

ambiguous or equivocal in their language, the true way is to form an opinion apart from cases, and then to see whether the cases necessitate the modification of that opinion. The book must necessarily be therefore an attempt to extract from the decisions some broad general principle which will assist the practitioner in the interpretation of ambiguous wills and settlements and to show the reasons which have led to the adoption of these principles. The propositions set out by the authors are clearly stated and with sufficient fullness, and are then illustrated by extracts from modern judgments. The work has no intention of being a compendium of case law, but it will, be found an excellent book for students and for practitioners and counsel wherewith to refresh the memory as to general principles of interpretation.

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*The Law Quarterly Review*, edited by SIR FREDERICK POLLOCK, M.A.; April, 1900. London: Stevens & Sons, 119-120 Chancery Lane.

This number contains the usual notes on recent cases written in the editor's masterly style. There is apparently no branch of the law with which he has not made himself familiar, and in these notes he shows his intimate knowledge of the various subjects therein discussed. The articles in this number are as follows: Penalties for failure to perform within a Limited Time under a Substituted Contract. This comes from Tasmania. Negotiability and Estoppel, a chapter out of the forthcoming work of Mr. John S. Ewart, Q.C., of Manitoba; Negligence in relation to privity of contract, which was published in the *Law Quarterly* simultaneously with its appearance in this journal, written by Mr. C. B. Labatt, of Toronto. In addition to these contributions from various parts of the Colonial Empire, we are given the Near Future of Law Reform, with special reference to the position of legal matters in England; Election between alternative remedies, criticising the conclusion arrived at in *Rice v. Reed* (1900), Q.B. 54; Husband's liability for his wife's torts, and the Married Women's Property Act, discussing recent cases on this much debated subject.

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*Subject Index to the Books in the Library of the Law Society of Upper Canada at Osgoode Hall, Toronto*, compiled by W. G. EAKINS, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Librarian, 1900.

It is said that the best thing next to knowing the law is to know where to find it. The usefulness of the volume in this respect is manifest. As stated in the preface, pains have been taken to make it as serviceable as possible by entering each work not only under the heading of its known title, but also under such headings as its contents seem to justify. The profession is greatly indebted to Mr. Eakins for this most carefully prepared and useful index, and it will add largely to the value of the Library of our Law Society. This Library, it may be observed, contains some 20,000