

matter of the work, contenting himself with some very amusing observations on the decidedly vehement remarks of the author upon certain judicial utterances to which he takes exception.

It rather shocks one's sense of the eternal fitness of things to hear a text writer, made of the same clay as the rest of us, speak of judgments as being absurd, unmitigated nonsense, ridiculous, etc., nor is one thereby favorably impressed at the start. The preface shows that whilst the author has an utter contempt for the opinion of some of the judges he has occasion to review, he has unbounded confidence in his own opinions. He is quite right in saying, "The work is an absolutely new one on the subject; not a rehash of Blackburn, Benjamin, or any other writer." That it is not a rehash is not in itself a matter of regret, rather the reverse. We have too much of that sort of thing, and it is refreshing to find an author who is prepared to do and does his own thinking, and who, whether right or wrong, has the courage of his opinions, and seeks to expose what he thinks fallacies, even though he may use his pepper-pot of adjectives with unnecessary and very unusual freedom.

Whilst we feel bound to make these observations, an examination of the books shows that there has been much patient research and hard work, as well as a consideration of principles involved; the latter being a feature which is not very generally a marked one in English text-books, though more observed by authors in the United States. This perhaps is partly by reason of the utter impossibility (in truth, a useless endeavour) of reconciling and explaining the multitude of conflicting decisions of the innumerable courts to the south of us.

Book I. is divided into three parts under the headings of: What is a sale?; Gifts distinguished; Bailments distinguished. Book II. takes up the subject of Special Sales, in reference to infants, mental disabilities, married women, shipmasters, corporation sales, sales where fiduciary relations exist, partners' sales and agency. Book III. gives a dissertation of the subject of sales as affecting railways, and in it are collected many very valuable railway cases including that very important one with which this book opens. Book IV. treats of the subject of frauds.

Though it cannot be said that Mr. Travis has given an exhaustive dissertation on the subject of sales, he has, as he says, been complete and exhaustive within the limits laid down, and has also given valuable commentaries on various topics connected with the subject; and, though presenting his views in his own peculiar style, gives food for thought, and his book will thus be a valuable addition to, although it may not take the place of the works of the authors to which reference has been made. There are some subjects discussed that perhaps do not come strictly within the law of sales, but rather are collateral to it. We are told, however, that he proposes to issue two additional volumes covering a variety of other questions connected with it, left over for later consideration. When he has done this, he should have pretty well covered the ground. May we hope that in these succeeding volumes Mr. Travis may be somewhat more moderate in his language and more careful in his choice of expressions, and thus avoid giving cause for offence against good taste and a fair opening to a