

hundred and fifty decisions of the Justices of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, on appeals from the decisions of the Commissioner of Patents, have also been digested. In addition to all these, about one hundred and thirty cases, relating to Trade-Marks, or deciding questions incidentally connected with, or growing out of contracts respecting Patents, have been gathered from the voluminous mass of State Reports, and incorporated into the volume.

From this statement as to the several sources from which the Cases Digested have been collected, it will be at once apparent that such cases are very widely scattered, and that quite a considerable number of them are not within reach of the profession at large, except at considerable difficulty and expense: and the general nature and scope of the work will also be best understood.

The plan or method of arrangement adopted by the Author in the Digest, and the manner of citing, and referring to, the Cases Digested are somewhat peculiar, but it is believed that they will be found convenient and useful.

The digested notes are arranged, under the several titles and subdivisions, in Chronological order, and, in addition to the title of the case, there is also given the name of the Judge by whom, and the place where, and the year in which the case was decided. By this arrangement, it is easy to trace the course of Judicial decision, in respect to any question, and learn whether there has been any conflict or diversity in respect to it, and also readily determine the character and bearing of the latest decisions. The digested note also carries with it the weight of authority due to the Judge who decided the case, and the date of decision is a guide to determine under what law any particular case arose, and was decided.

In digesting the cases, the Author has not confined himself to the Head Notes of Reporters and others, but has carefully read and studied the cases for himself, and his digested notes have been prepared from the opinions of, and as far as possible they appear in the very language used by, the Court. It has not, however, been the intention