

disposal of appeals and other matters in litigation referred or submitted to His Majesty in His Privy Council." The introduction also contains a summary of the procedure in appeal to the Committee, comprising the rules of practice published by their Lordships with a schedule of fees allowed solicitors in conducting appeals or other business before the Committee. The work closes with three appendices. The first contains the names of all the British colonies, with the nature and origin of their laws. This appendix will be valuable in practice in showing the difference in the jurisprudence of the various colonies, and enabling the practitioner to decide how far the decisions in one colony can be applied to cases arising in another. The second comprises notes of all the decisions of the Court of Queen's Bench (appeal side) in the Province of Quebec rendered under the articles of the Code of Civil Procedure in appeal to the Privy Council. The third appendix is a double alphabetical index of the cases reported in the volume under the names of the respective plaintiff and defendants. We can recommend this work as containing a useful digest of the jurisprudence of the Judicial Committee and valuable in understanding its present constitution and history. We congratulate the publisher on the mechanical part of the work, although we have noticed several typographical errors; these, however, are perhaps not more numerous than is usually the case in a volume of the size of the present work.

*The New Empire: Reflections upon its Origin and Constitution, and its Relation to the Great Republic.* By O. A. Howland. Toronto: Hart & Company, 1891.

This volume is alike creditable to the author and to the publishers. It is well written and well printed—a good specimen at once of artistic skill in authorship and of mechanical skill in book-making. It would be too much to say that there are no defects. The learned author displays, here and there, too strong a tendency to make use of untranslated quotations from foreign languages and of highly technical legal terms. Should his work reach a second edition—and we hope it will see many—he might usefully do a little translation and a little explanation or substitution. The book is, in fact and in form, a highly popular treatise on some of the greatest political problems to which the Canadian people can turn their attention, and the more readily the people can understand the argument the better the author's purpose will be served.

The line of Mr. Howland's reasoning is not difficult to explain; and though he disclaims originality, it is in fact highly original. He takes ground that, viewed as a whole, no other publicist has ever taken. His position is that the old British Empire "fell" in 1783, when by the second treaty of Paris the independence of the British colonies in America was recognized, and he writes with perfectly judicial calmness of its downfall. That event may have left some room for regret that the great colonial experiment was terminated in a costly and bloody war, which has left its traces in the feelings of the descendants of the colonists to this day, but has left room also for satisfaction that human freedom has been immensely the gainer by the sacrifice. The treaty of 1783 he regards as a "treaty of partition,"