

## Book Reviews.

*A Treatise of the Law of Eminent Domain in the United States*, by JOHN LEWIS. Second edition. Vol. 1. Chicago, U.S., Callaghan & Co.; 1,555 pages. \$12.00.

Although this second edition has already been before the public for some little time the subject is so important that a reference to it even at this late date is desirable. The first edition was published in 1888 and in that volume some 6,000 cases were referred to. In the present edition they count up to nearly 13,000. It is interesting to note the tremendous increase in litigation falling under the title of Eminent Domain, and that there are more decisions on the subject in the United States since the first edition than in all the previous history of that Country. The first edition did not refer to English or Canadian authorities. The present edition cites 245 from England and 108 from Canada. New York leads off with the enormous number of 1,728. Whilst a large number of the cases discussed are of interest only to American readers by reason of their being based on statutes which have no force in this country, there is nevertheless such a similarity in the circumstances of the Dominion and the United States that much light is shed upon many of our constitutional questions, such for example as—"What constitutes a taking?"—"Public use"—"Just compensation," etc. The marvellous multiplication of the means of transportation and communication, added to the many new public utilities which involve the taking and damaging of property, have brought in many new and strange questions, and renders the subject of this book one of great importance to all professional men.

As Mr. Lewis' book has been for many years a standard work it is scarcely necessary to criticise it. It may be said, however, that a reference to such a multitude of cases necessarily makes the work largely a digest of authority, but arranged in such a convenient and accessible manner as to give the reader a comprehensive view of the various matters discussed.

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### COURTS AND PRACTICE.

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Horace Harvey of the City of Regina, N.W.T., Barrister-at-law, to be Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories. Gazetted July 16th, 1904.

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*The Living Age*: Boston, U.S.—This excellent publication, containing a collection of articles of interest appearing in the various reviews of the day, still continues to give much more than its comparatively small cost. The articles at present appearing are very timely and especially give a comprehensive view of the conditions of things in the far East. Added to these are discussions on a variety of topics of a literary and historical character. Fiction is not forgotten, and a novel called "Lychgate Hall" is just being commenced, which promises well.