

there are but 33 volumes. The Arkansas and the California Reports, each end with volume 19; the Connecticut Reports end with volume 32: and so on through the State reports. The same is true of text books. Indeed, Mr O'Connor seems to have desisted from the general policy of book-buying about the year 1866. It is worthy of mention, however, that his appetite for law journals and law reviews lived to the last. He was a subscriber to the *Albany Law Journal*, published in his own State, until his death. He took the *Southern Law Review* during the entire existence of that periodical. He held on to the *American Law Review* until the year 1880, and bound his volumes of it in half calf. The writer of this article, while editing the *Southern Law Review*, had one or two courteous letters from Mr. O'Connor. Something had been said in favor of a stand which he had taken on some important public question, and he wrote to express gratitude for what the editor had said, and said he valued highly the good opinions of his professional brethren. On another occasion we wrote to ask him to send us an article on an important question, partly legal and partly political. His reply was, in substance, that he was past the period of active work, and he told us facetiously, that we might put him in the necrology. He had just passed through a period of illness so severe that nearly every editor in the country had taken down his encyclopaedia and written up his biography *de bene esse*. But he lived ten years after that, an honour to his country and to his time.—*The Central Law Journal*.

#### PHEASANTS AS A NUISANCE.

The decision in *Farrer v. Nelson*, noted in this week's Notes of Cases, will serve as an historical record of the ideas of sport obtaining in the nineteenth century. Four hundred and fifty pheasants had been 'turned down' in a coppice, by the owner of the shooting, for the purpose of being butchered by himself and his friends. The crops of the farmer of the adjoining land were considerably injured, and he brought an action in the County Court for the damage done. The County Court judge held that he was entitled to recover, and the Divisional Court have upheld the decision. It is curious that no reported instance of a similar claim is to be found in the books. In Coke's reports it is laid down as decided that if a man makes coney-burrows on his land, to the increase of coney in so great number that they destroy his neighbour's crops next adjoining, his neighbour cannot have an action on the case against him who made the coney-burrows,

because, the report goes on to say, so soon as the coney come on his neighbour's land he may kill them, for they are *feræ naturæ*. The possibility of animals *feræ naturæ* being caught and brought on land was undoubtedly not present to the mind of a man of Lord Coke's day. The natural increase of rabbits or pheasants may be kept down by ordinary means, but the 'turning down' of pheasants for the amusement of the sportsman of our day may amount to a legal nuisance. Locusts are *feræ naturæ*, but if a man had a fancy for letting them loose in his garden he could not complain if his neighbour made him pay for what they ate on his side of the fence. The question of legal liability appears to be a matter of degree.—*Law Journal* (London):

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

IN MEMORIAM.—George Etienne Cartier. By G. W. Wicksteed, Esq.

This is a reproduction in book-form of an article contributed by Mr. Wicksteed to a daily journal, on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of the late Sir Geo. E. Cartier. It also contains some verses by a French writer on the same subject, with a metrical translation by Mr. Wicksteed. The little work concludes with the National Anthem composed by the same gentleman, a production which received the commendation of Lord Dufferin.

FALLACY OF THE INSOLVENCY LAWS, AND THEIR BANEFUL EFFECTS. By Thomas Ritchie.

The author of this pamphlet is President of the Belleville Board of Trade. It is a series of letters which are said to have been offered for publication to leading journals, but which were refused insertion. The writer takes strong grounds against insolvency legislation. He says, "Have stringent laws for the punishment of the fraudulent person and the wrong doer, but banish forever all laws which give occasion to, or encourage fraud and oppression."

THE ELECTOR'S POLITICAL CATECHISM.—Compiled and adapted by Richard J. Wicksteed.

In a pamphlet of 24 pages Mr. Wicksteed seeks to give useful information to electors, the object being to fit them for a more intelligent exercise of the franchise. The form of a catechism is adopted, the authorities upon which the answers are based being referred to at the end of the work. We can hardly assume that candidates will be content to leave the instruction of the elector's mind to Mr. Wicksteed, but we trust that this useful effort will not be without its salutary influence.