

## CORRESPONDENCE.—REVIEWS.

three years managed to get into a shape of 488 pages, with no reported case since December, 1871. Mr. Cooper is not now the reporter. In July last Mr. Grant was by the Benchers continued as reporter to the Court of Chancery, and was also requested to report the Chamber cases. I do not pretend to fix the responsibility on the *late* or the *present* reporter. I leave the authorities to do this, as to them may seem just.

2. Mr. O'Brien has very properly completed his volume of Common Law Chamber Reports (volume 5.) This gentleman is not now the reporter, having also, in July last, been superseded by the reporters to the Court of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas. The last case reported in his volume (No. 5) was decided on 27th December, 1871; and so in this court the same difficulty as to the reporting also exists, with this difference, that the current volume of Common Law is complete, and that of the Chancery Chambers is not so. Mr. O'Brien has, however, being one of the editors of the *Canada Law Journal*, through that publication, continued the Common Law Chamber Reports since his last vol. (No. 5.)

Your obedient servant,

CHAMBERS.

Toronto, Nov. 12, 1872.

[As to the Chancery Chamber Reports, we find, on enquiry, that the first number of the coming volume is printed, though not issued. We understand the Digest is in course of preparation.

With reference to cases in Chancery Chambers and in the Master's office, we may mention (though this is not material to the gist of our correspondent's remarks) that a large number of these cases have been reported by us, and thus seen by the great majority of the profession.

As regards the Common Law Chamber Reports, cases worth reporting have been given to the profession in this journal, this course being thought the most advisable, pending the final settlement of the arrangements regarding Law Reporting, which, we doubt not, the Benchers will put into a satisfactory shape the ensuing Term. When this is done, we shall advise our readers of the result of the deliberations of those who have the matter in hand.]—Eds. C. L. J.

## REVIEWS.

THE SOUTHERN LAW REVIEW: Oct., 1872. Vol. i., No. iv. *Nashville: Reid & Purvis.* The earlier numbers of this handsome quarterly have not, with one exception, reached us. This number which completes the first volume, contains five papers or essays on legal subjects; a number of book notices, and three series of digests of cases; one of the English reports, another selected from the reports of various States, and the third of Tennessee decisions. Among the original articles there is a very good *resumé* of the law relating to life insurance, as expounded by recent decisions. A paper on "Bank Cheques" acutely criticizes the faulty definitions of various authors, as to what a cheque is and what it is not, and discusses the legal effect of a draft upon a banker payable so many days after sight. In the article entitled "Roman Law," the author anticipates the "glorious era when Papinian and Ulpian shall be of equal authority with Hardwicke and Mansfield, and Pothier and Savigny shall be quoted with Kent and Story." He points out the great obligations of the English law and the old English authors to the civil law, and then elucidates some of the peculiarities of the Roman system. It is a scholarly, well-written paper—by far the best in the number. The remaining articles on "Acceptance of bills of exchange," and on "Presentment for acceptance" are by the same author, and are, we should say, two chapters of a treatise to be published on bills of exchange and promissory notes. Great industry in the citation of cases from English, as well as American sources, is apparent on the face of its pages, and we judge them to be well suited to the exigencies of the practising lawyer. Altogether, we are most favourably impressed with this new enterprise. It betokens the re-establishment of learned leisure in the south. We shall be most happy to place it on our list of exchanges.

THE AMERICAN LAW REGISTER for July and August have only lately come to hand, owing to some delay in the publication, we believe. The specialty of this journal is the monthly collection of leading cases from the various courts of the republic, with annotations thereon by the eminent jurists who are among its contributors. Prominent among these is Dr. Redfield, whose fearless comments upon judicial conclusions are always pointed and suggestive. There is an admirable paper by James Parsons in the August number, entitled, "The Ancient Commonwealth," which condenses the results of the treatise of M. de Coulanges upon Greek and Roman institutions. This, though lengthy, we shall endeavour to find room for in a subsequent number. Why does not Mr. Parsons translate and annotate this *magnum opus* of the French author for the American public? And by that we mean