

REVIEWS.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. A weekly journal of practical information, art, science, mechanics, chemistry, and manufactures. New York. \$3 per annum.

It has been well said that "a man cannot be a great lawyer who is nothing else. Exclusive devotion to the study and practice of the law tends to acumen rather than breadth, to subtlety rather than strength.... Some other things are to be studied beside the reports and text books" (*American Law Review*, ii. p. 50), and that which is true as a general principle is true in particular as to the matters treated of in the periodical now before us, and especially so with reference to those of the profession whose lot is cast in the *nis prius* arena.

We have all occasionally seen in Court the hopeless mess into which a counsel sometimes gets his case, from an utter inability to understand, much less to explain to others, a point arising in the course of a case involving some mechanical or chemical knowledge, and in his floundering "making confusion more confounded." Now, though we do not prescribe a weekly perusal of the *Scientific American*, as a certain cure for this malady, we are quite sure that an occasional dip into its pages, by way of light reading, or as a change from the more abstruse studies of the profession, would be as pleasant as profitable. For ourselves, we admit a weakness for knowing what is transpiring in the scientific world, and so greet the weekly appearance of our interesting cotemporary with all the more pleasure.

To pretend to give a sketch of the contents of even one number would be beyond our limits. On the first page of Vol. xvii. we see visions of a new photographic apparatus, centrifugal guns, some remarks on the law of trade marks, and at the end of the last number to hand we have an account of the Mons Cenis summit railroad—so our readers will see that they can take their choice of a very considerable variety.

All the most valuable discoveries are delineated and described in its issues, so that, as respects inventions, it may be regarded as an illustrated Repertory, where the inventor may learn what has been done before him in the same field which he is exploring, and where he may bring to the world a knowledge of his own achievements.

The contributors to the *Scientific American* are among the most eminent scientific practical men of the times.

THE AMERICAN LAW REGISTER. Philadelphia: \$4 per annum.

The leading articles in the October number of this valuable publication are: The Constitutionality of the Exemption clause of the Bankrupt Law, of peculiar interest to United States lawyers; and a very interesting letter from Dr. Francis Lieber to a member of the

New York Constitutional Convention, revised, with additions by the author. We notice in a case of *Jackson Insurance Co. v. Stewart*, that it is held that statutes of limitation are suspended during a state of war, as to matters in controversy between citizens of the opposing belligerents—a doctrine which could not have helped the Lord Chancellor in the case of *Seagram v. Knight* (ante p. 266), in arriving at the opinion he there expresses as to the suspension of the operation of the statute.

We draw largely also from this publication, so that our readers can judge that we at least appreciate its contents, and we hope they do likewise.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLIES and BLACKWOOD. Leonard Scott publishing Co.: New York.

We need only say that these Reviews are as good as ever. The cleverest and deepest thinking heads in Great Britain contribute to the stores of learning, instruction and amusement to be found in their pages.

THE PHILADELPHIA INTELLIGENCER, THE PITTSBURGH LEGAL JOURNAL, THE NEW YORK DAILY TRANSCRIPT, duly received.

Though not aspiring to the position of the *American Law Review* or the *American Law Register*, they are well adapted for the purposes for which they are intended.

THE SCOTTISH LAW MAGAZINE AND SHERIFFS' COURT REPORTER. Glasgow.

Received regularly.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.

The contents interesting as usual, to those who understand the (to our limited comprehensions in such matters) abstruse subjects there discussed.

Sir Thomas More himself was full of quiet humor, and endless good things uttered by him are in vogue. He conveyed this humor with him to the block. "Finding in the craziness of the scaffold a good pretext for leaning in friendly fashion on his jailor's arm, he extended his hand to Sir William Kingston, saying 'Master Lieut. I pray you see me safe up; for my coming down let me shift for myself!' Even to the headman he gave a gentle pleasantry and a smile from the block itself, as he put aside his beard so that the keen blade should not touch it. "Wait, my good friend, till I have removed my beard," he said, turning his eyes upward to the official, "for it has never offended his highness!"

Hatton once uttered a capital pun:—"In a case concerning the limits of certain land, the counsel on one side having remarked with explanatory emphasis, 'We lie on this side, my lord;' and the counsel on the other side having interposed with equal vehemence, 'We lie on this side, my lord,' the Lord Chancellor leaned backwards, and drily observed 'If you lie on both sides, whom am I to believe?'"