

2. We are not aware of the right of a colonial barrister to be called to the bar in England. We know that something of the kind was at one time contemplated by one or more of the Inns of Court, but whether anything was actually done or not we cannot say.

We trust some of our English cotemporaries, or others better informed than ourselves, will be good enough to enlighten us.—Eds. L. J.]

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## REVIEW.

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A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE OFFICE AND DUTIES OF CORONERS IN UPPER CANADA, WITH AN APPENDIX OF FORMS. By William Fuller Alves Boys, LL.B., of Osgoode Hall, Barrister-at-Law. Toronto: W. C. Chewett & Co. Price \$2.

In the first year of the *Law Journal* (1855) we gave to the public a brief treatise on the Office of Coroners to meet an acknowledged want. We sought at the time to induce some medical gentleman, who had served in the office, to assist us with some practical hints, such as his professional knowledge and experience would have enabled him to do. Such assistance was not given, and the work, a serial publication limited as to space, was necessarily an outline, and many important branches of the subject were not noticed. English works on the subject are of little practical value to us in Canada, and none of them keep pace with the progress in the science of medicine. *Jervis on Coroners*', the best of the English works does not embrace all the subjects connected with the office, and up to this time there has been no reliable *vade mecum* for coroners. It is with peculiar satisfaction we direct the attention of our readers to Mr. Boys' work just published. It embraces the whole subject of the Coroners' judicial duties, and supplies all that is necessary for a Canadian Coroner to know. Were it in our power to aid the circulation by any testimony of our approbation we would almost be at a loss for terms sufficiently strong and emphatic. In our judgment it is one of the most comprehensive works on Coroners extant, for no English work contains all the subjects Mr. Boys has dealt with. We cannot do more than give a very brief analysis of its contents, but the most cursory examination will show the ability with which it is executed.

Part I. is divided into five chapters as to the office and duties of Coroners generally. It treats of the antiquity of the office, their qualification and mode of appointment, the duty and authority of Coroners as conservators of the peace, in inquests of deaths, fire inquests, &c., of their general jurisdiction and jurisdiction in particular cases, their fees, exemptions, rights, privileges, &c., and their liabilities for misconduct in office.

PART II. deals with the office and duties of Coroners in particular, and contains thirteen chapters.

Chapter 1 treats of offenders, who may commit crimes, infants, and as to ignorance, misfortune, &c. Chapter 2, of principals and accessories; and, Chapter 3, of crimes which come under the notice of coroners, as murder, manslaughter, infanticide, excusable homicide, justifiable homicide, &c.

Chapter 4. A most important chapter on poisons, mineral, vegetable and animal, classified and treated of in detail.

Chapters 5, 6 and 7, treat of wounds and bruises, the hydrostatic test and the blood test.

Chapters 8 and 9, relate to deadlands, flight and forfeiture.

Chapter 10 contains a very valuable condensation of the law of evidence, under the usual heads: competency of witness, primary evidence, presumptive evidence, hearsay evidence, relevancy of evidence, leading questions, proof of hand-writing, proof of documents, &c.

Chapter 11, on the Coroner's courts, seems to exhaust the subject, and the particulars are too long for enumeration. The section in this chapter, "Viewing the Body," will be found of eminent practical value, and the same may be said of the long section on medical testimony.

The proceedings subsequent to the inquest, and the subject of fees, are fully treated of in Chapters 12 and 13, and the appendix furnishes no less than 126 valuable forms required for the Coroner's use. Reference to the work is facilitated by a very good index. In fine, we must congratulate Mr. Boys on having given to the public a work of no ordinary merit, and containing in a small compass so much information on the subject of which it professes to treat.

Not only to the Coroner, but to the medical man and to the Magistrate will the work be of great value. Chapters 1 and 10 contain matter most necessary to be known by Magistrates, and which is scarcely noticed in works accessible to them. We are sorry, however, to learn that only a small edition has been struck off—not more than sufficient to supply two-thirds of the Coroners in Upper Canada, and the price is put far too low to secure a money compensation to the author on such an issue. A second edition we are satisfied must be speedily called for. Parties desiring the work should make early application.

The book is well and clearly printed, and indeed got up in a style equal to English publications, and does much credit to the enterprising and eminent law publishers, Messrs. Chewett & Co.

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## APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE, &c.

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### CORONERS.

GEORGE J. L. SPENCER, Esquire, M.D., Associate Coroner, United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. (Gazetted June 11, 1864)  
LLEWELLYN OLIVER, Esquire, M.D., Associate Coroner, County of Simcoe. (Gazetted June 18, 1864)

### REGISTRARS.

DONALD FREDERICK CAMPBELL, Esquire, to be Registrar of the County of Peel, in the room and stead of Solomon Brega, Esquire, resigned. (Gazetted June 18, 1864.)

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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"F. W. R." Thanks—shall publish it next issue.  
SCAR CRIBER," and "WM. WILDE," under General Correspondence, p 195.