

We return to the Alaska Boundary Commission merely to note that the carrying out of the settlement arrived at between Lord Alverstone and the United States Commissioners is, in some important respects, virtually impracticable. In the first place, as Mr. Dail, the United States expert, in describing the treaty's tortuous and zigzag course, says:—"Let any one, with a pair of drawing compasses, having one leg a pencil point, draw this boundary on the United States survey map of Alaska. The result is enough to condemn it. Such a line could not be surveyed on the land. It crosses itself in many places, and indulges in myriads of knots and triangles. It would be subject to insuperable difficulties, and the survey would cost more than the whole territory cost originally." In addition to this the Canadian engineers say that the cost to Canada for marking this boundary on the territory would be \$2,300,000. The United States engineers say that the cost to them would be \$2,250,000; moreover, that it would take some fifty years to do the work. This would certainly be a very valuable result, and a nice place it would be for fugitives from justice to play hide and seek in. There is, in addition the fact that, as to a portion of the boundary, no settlement whatever has been arrived at. There is, therefore, still a large field for diplomacy to cover. We venture to think, however, that Canada will not then need the services of the learned Chief Justice who, last October, ventured to play a lone hand in a game which his opponents *did* understand.

In a recent number of "Revue de Droit International et de Législation Comparée," M. Maxime Kovalewsky has a very interesting article on the Literature of the Social History of England in the Middle Ages and in the Epoch of the Renaissance. M. Kovalewsky finds in the historical literature of these periods fascinating material for the sociological student. He looks upon the Doomsday Book (c'est-à-dire, "livre du jugement") of William the Conqueror, as a document unique of its kind, and of paramount use in tracing the origin of economic and social institutions in Europe. In this connection he also speaks of the value of the compilation of Anglo-Saxon laws, known as the laws of Edward the Confessor, and the legal works of Glanville, Bracton and Britton in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. He alludes in terms