed matter. Other unpleasant aspects of the present condition of things are the inconveniently large amount of shelf-room needed for a complete collection of these reports, and the ruinous price which is demanded for such a collection—about \$9,000—whenever, which is not very frequently, there is one to be had.

To supply in a reduced bulk the contents of this huge pile of books and to bring the whole of them within the reach of men of moderate means, are the aims of the publishers who have projected the new re-print. By taking advantage of all the space-saving expedients of large pages, a type small but remarkably clear, and a specially prepared thin paper they find that the matter in the original 1,000 volumes can be reproduced in 150, which will cost only about one-tenth of the price of the original collection, and require only about one-tenth of the shelf-room for their accommodation. The original paging will be clearly indicated, so that the investigator will have no difficulty in utilizing the present system of citations. This general outline of the scheme is sufficient to show that the project is one which merits, in an eminent degree, the support of the profession. For its details our readers are referred to the prospectus, copies of which can be had upon application to the sole Canadian agents, The Canada Law Book Company, 32 Toronto Street, Toronto, who are one of the promoters of the scheme.