

## REVIEWS.

ferences; but there can be no doubt that an excellent practical Code of Law, simple in its language, easily understood, expeditious and economical in its administration, could be formed from a judicious selection of the best of the laws of each of the Provinces by men who were severally acquainted with each."

The advantages to be derived from one uniform system of judicature in all the Provinces of the Dominion would be immense, and great is the pity that in the Province of Quebec the possibility of any assimilation was considered too remote even to be alluded to in the British North America Act. The Law Reform Commission recently appointed in this Province will do well to keep in view the final end contemplated by that Act in making their report.

The industrious pen of Mr. Girouard contributes a lengthy essay upon the Treaty of Washington, looked at, as he says, in a purely legal point of view, but at the same time he appears to find it difficult to keep clear of its political bearing. Whether we agree with his conclusions or not, it is without doubt a valuable addition to our reading on this important and interesting subject.

The other articles are *Le Droit Constitutionnel du Canada*—An introductory lecture to the study of the law—Writs of Prohibition, and some others of no special interest in this Province. In an article on the Riel-Scott affair, the question is discussed as to whether the Dominion Government had or has now the power to take any legal steps to secure the punishment of the murderer Riel. The conclusion arrived at is as follows:—

"For these reasons, it does not appear to me that the Dominion Government could have taken, or could now take any legal steps to secure Riel's punishment as long as he is abroad, but as there is no Statute of Limitations with reference to murder, assuredly should he ever come within the Dominion, justice will be found to reach him and hands to take him."

This may be comforting to the writer, but not to the public, for scoundrels like Riel too often go unhung now-a-days to expect such a proper ending for him, and the last news from Manitoba seems to show how fallacious were the hopes of the writer.

*LA REVUE LEGALE.* Sorel, Quebec.

A periodical published entirely in French,

and therefore practically useless in Ontario. It appears to have a large circulation in Quebec.

*DROIT CIVIL CANADIEN.* Montreal: Alphonse Doutre & Co.

The civil law of Lower Canada, following the order established by the codes, is to be discussed in this volume. It is written in French, and can never, therefore, be of any general interest outside the limits of the Province of Quebec.

*LOWER CANADA JURIST.* Montreal: John Lovell.

We extract from time to time from this volume of reports such decisions as are of interest in this Province.

*THE INSURANCE LAW JOURNAL.* Baker & Voohris, 66 Nassau Street, New York.

This new publication is one of the innumerable publications that abound in the United States. It is to be "devoted to insurance law and the interest of insurance generally." We should suggest to the editor that the publication, or rather one branch of it, is rendered of little practical use, from the want of head notes and digests of the reports of decisions given in it.

*CHICAGO LEGAL TIMES.* Published every Saturday, by Mrs. Myra Bradwell.

On Saturday, the seventh day of this month, the great fire of Chicago commenced, and on Saturday, the fourteenth day of this month, the *Chicago Legal News* was published in its regular course, with nothing to show (except a reduction in the number of pages) that its office of publication had been consumed, as we are told, "with its entire contents, including a library of nearly two thousand volumes. All were destroyed, with the exception of our subscription book and ledger." Again, on the 21st instant, the usual weekly number was published.

The story of the burning has been told elsewhere; but "the ruins of Chicago" (so speaks an eye-witness) "were yet red-hot when five or six daily newspapers prepared to resume publication, in the midst of the smoke and fire."

In alluding to the losses sustained, the most plucky and enterprising Editor regrets the loss