

praise, but its success is due less to the merits of a sound method than to the inspiring influence of a body of professors, who are endowed at once with a genius for teaching and with surpassing knowledge of the law. Moreover, any student who is to profit by catechetical instruction based on the knowledge of cases must be encouraged to read the leading works which discuss underlying principles. It is the old story that scientific knowledge can be gained only by combining the results of experience and of theory. Case books being the records of decisions actually pronounced by real courts, determining problems which have in fact arisen supply a student with knowledge. Speculations such as those of Savigny supply him with the ideas which explain the real bearing (or sometimes want of bearing) of the cases which are records of experience. Further, it is of the greatest consequence that readers should never be induced to suppose that anything can be gained from a merely fragmentary study of the works of eminent thinkers." The writer concludes his review with the following observations: "No learner should expect to have a serious opinion about any ultimate problem of jurisprudence, municipal or cosmopolitan until he knows a good deal more not only of law, but of the world, than any case book can teach him."

The Editor of the *Green Bag* in a note on preparation for the Bar puts the case as follows: "The Case book method and Text book method of teaching law alike have their defects. It is undesirable that the law should be learned by rote simply because it can be more quickly mastered by a process which does not cultivate the powers of legal reasoning and independent research; it is likewise disadvantageous to plunge a student into the chaos of adjudged cases—in the language of the late Edward J. Phelps—"to grope his way through it as best he may," with the object of supplying him in that manner with adequate preparation for the practical requirements of his profession."

In the last volume of the *Law Magazine and Review* (p. 489), a writer in speaking of the "American Case books" says: "We notice that the general editor of the series tilts against the de-