

The literature on the subject of the small debt court of Ontario is gradually assuming a bulky form, the volume before us containing some five hundred and fifty pages; and though the second will doubtless be smaller, it will also make a book of considerable size.

The editors have taken the several works of the late Judge Sinclair as a foundation, but we are glad to see that they have remedied many of his defects, the notes being, as they state, in many instances entirely recast and rewritten. We confess we always thought that the late judge did not fully grasp the need of the judges and officers of the courts, and of practitioners therein. The innumerable points of practice, many of them of much difficulty, which had arisen, or were likely to arise, were not met and discussed, though a great deal of information was given on a variety of subjects which were only incidentally of interest to officers and practitioners in these courts—information which, so far as the profession are concerned, could have been better obtained elsewhere. Judging from the volume before us, we think the editors have realized something of what we are alluding to, and have, to some extent, met the difficulty. The second volume, containing the Rules, which necessarily demand more of the details of practice, will, we trust, give much valuable assistance in the line we have indicated.

The work of the editors has been very fully and apparently carefully done. They have evidently taken a wide range in collecting authorities of the various subjects coming up for discussion under the statutes noted.

It must necessarily, from the circumstances of the case (the new Rules not being yet published), be a defect in the work that the editors cannot give references under the appropriate sections of the Acts to the new Rules, and which Rules which will, in many cases, explain the statutory enactments and fill out the skeleton of procedure thereby given.

The editors have appended a note on the subject of claims by and against married women which, we have no doubt, will be found of service in assisting in the solution of many difficult questions daily occurring in relation to that subject. The Index seems to be very full and complete, containing, as it does, over forty pages, a very necessary factor in the usefulness of a book of this kind. The typography is very good, and the matter is given in a clear and intelligible manner, thereby enhancing its value.